



## Action Alert: Time to Get Involved

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As more financial impacts are being felt around the country as both a direct and indirect result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the members of the American Loggers Council have coalesced around a proposal to present to members of Congress that would provide financial assistance directly to both professional timber harvesting businesses and log trucking businesses.

While the US House of Representatives have already passed their version of the next round of stimulus funding, the US Senate has put a hold on future funding until they have the opportunity to see some of the results of those appropriations that have already gone out.

Many logging and trucking businesses have been able to apply and receive Payroll Protection Program funding as well as bridge loans that are being made available through the Small Business Administration. Another program being offered is the Business and Industry Cares Act program being administered through USDA Rural Development which allows rural businesses to receive working capital loans from lenders at negotiated rates with financial institutions.

What the leadership of the American Loggers Council is proposing is a low interest loan to both logging and log hauling businesses for operating expenses that is based on lost production or revenue due to lost markets, curtailed production and other events related to the COVID-19 pandemic that would not duplicate those benefits received through the Payroll Protection Program.

We have a very short time timeframe in which to try and push this program into the next stimulus package, and with your help, we believe that we can make this happen. If we are successful, this will be the first time that both logging businesses and log hauling businesses have become available for low interest and perhaps forgivable loans that would ensure that contractors can have the opportunity to remain in business over the next 12 months and to adjust their operations as markets begin to stabilize.

This effort is a great example of what we can accomplish when we are all working together towards a common goal, but we still need your help. **We need to contact as many members of Congress as possible and we have simplified that process for you by providing a link that will only require that you enter your name and mailing address and hitting the “send” button to get our request to your U.S Congressman or Congresswoman as well as the two U.S. Senators who are representing your State in Washington, DC. Here is the link: <https://www.amloggers.com/news/support-the-logger-relief-package>**

Please take the 5 minutes required to have your voice heard in Washington. This is truly a joint effort between the 34 States that the American Loggers Council represents and the individual logger members of each of those States taking the opportunity to keep our industry strong. We are, “Loggers Working for Loggers.”

*The American Loggers Council is a 501(c)(6) not for profit trade association representing professional timber harvesters and log haulers across the United States. For more information visit [www.amloggers.com](http://www.amloggers.com).*