



April 10, 2020

Mr. Tim Winslow
Executive Director
South Carolina Association of Counties
1919 Thurmond Mall
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Winslow,

As representatives of the business community in South Carolina, we are asking you to inform your membership of ways in which counties can help alleviate the tremendous financial burdens faced by businesses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the last month, COVID-19 has had an enormous and unprecedented impact on all businesses, especially small businesses in South Carolina. In just the last week, hundreds of thousands of businesses across the country – and thousands in our state alone – have applied for loans to help them cover the most basic costs of running a business.

In consideration of this enormous strain on our state's businesses, we are requesting county governments to work with the S.C. Department of Revenue to extend tax deadlines for businesses, in line with the adjusted federal and state deadline. Specifically, the Business Personal Property taxes on several business types, including real estate, securities brokers, insurance, hotels, health services and legal services are due on April 30th. Additionally, we are requesting that local governments extend the time for which to appeal a tax assessment.

For many businesses, this extension could mean the difference between paying their employees or not over the next few weeks. Moreover, penalties associated with not paying local taxes on time are often high and would add to the already large financial burden facing businesses as they try to recover.

Thank you in advance for sharing this request with your member counties.

Sincerely,

