**BARRY MOORE** 2ND DISTRICT, ALABAMA

## COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

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## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-0102

November 10, 2021

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Isabella Casillas Guzman Administrator Small Business Administration 409 Third Street, SW, Suite 7900 Washington, DC 20416-2230

Administrator Guzman,

I write to bring your attention to challenges associated with the Small Business Administration's COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) and request an update on efforts to improve and streamline the program.

Over the last several months, my office has received a variety of inquiries and requests from small business owners about help through the EIDL program. Applicants have experienced delays in their application approvals and in increases to their initially approved amounts. More specifically, my office has received frustrating reports from applicants who submitted the requested documentation and received initial approval for EIDL increases only to then receive a denial of their application. These applicants then appealed the decision, submitted the same documentation again, and then received approval. This process is absolutely confounding.

While these constituents have received communications from the Small Business Administration about efforts to streamline the process and reduce delays, applicants appear to still be dealing with the same challenges. I am sure you will agree that this lack of progress does little to assist our struggling small businesses and ultimately stands in the way of their success. As such, I would like to request an update on your current strategy to improve and streamline this burdensome process.

As a small business owner, myself, I understand the challenges facing entrepreneurs across the country as they struggle to survive the devastating impacts of the pandemic. That being said, I am confident that we share a desire to support these hard-working men and women, and I appreciate your immediate attention to addressing these concerns.

Sincerely,

Barry Moore Member of Congress