Dear Friends,

Given all the hardships of 2020, I want to make you aware of the latest small business support program created by the State of California: the Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program.

This is a $500 million grant program. **Applications for the first round of funding will be accepted starting this Wednesday, December 30, at 8:00AM.**

In this particular program, small businesses and nonprofits are eligible for grants ranging from $5,000 to $25,000. Eligibility is based on revenue in the most recent tax return filed (2019 or 2018).

More information about this program and how to apply can be found here: [https://careliefgrant.com/](https://careliefgrant.com/)

For the first round of funding, businesses will have until January 8, 2021, at midnight to apply. Businesses approved for funding will be notified starting on January 13, 2021. Applicants who submit their application and all documentation in the first round do not need to reapply when the second round of funding opens later in 2021.

This program will support both qualified small businesses and nonprofits.

This program builds on the Small Business Hiring Credit that launched at the beginning of December, and was created by legislation that I authored (SB 1447, Statutes of 2020, Chapter 41). More information about that can be found on my website, [https://sd35.senate.ca.gov/news/2020-11-25-small-business-hiring-tax-credit](https://sd35.senate.ca.gov/news/2020-11-25-small-business-hiring-tax-credit), and the State is still accepting applications until funding is exhausted. Eligible small businesses can learn more and apply here: [https://taxcredit.cdfta.ca.gov/](https://taxcredit.cdfta.ca.gov/)

Our state's economy is not just statistics, it is made of small businesses, consumers, nonprofits, community organizations, and many other entities. If you or someone you know runs a small business or nonprofit organization, please consider applying to this and other California assistance programs.

Again, to learn more about the new California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant program, please visit [https://careliefgrant.com/](https://careliefgrant.com/)

Be well and stay safe,

*Steven C. Bradford*
CA State Senator, SD 35