



Town of Jamestown

Resolution of the Town Council

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-13

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF URGING THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND TO ALLOCATE AT LEAST 10 PERCENT OF ITS \$1.5 BILLION IN FEDERAL CARES ACT FUNDS TO ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM FOR SMALL BUSINESSES IMPACTED BY COVID-19

WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island received \$1.25 billion in federal coronavirus relief funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act); and

WHEREAS, a clause within the CARES Act allows states to use the federal funds to issue grants to small businesses impacted by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, over 98 percent of businesses in Rhode Island are small businesses; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, small businesses employ over 52 percent of Rhode Island's workforce; and

WHEREAS, the coronavirus pandemic has devastated Rhode Island's small business community which continues to face financial hardships due to reduced economic activity and increased costs for social distancing and other necessary safety measures; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of states such as New Hampshire, Colorado, Alaska, Wisconsin, Mississippi, Pennsylvania and others have already used a portion of the CARES Act Funds to support their small business community, some allocating up to \$400 million for small businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Jamestown Town Council believes that establishing a statewide CARES Act-funded grant program for small businesses is in the best interest of the Town of Jamestown and the State of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, the Jamestown Town Council therefore encourages its small business owners and residents to sign the Lt. Governor's petition; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Jamestown Town Council hereby supports the Lt. Governor's request to the State of Rhode Island to allocate at least 10 percent of its \$1.25 billion of federal CARES Act funds to establish a grant program for small businesses impacted by COVID-19 and urges the State to grant that request.

By Order of the Jamestown Town Council

Michael G. White, President

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereby attach my hand and the official seal of the Town of Jamestown this 21st day of July 2020.

Erin F. Liese, CMC, Town Clerk

