



September 16, 2025

The Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: AB 265 (CALOZA) SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY FUND ACT  
REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The California Chamber of Commerce respectfully **REQUESTS** your **SIGNATURE** on **AB 265 (Caloza)**. This vital legislation addresses a critical gap in disaster recovery assistance for small businesses that are disproportionately affected by severe weather events and other declared states of emergency.

California's small businesses are the backbone of our economy, employing nearly half of the state's workforce. However, many of these businesses, particularly those owned by minorities, women, and underserved communities, face significant barriers to accessing timely financial assistance after disasters. **AB 265**'s establishment of a state-funded program will provide much-needed resources to ensure small businesses can recover, rebuild, and invest in resilient infrastructure.

The key provisions of **AB 265**, including allocating 90% of the fund to competitive grants, prioritizing resilience-focused projects, and supporting technical assistance for underserved populations, demonstrate a thoughtful approach to fostering economic recovery and long-term sustainability. The matching fund requirement also ensures efficient leveraging of public and private resources, maximizing the impact of the program.

We believe **AB 265** is a crucial step toward creating a more equitable and robust recovery framework for California's small businesses. By supporting this legislation, we can help safeguard jobs, strengthen local economies, and build community resilience for the future.

For these reasons we respectfully **REQUEST** your **SIGNATURE** on **AB 265 (Caloza)**.

Sincerely,

Ashley Hoffman  
Senior Policy Advocate  
California Chamber of Commerce

California Retailers Association  
Coalition of Small and Disabled Veteran Businesses  
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce  
Mastercard  
National Association of Theatre Owners  
National Federation for Independent Business

cc: Legislative Affairs, Office of the Governor  
Luke Reidenbach, Chief Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor  
Omar Hasheyman, Office of Assemblymember Caloza

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