



Governor Greg Abbott
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

March 18, 2020

Dear Governor Abbott,

As we drift into unprecedented times, your leadership and quick response has been a model for the country. As you know, the scope of COVID-19 extends past a public safety concern and into damaging effects on the market and small businesses in Texas. With the dining room closures announced in major markets, guidance to isolate at home, and no projected end to either, the restaurant industry is feeling the catastrophic impact of COVID-19.

The Texas restaurant industry directly and indirectly employs more than 3 million people, including farms, manufacturing, distributors, and suppliers. The Texas restaurant industry is a major tax contributor and community partner to all towns and cities across Texas. We have deep concerns, based on the state's current trajectory, that we could see mass unemployment, significant business closure, and loss of revenue, the likes of which Texas has never seen before. You have done a great job of relaxing or eliminating regulations that hinder the state's effectiveness to battle COVID-19. This is an area where that activity is also warranted.

Which is why we request for your immediate support regarding the following:

- Temporarily reduce the TABC permitting requirements. Currently mixed beverage holders can deliver alcohol if they also have a F&B permit. Some locations have both, but many do not. This will expand access into delivery.
- Deferral of Sales Tax, Mixed Beverage Tax, and Mixed Beverage Gross Receipts until the crisis is over, or 90 days.

Cash flow is critical for restaurants at this time and these measures would help restaurants generate revenue, pay their employees, and hopefully keep the industry afloat during this devastating outbreak.

Sincerely,

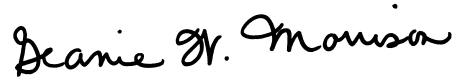
Representative Matt Krause
Texas Legislative Tourism Caucus, Chairman

Senator Bryan Hughes
Texas Legislative Tourism Caucus, Vice Chair

Chairman John Cyrier
House Committee on Culture, Recreation, and Tourism



Senator Larry Taylor



Representative Geanie Morrison



Representative Dan Flynn



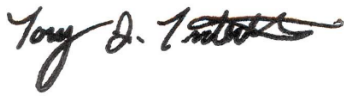
Representative Will Metcalf



Representative Ina Minjarez



Representative Cecil Bell



Representative Tony Tinderholt



Representative Kyle Biedermann



Representative Scott Sanford