

## **DEAR SENATOR MANCHIN**

As small business leaders in West Virginia, we write to you today about the need to pass the For the People Act. The For the People Act includes reforms to crack down on the corruption and self-dealing in government, reduce the influence of wealthy special interests, and restore fairness to our democracy.

Small businesses make up a big part of our economy, but we don't have big voices in Washington. When COVID hit, we were encouraged to see Congress take up response legislation like the Paycheck Protection Program - until we realized that it was drafted in a way that put the most connected businesses at the front of the line and left many of us out to dry. While the program improved, if businesses like ours had the ears of our leaders, we could have gotten it right from the start.

That is why we need the For the People Act - because for too long, Congress has listened to the biggest, loudest, and wealthiest voices while the regular individuals and small businesses that make up the backbone of this country are too often drowned out. We need a government responsive to all of us, and a system where the success or failure of your business doesn't hinge on if you can hire a connected lobbying firm or make a huge donation.

As small business owners, we are deeply invested in not just our businesses, but our communities. But helping a community to thrive is difficult when the playing field is uneven. When we are left out of the conversation - whether it be the policy discussions in Washington or having our voices ignored in our elections - the community suffers and so do small businesses.

The For the People Act helps to level that playing field. It makes sure that elections are fair and honest and that everyone can have their say. It cracks down on huge, anonymous donations intended to curry favor with the Washington elite and puts regular West Virginians and regular Americans back in charge. And by creating a fair, responsive, and transparent democracy, we believe the legislation will help to curb the animosity that seems to just grow more and more each day. That's good for our communities and good for business.

We strongly urge you to listen to the strong support for this bill from West Virginia small businesses and vote **YES** in support of the For The People Act.

## Sincerely,

Aaron May, Aaron May Photography, Martinsburg Abe Saad, Glazer Saad Anderson L.C., Huntington Adam Kary, Black Cat Music Shop, Berkeley Springs Andrew Brock, Lumigenesis Industries, Morgantown Anthony Abland, Prestige Building Solutions, Fairmont Ashley Davis, Tonic Herb Shop, Shepherdstown Bailee Miller, MF Consulting, Morgantown Bernhard G. Kaufman, Kaufman's Inc, Wheeling Bonnie L. Wells, BPI, INC., Winfield, WV Braun A. Hamstead, Hamstead & Associates LC, Charles Town Brian Welsh, Amazing Paints, Follansbee Bruce M. Olcott, Breezy Bluffs, Shepherdstown Carri Welsh, Trilogy Therapies, Follansbee Chelsea Hellen, Chelsea Hellen Photography, Morgantown Chuck Hamsher, The Purple Moon Inc., Charleston Claiborne B Lashley, Bright Guys Film & Video , Shepherdstown Clark Ackison, Huntington Electrical Services, Huntington Colleen Laffey, Kaymoor 1, LLC, Fayetteville Courtney Proctor Cross, Cabell Wayne Animal Shelter, Huntington Dan Davis and Hillary Harrison, Kin Ship Goods, Charleston David Potter, Cacia Creative, Shepherdstown Dawn Hylbert, AMS Direct, Huntington Debra Cornwell, Full Circle Healing Center, Charles Town Diane Balderson, Carl's Pawn Shop, Inc, Parkersburg Donna and Tim Wilson, Town and Country Construction, Inc, Clarksburg

Donna M Yazbek, NovaStars Consulting, LLC, Bunker Hill
Donna Wilson, Town and Country Construction, Inc, Clarksburg
Edward Zatta, Wellsburg Auto Sales, Wellsburg
Eileen Elizabeth Waggoner, Boshemia Magazine,
Shepherdstown
Elizabeth Kesling, Love it Nail Spa,LLC, Hepzibah
Emily Porter, The Oberports, Charleston
Emma Casale, Creative Procrastinations and Whimsical
Necessities, Shepherdstown

Eric Anderson, Glazer Saad Anderson L.C., Huntington

Heather Nicole Sprouse, Beyond the Vale Farm and Research Center, Hurricane Hoyt Glazer, Glazer Saad Anderson L.C., Huntington J Laurel Thornton. Whole Brain Solutions, LLC, Morgantown

