

Joliet Chamber Members:

We know this past year has brought your business challenges, which at times, seemed insurmountable. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we worked to support you and your business however we could. Just because vaccines are rolling out across the state, it doesn't mean the road ahead is clear. Recent research from the Brookings Institution indicates the long-term economic impact in metropolitan areas and notes that some leisure and tourism destinations may take over a decade to fully heal from the economic blow experienced.

For these reasons, we are announcing today that we are *all in* by joining nearly 50 chambers of commerce from across the state in a new initiative: *Chambers All In for Economic Recovery*. This growing coalition urges the Illinois Legislature to prioritize economic relief for Illinois' businesses.

Our coalition has identified a platform to bring both short and long-term relief to your business. The platform includes various recommendations designed to aid businesses' bottom line, recover from the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and establish pathways for constructive collaboration with the public sector. You can view the entire platform on our website, <u>www.jolietchamber.com</u>, and/or in the attached documents.

In the coming days and weeks, chambers across the state will take this platform to legislators and call for economic relief. We certainly invite you to be involved by sharing your story of the pandemic's impact on your business. The work of this initiative enables us to be the voice for your business in the legislature as we strive for tangible relief for our business community.

Should you have any questions or would like to contribute with information from your organization, please do not hesitate to reach out us at 815.727.5371.

Sincerely,

Jen Howard President

Mike Paone VP, Government Affairs

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