March 19, 2020

Honorable Jovita Carranza
Administrator
Small Business Administration
409 3rd St SW
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator Carranza:

Thank you for your recent efforts to expand statewide access to Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Assistance for small businesses. I write to express my strong support of Governor Wanda Vázquez-Garcés’s request for a disaster declaration for Puerto Rico in response to the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. I also ask that, in accordance with all applicable rules, laws and regulations, you expedite the approval process for the declaration.

As you know, once such a disaster declaration is approved, it would then make SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) available to small businesses in Puerto Rico that are being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. These federal loans would provide critical economic resources and assistance to small businesses, which are important economic engines throughout communities on the Island.

I appreciate your attention to this important matter, as well as the measures you and your staff at the SBA have taken to ensure the wellbeing of the people of Puerto Rico. Please do not hesitate to contact my office should you need anything else.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Jennifer González-Colón
Member of Congress