J Laurel Thornton, Whole Brain Solutions, LLC, Morgantown
James Ivy, Visions International Global Network LLC, Charleston
Jana Maupin, Polish Hot Spot LLC, Moundsville
Janet Azinger, Azinger Group, LLC, Vienna
Jeanne Peters, Heirloom Finds Inc, Vienna
Jeffrey V. Kessler, Berry Kessler Crutchfield Taylor' & Gordon,
Moundsville WV
Jenni Sapyta, Gas Inc., Huntington

Jennifer King, Eversweet Apiaries, Kearneysville
Jennifer Walker, Allegheny Holistic Health Care, Thomas
Jillian Kelly, Morgantown Art Party, Morgantown
John Proctor, Frazier, Oxley & Proctor LC, Huntington
Kaitlin Gammack, KKG LLC, Morgantown

Berkeley Springs Kathryn R. Okubo, Knockout Workshop, Morgantown Katie Norman, Cicada Books, Huntington, Kendra Goldsborough, Four Seasons Books, Shepherdstown Kenneth R. Mullins, Highland Heights, LTD, St. Albans Kimberly M. Williams, Heirloom Finds Inc, Vienna Lauren Coil, Mountain Breeze Massage, Westover Leslie Martin, Bella Consignment, Huntington Lori Hansroth, Inspired Chaos, Berkeley Springs Malcolm Long, Preferred Plumbing Mandi Powell, Free Spirit Fibers, Morgantown Matthew Cunningham, Freedom Farms, Elizabeth Maura And Gene Kistler, Kenny Parker, Water Stone Outdoors, Favetteville Melissa Lucado, Loving Hands Adult Care, Bluefield Michael McClintock, Mozark Mountain Works, Hendricks Noelle Horsfield, Full Circle Gifts & Goods, Huntington Olivia Zivney, Wellstar Initiative, LLC, Weston Oscar Robles, Mi Ranchito/PCI Auctions, Berkeley Springs Penny E. Skaff, American Dream Realty, Charleston Phillip Daniel, PMD LLC, Morgantown Robert Crabtree, Benefit Design Services LLC, Huntington Robert L. Miller, Trace Systems Inc., Shepherdstown Ronda Lehman, RL Consulting, LLC, Harpers Ferry Sam B. Petsonk, Petsonk PLLC, Beckley Sandy Dunn, Homestead Realty, Point Pleasant Sara-Anne Williams, This and That Bakery, Morgantown Saundra Goss, Sirianni's, Hambleton Shamshad Ahmed, American prosthetic and orthotic care llc,

Kassie Kime, Pelvic Care Physical Therapy LLC, Fairmont

Katherine C. Kolbe, Mineral Springs Trading Co,

Stephanie Skolik, Huntington Retina Center Inc., Huntington Stephen Andrew Arnold, Arnold and Bailey, PLLC, Shepherdstown
Steve and Jeannette Comer, Pine Grove Memorial Gardens, Lindside
Terry Wells, BPI, INC, Winfield
Theresa Chiotos, Data Direct Inc, Harpers Ferry
Thomas Farly Ballard III. Priority Ambulance/Treatons Property

Simon Hargus, First Settlement Physical Therapy, Parkersburg

Shannon Dowling, River Fair Trade, Morgantown

Shelby D. Lloyd, Hexed Dice, Morgantown

Theresa Chiotos, Data Direct Inc, Harpers Ferry
Thomas Early Ballard III, Priority Ambulance/Treetops Property
Development LLC, Fayetteville
Thomasyard, Thomas
Tim Moore, Tim Moore State Farm Insurance, Grantsville

Tim Moore, Tim Moore State Farm Insurance, Grantsville
Trey Johanson, Fairfax Coffee House and the Historic Star
Theatre, Berkeley Springs
Varro Welsh, Trilogy Therapies, Follansbee

Victoria Russo, Sistermoon Farm, Shenandoah Junction

Vincent Decarlo, Vinnie's Electric LLC, Dallas Virginia Clevenger, J-B Consulting Safety Training LLC, Fairmont William Clevenger, J-B Consulting Safety Training LLC, Fairmont