



# THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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June 28, 2010

The Honorable Mary Landrieu  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Small Business  
and Entrepreneurship  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Landrieu:

On behalf of the nation's mayors, I am writing to support S. 2986, the "Southeast Hurricanes Small Business Disaster Relief Act of 2010."

This legislation would provide the Small Business Administration (SBA) with the flexibility to provide relief up to \$15,000 over three years on interest due on SBA disaster loans to small businesses located in the Gulf Coast region. And we are very pleased that you will be expanding the legislation to ensure that Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Alabama and Florida small businesses will be able to receive the needed flexibility.

Having just led a mission of mayors to the Gulf Coast on June 20 - hosted by New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu - our President Mayor Elizabeth B. Kautz of Burnsville is very concerned about the impact that the BP oil disaster is having on the region's already struggling small businesses. The United States Conference of Mayors has made both the promotion of small business in general, and assistance for the Gulf Coast region specifically, top priorities. That is why we are so pleased you have introduced S. 2986, and we urge that the expanded proposal be included in the Small Business Jobs Package the Senate is expected to consider this week.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Cochran".

Tom Cochran  
CEO and Executive Director