

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 20, 2020

President Donald Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

The COVID-19 pandemic is impacting local communities across our nation in unprecedented ways. All Americans are attempting to understand the full measure of this crisis, even as it continues to evolve on a daily basis. As in many of our nation's most challenging times, the public turns to free and local media for life-saving information and breaking news, because local radio, television and newspapers are still the most trusted sources in times of emergency and disaster. We urge you work with us in ensuring that local media can continue to inform communities, even as these outlets face unprecedented economic distress.

Local news and information on radio, television and newsprint is more in demand than ever, yet local media outlets are experiencing catastrophic losses in the advertising revenue that allows them to continue investing in providing that news to the public. This national emergency has caused a near halt to local business activity and in turn, the regular and vital advertising they purchase from local media. Without advertising revenue, local media outlets cannot survive.

We believe that Executive Branch agencies have a powerful opportunity to support local media and promote public awareness by directing that federal spending on advertising be prioritized for local media outlets. Specifically, we encourage federal agencies to put into action today already funded campaigns to achieve certain public objectives as well as potential promotions of the economic stimulus programs provided for by the CARES Act and other recent legislation. We urge you to:

- 1) Direct your Cabinet secretaries to review any resources intended to be used for advertising campaigns and have them expedite such activities with local media outlets;
- 2) Direct federal agency advertising dollars for existing and new federal programs where community outreach is needed for spending with local media, including those serving minority and rural communities; and
- 3) Incentivize a portion of stimulus funds provided to businesses for their recovery efforts for advertising on local media.

To get America moving again and strengthen our communities in the midst of this evolving crisis, we must be creative and use all available tools. Advertising plays an incredible role in local economies, and its importance to the sustainability of local broadcast stations and newspapers cannot be overstated. We thank you for your efforts so that Americans may continue to rely on the sources of local information they trust the most.

Sincerely,



Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



Bill Flores  
Member of Congress



Marc Veasey  
Member of Congress



Fred Upton  
Member of Congress

**ADDITIONAL SIGNATORIES:**

Paul Tonko  
Don Bacon  
Bill Johnson  
Elaine Luria  
Sean Patrick Maloney  
Peter Visclosky  
Ruben Gallego  
Tom Suozzi  
Haley M. Stevens  
Danny K. Davis  
Brian Higgins  
H. Morgan Griffith  
Kathy Castor  
Ed Case  
Cedric Richmond  
Doris Matsui  
Ilhan Omar  
Kendra S. Horn  
Russ Fulcher  
Salud O. Carbajal  
Michael T. McCaul  
Stephen Lynch  
Gerald E. Connolly  
Angie Craig  
Bobby L. Rush  
Jeff Van Drew  
Tom Malinowski  
Chris Pappas  
G. K. Butterfield  
Sylvia R. Garcia  
Joyce Beatty  
Rodney Davis

Joe Wilson  
Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Nydia M Velázquez  
Ben Ray Lujan  
Jimmy Gomez  
Ron Kind  
David Scott  
John B. Larson  
Jimmy Panetta  
Dutch Ruppersberger  
Brian Fitzpatrick  
Carolyn B. Maloney  
Henry Cuellar  
Mike Bost  
Vicente Gonzalez  
F. James Sensenbrenner Jr.  
Dusty Johnson  
Darren Soto  
Mike Quigley  
Billy Long  
Gus M. Bilirakis  
Mark E. Amodei  
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John Curtis  
Neal Dunn  
Rick Crawford  
Adriano Espaillat  
William Timmons  
Eddie Bernice Johnson  
José E. Serrano  
Susan Brooks  
Buddy Carter

Austin Scott  
Rob Woodall  
Roger Marshall, M.D.  
Mac Thornberry  
Juan Vargas  
Joe Courtney  
Ann Kirkpatrick  
Alan Lowenthal  
André Carson  
David Price  
Ben Cline  
Al Lawson  
Sheila Jackson Lee  
Richard E. Neal  
Tom Cole  
David Rouzer  
Andy Harris, M.D.  
Tom Graves  
Chip Roy  
Ralph Abraham  
Tim Burchett  
Bradley Byrne  
Tony Cardenas  
David Cicilline  
Yvette Clarke  
Collin C. Peterson  
Doug Collins  
Jim Cooper  
Joe Cunningham  
Chuck Fleischmann  
Louie Gohmert  
Paul Gosar

Debra Haaland  
Jim Hagedorn  
Peter King  
Annie Kuster  
Debbie Lesko  
Ben McAdams  
David McKinley  
Seth Moulton  
Markwayne Mullin  
Steve Stivers  
Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Sharice Davids  
Max Rose  
Dina Titus  
Mario Diaz-Balart  
Tulsi Gabbard  
Fred Keller  
Jamie Herrera Beutler  
Pete Olson  
Steve Cohen  
Peter Welch  
Andy Biggs  
David P. Roe, M.D.  
Tim Walberg  
John Shimkus  
Ralph Norman  
Steve Chabot  
Diana DeGette  
Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.  
Ron Wright  
French Hill  
Adrian Smith  
Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Jodey C. Arrington  
James Comer  
Xochtil Torres Small  
Elise Stefanik  
Jamie Raskin  
Carole Miller  
Jackie Walorski  
Alex X. Mooney  
Garret Graves  
Bill Foster  
Lori Trahan  
Abby Finkenauer  
Rosa DeLauro

Harley Rouda  
Betty McCollum  
Veronica Escobar  
Rob Bishop  
Jim Banks  
Suzan K. DelBene  
Jason Crow  
Pete Stauber  
Lucy McBath  
Jeff Duncan  
Drew Ferguson  
Jason Smith  
Guy Reschenthaler  
Richard Hudson  
Robert Aderholt  
Kurt Schrader  
Anthony Gonzalez  
Darin LaHood  
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Mike Gallagher  
Greg Gianforte  
Jack Bergman  
Mike Simpson  
Andy Barr  
David P. Joyce  
Brad Schneider  
Hal Rogers  
Mark Walker  
Bryan Steil  
Michael Guest  
Theodore E. Deutch  
Susie Lee  
John Rose  
Brian Mast  
Pramila Jayapal  
John Yarmuth  
Zoe Lofgren  
Steven Palazzo  
Dan Kildee  
Steve Womack  
Steve King  
Antonio Delgado  
Alma Adams  
Troy Balderson  
Anthony Brindisi  
Anthony Brown

Larry Buchson  
Liz Cheney  
Emanuel Cleaver  
Mike Conaway  
Tom Emmer  
Eliot Engel  
Anna Eshoo  
Jeff Fortenberry  
Virginia Foxx  
Jared Golden  
Josh Gottheimer  
Raul Grijalva  
Kevin Hern  
Will Hurd  
Derek Kilmer  
Adam Kinzinger  
Rick Larsen  
David Loebsack  
Frank Lucas  
Grace Meng  
Joe Morelle  
Grace Napolitano  
Joe Neguse  
Tom O'Halleran  
Dean Phillips  
Mark Pocan  
Kathleen Rice  
Mike Rogers  
Jan Schakowsky  
David Schweikert  
Terri Sewell  
Norma Torres  
Michael Turner  
Filemon Vela  
Brad Wenstrup  
Bruce Westerman  
Don Young  
Dan Newhouse  
Greg Murphy  
Glenn Grothman  
Bob Latta  
Ted Budd  
David Kustoff  
John Katko  
Mike Johnson  
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Jackie Speier  
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