



Business Reboot Public Policy Suggestions

Federal

1. Extend Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) beyond the current June 30 deadline.
2. Reduce PPP requirement on payroll expense to 50% and allow for other expenses such as rent or resupply costs.
3. Increase the PPP loan term beyond the current 2-years.
4. Eliminate the \$600 additional unemployment compensation payment for those employees who are offered their job back prior the July 31 extension.
5. Include "injury" test for EIDL loan applications submitted after June 1, 2020.
6. Government to provide a back stop to business interruption insurance as insurance companies have not factored this type of coverage into premiums and forcing them to cover COVID-19 could shift a financial crisis from one business sector to another.
7. Provide testing protocols and infrastructure to quickly test employees so that they may appropriately return to the workforce.

State

1. Create a balanced approach to provide long-term solvency of the state unemployment system.
2. Waive or reduce licensure/permit renewal fees for those expiring during calendar year 2020.
3. Increase the amount of community broadband in partnership with private sector providers.
4. Provide tax credits for businesses providing work from home solutions for their employees.
5. Suspend Commercial Activities Tax collection for bars/restaurants/grocers during calendar year 2020.
6. Exempt Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from sales/use tax for employers.
7. Simplification of sales/use tax for manufacturing.
8. Repeal sales/use tax on employment services.
9. Provide incentives to attract businesses and their supply chain who are involved in the manufacturing of critical infrastructure, as defined by Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) guidelines.

Local

1. Tax supported agencies/organization should not seek increases on tax rates unless directly related to life and safety functions.
2. Waive/reduce fees associated with electronic payment options for the filing of permits/applications/plans.
3. Collaborative purchasing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) by local government to better allocate resources and reduce costs and allowing private sector to participate.
4. Counties should provide an extension for second half property tax payment and assessments to assist landlords and business with cash flow issues.
5. Defer terms for revolving loan funds, job creation grants, or other economic development funding programs. This may include automatically delaying payments, employment quotas, and payroll threshold criteria for recipients.
6. Relax signage code enforcement to encourage patronage. This may include allowing certain signage types, sizes, and locations not currently permitted.
7. Extend expiration timeframes for building or zoning permits for construction projects that are delayed. This may include automatic extensions for such permits or easing the process for renewing them.

The opinions and recommendations expressed are those of the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees and may not represent the opinions of the other partners of the Northwest Ohio Business Reboot Initiative.