[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Small Business Act to ensure small businesses affected by the onset of communicable diseases are eligible for disaster relief.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the 
Committee on ____________________________

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A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to ensure small businesses affected by the onset of communicable diseases are eligible for disaster relief.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 ____________
4 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
5 This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Relief
6 From Communicable Disease Induced Economic Hardship
7 Act of 2020”.

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SEC. 2. ECONOMIC INJURY LOANS FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

(a) DEFINITION OF A DISASTER.—Section 3(k)(2) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(k)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (C), striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) a communicable disease for which the Federal Government has issued a travel alert or travel warning.”.

(b) TERMS.—Section 7(b)(2) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”;

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

“(E) a disaster described under section 3(k)(2)(D) for which the Federal Government has issued a public health emergency.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following: “A loan made pursuant to a disaster described under subparagraph (E) shall not require the payment of interest.”.
(c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to a communicable disease—

(1) for which the Federal Government issues a travel alert or travel warning before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) the effects of which are experienced on or after the date of enactment of this Act.