



July 30, 2020

Chairwoman Nydia Velazquez
House Small Business Committee
2302 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Steve Chabot
House Small Business Committee
2508 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Velazquez and Ranking Member Chabot:

On behalf of the American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR), I write to support HR 7664. This critical legislation would permit the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to deem certain nonprofits that support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) eligible for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). These vital, yet underfunded and understaffed disability programs are facing client and staff deaths, client and staff illness, program closures and continued challenges in meeting increased demand as the pandemic endures. They direly need access to federal financial support to keep people with I/DD and frontline staff healthy and safe.

ANCOR is a national, nonprofit trade association representing more than 1,600 private community providers of services to people with disabilities. Combined, we support over one million individuals with disabilities, and work to shape policy, share solutions and strengthen the community. The Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) who deliver these supports are frontline health care staff who are key to keeping individuals with I/DD healthy in the community instead of in already overwhelmed hospitals, emergency rooms, and nursing homes. Since the pandemic has started, we have focused on ensuring the well-being and survival of individuals with I/DD and the staff supporting them.

Although I/DD providers of all sizes have been impacted by the pandemic, several larger Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) providers have not had an opportunity to benefit from some federal fiscal relief programs. INARF, the Indiana association of I/DD providers and an active ANCOR member, have worked closely with Rep. Walorski and her staff to modify the current Paycheck Protection Program to allow larger non-profit organizations, with more than 500 employees but less than \$30,000,000 in annual revenue, to be eligible. Inclusion of HR 7664 in future relief packages is critical to ensuring that providers can access this essential fiscal relief and continue to support individuals with I/DD to be healthy and safe.

Please contact me for more information at smeek@ancor.org. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have on next steps for PPP and the disability supports. ANCOR looks forward to working with you to ensure that the disability service system remains strong so that people with I/DD can continue to live full lives in the community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Meek". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah Meek
Senior Director of Legislative Affairs

Cc: Rep. Jackie Walorski