

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 28, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

The Honorable Isabel Guzman
Administrator
Small Business Administration
409 Third Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator Guzman:

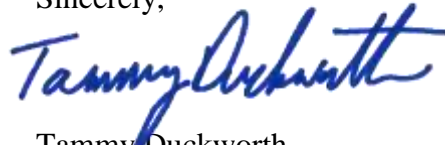
I am writing to express my support for the Small Business Administration (SBA) using any and all powers available under existing authority to assist the many restaurant owners who have been shut out of the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF).

As you know, more than 2,900 restaurant owners who applied for and were approved for relief through the RRF have been denied assistance through no fault of their own. These are restaurant owners who applied during the priority window, which Congress enacted to encourage additional assistance to women-, minority-, and Veteran-owned small businesses. The outcome these particular business owners face is inexcusable, and there are even more restaurant owners beyond this population who are also facing the reality of no relief through the RRF.

I know the relief intended for these restaurant owners has been stymied by an effort outside of your control and that you are thoroughly committed to assisting small businesses who have been injured during the COVID-19 pandemic. I will continue to advocate for Congress to step in and provide additional small business relief as we move forward. Nevertheless, I strongly support the SBA using any authority possible to advance the relief programs that Congress has already authorized.

I stand ready to work with you in any capacity in this endeavor. I sincerely appreciate your attention to this matter, and your continued leadership in helping our Nation's small businesses build back better.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator