



# State to Main

*The Voice of Vermont Business*



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### **Governor Scott Lifts Ban on Future Bookings at Lodging Establishments**

Governor Scott has amended his Stay Home, Stay Safe Order to allow Vermont lodging businesses to start taking online reservations immediately for stays beginning on June 15. When Governor Scott ordered the closure of lodging properties, guidance mandated that reservation systems be shut down, even for arrivals in future seasons. The Vermont Chamber advocated on behalf of the lodging sector, urging the Governor to amend his guidance to allow reservations for future stays. The Vermont Chamber issued a statement today in support of the Governor's revised guidance.

### **Vermont Chamber Requests Additional Congressional Relief for Businesses**

The Vermont Chamber sent a letter this week to Congressman Peter Welch and Senator Patrick Leahy with suggestions for the next phase of federal relief to help businesses mitigate the developing economic crisis. The letter compiled requests from businesses that participated in a Vermont Chamber remote Tourism Town Hall. During the Town Hall, Congressman Welch heard questions and comments from over 150 Vermont tourism businesses about COVID-19's impact on the industry. The Vermont Chamber is communicating daily with the congressional delegation and will continue to advocate for meaningful relief to help the state's businesses community.

### **Senate Committee Advances Evictions Legislation**

The Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs advanced legislation this week that temporarily bans certain foreclosure and eviction proceedings. Under the bill, foreclosure evictions would be restricted during and for up to 30 days after the conclusion of the State of Emergency. Prior to this legislative action, financial

institutions and landlords throughout Vermont proactively indicated they would not be proceeding on foreclosure orders during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Vermont Paycheck Protection Program Use**

The Paycheck Protection Program authorizes up to \$349 billion in forgivable loans to small businesses to pay their employees during the COVID-19 crisis. While valuable to shuttered businesses, the program will require additional funding and use flexibility to fully meet the needs of the business community. The Vermont Chamber recently sent a letter to Vermont's congressional delegation requesting several improvements to the program.

**Data From First Week of Paycheck Protection Program: Vermont Borrowers Only**

17 Banks Reporting	2,923 Loans Submitted to SBA and Approved	\$643,217,557 Capital Committed
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Data from Vermont Bankers Association



### **Vermont Manufacturers Answer the COVID-19 Call to Action**

Vermont Chamber Vice President of Business Development Chris Carrigan published an op-ed this week on how manufacturers around the state are responding to COVID-19 with innovation, commitment to community, and action. To support the fight against COVID-19, the Vermont Chamber, partnering with state and federal government agencies, is engaging manufacturers to quickly locate urgently needed medical supplies and to identify manufacturers who can retrofit and adapt their operations to manufacture essential personal protective equipment (PPE), medical devices, and life-saving medicines.

### **In Case You Missed It**

[70,000 Vermonters Have Filed Unemployment Claims Since Crisis Began](#)

[State Creates Alphabetized Unemployment Filing System](#)

[Senate Returns to Montpelier to Approve Remote Voting Measure](#)

[Downgraded: Coronavirus Is Ravaging Vermont's State Budget](#)

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In business since 1912, the Vermont Chamber of Commerce is a private, not-for-profit business organization with 1,500 members employing 45,000 people and representing all sectors of the state's economy. Our mission is to create an economic climate conducive to business growth and the preservation of the Vermont quality of life. Copyright ©2018 The Vermont Chamber of Commerce. All Rights Reserved.

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