

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Markey:

Thank you for your recent letter supporting Governor Patrick's request that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) declare Barnstable, Bristol, Essex, Plymouth, Norfolk and Suffolk counties a disaster area for Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) assistance due to substantial economic injury resulting from a fishery resource disaster.

By way of background, on September 5, 2013, we received Governor Patrick's written request for EIDL assistance. However, we began working with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) in July to clearly communicate the criteria that needs to be met in order to approve the declaration request. To qualify for an EIDL declaration, the Governor must certify at least five small businesses in a disaster area have suffered substantial economic injury as a result of the disaster. The State's request included economic injury information for eleven small businesses based on Fiscal Year 2012 sales but did not include information to support substantial economic injury sustained in Fiscal Year 2013. We advised MEMA that information for Fiscal Year 2013 would be needed to support substantial economic injury to the small businesses before and after receiving the Governor's written request. MEMA has agreed to work with their state partners and the small businesses affected by the fishery resource disaster to obtain the required fiscal year-to-date financial information to support their declaration request. The Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game has indicated they will provide the required information sometime the week of October 21, 2013. We are ready to respond quickly as soon as we receive that information.

We appreciate your continued support of SBA's Disaster Assistance Program in Massachusetts. If you and your staff have any questions or comments, please contact the SBA Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs at (202) 205-6700. An identical letter has been sent to Senator Warren as well as Representatives Capuano, Keating, Kennedy, Lynch, McGovern, Neal, Tierney, and Tsongas.

Sincerely,

James E. Rivera
Associate Administrator
for Disaster Assistance

ODA:Contreras:10/2/13:S: Markey Support for MA EIDL Request
cc: Subject Reading Contreras ExSec FOC-E CLA

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