



**SMALL BUSINESS
LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL**

October 26, 2001

The Honorable John Kerry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kerry:

On behalf of the Small Business Legislative Council (SBLC), I urge you to support S. 1499, the "American Small Business Emergency Relief and Recovery Act of 2001."

As you know, the tragic events on September 11th have adversely affected a wide range of American small businesses. Some of the major challenges that small businesses face today include cash flow disruptions and a shrinking pool of alternative sources of credit. Therefore, we can expect many businesses will be forced to apply for assistance during these troubling economic times. Small businesses will benefit from S. 1499 because it will expand access to the Small Business Administration's (SBA) loan and management counseling programs.

The SBLC is a permanent, independent coalition of nearly 80 trade and professional associations that share a common commitment to the future of small business. Our members represent the interests of small businesses in such diverse economic sectors as manufacturing, retailing, distribution, professional and technical services, construction, transportation, and agriculture. Our policies are developed through a consensus among our membership. Individual associations may express their own views

Sincerely,

John S. Satagaj
President & General Counsel

JSS/ask/S4443