UTAH’S $5.5 BILLION RESTAURANT ECONOMY IS AT RISK

Over 75% of Utah’s 5,264 eating and drinking locations are in danger of closing permanently without The RESTAURANTS Act.

THE RESTAURANTS ACT WOULD GENERATE $1.2 BILLION ECONOMIC BENEFIT FOR UTAH

- Restaurants and drinking places account for 7.0% of all employment in Utah. Sales attributed to food and accommodation services represent over 7.9% of Utah’s taxable sales, the largest contributor in the state.
- Food serving and preparation projected to contribute 34,800 new Utahan jobs from 2016 to 2026.
- The RESTAURANTS Act would galvanize Utah’s tourism industry, encouraging travelers to eat in Utah’s establishments and spend money on lodging, other tourist attractions, and retail, generating $698 million.
- The RESTAURANTS Act would provide $125 million in benefits to countless other bakers, fishermen, butchers, and, of course, Utah’s 17,000 small farms.

WITHOUT HELP FOR INDEPENDENT RESTAURANTS, UTAH’S ECONOMY WILL SUFFER

- An estimated 76% of eateries are independently owned.
- Independent restaurants rely far less on pickup and drive through service. Fine and casual dining have declined 85% and 65% respectively, while fast-food has only decreased 21%. National chains like Domino’s, Pizza Hut, Papa John’s, Raising Cane’s, and Taco Bell have hired during this time.
- Nearly 65% of the revenue from local independent restaurants recirculates in the local economy compared to about 30% for chain restaurants.

THE RESTAURANTS ACT WOULD HELP PROTECT 162,300 UTAHAN JOBS

- Since the beginning of March, the leisure and hospitality industry has accounted for 69% of all jobs lost in Utah.
- Keeping many of Utah’s 162,300 leisure and hospitality workers employed would save Utah $221 million in unemployment benefits and insurance taxes.

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1 Utah Restaurant Industry at a Glance.
2 Independent Restaurants Are a Nexus of Small Businesses in the United States and Drive Billions of Dollars of Economic Activity That Is at Risk of Being Lost Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, page 2.
3 Utah Restaurant Industry at a Glance.
5 Ibid.
6 Ibid, page 3.
7 Ibid, page 25.
8 Ibid, page 22.
10 Ibid, page 22.
12 Ibid, page 22.
14 Ibid, page 22.
• Nationwide, over 2.7 million leisure and hospitality workers are unemployed right now, more than any other industry. Unemployment in leisure and hospitality is over 277% higher than it was at the same time last year.\(^{17}\)

• The RESTAURANTS Act would reduce the national unemployment rate by an estimated 2.4%, a result of saving the industry that has been hit hardest by job losses from the outset of this pandemic.\(^{18}\)

THE PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM DID NOT PROVIDE THE RELIEF NECESSARY FOR RESTAURANTS TO RECOVER

• Restaurants and accommodations received less than $43 billion from the Paycheck Protection Program, despite contributing over five times that in losses to our GDP.\(^{19}\)

• Food services and drinking places reported a 18.8% unemployment rate in August – more than double the nation’s aggregate unemployment rate of 8.5%.\(^{20}\)

• An estimated 1 in 3 American restaurants will close by year end without Congressional support. An estimated 8,000 restaurants have already shuttered so far this year.\(^{21}\)

CONGRESS CAN SAVE 16 MILLION JOBS NATIONWIDE AND GENERATE UP TO $271 BILLION IN TWO YEARS BY PASSING THE RESTAURANTS ACT\(^{22}\)

• Independent restaurants and bars directly employ 11 million workers nationwide. Additionally, 5 million more work in the industry’s vast supply chains and rely on eating and drinking places to sustain their livelihoods.\(^{23}\) Without direct aid, all of these jobs are in danger of vanishing permanently.

• Restaurants have become tourist destinations domestically and internationally. One study found that 72% of all travelers choose their destination based on food and drink offering.\(^{24}\) Tourists also spend money on travel, housing, and retail.

• The loss of economic activity due to culinary travelers is estimated to be up to $141 billion.\(^{25}\)

• Restaurants are hubs of minority employment and advancement. Sixty percent of all chefs nationwide are minorities. Minorities also make up 53% of busser, runners, baristas, prep-cooks, dishwashers and kitchen porters. Restaurants also employ more minority employee-managers than any other industry.\(^{26}\)

• Over half of all restaurant workers are women, and restaurants employ over one million single mothers.\(^{27}\)

• Restaurants generate middle class jobs at a rate three times faster than the economy.\(^{28}\)

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\(^{17}\) Bureau of Labor Statistics.

\(^{18}\) Independent Restaurants Are a Nexus of Small Businesses in the United States and Drive Billions of Dollars of Economic Activity That Is at Risk of Being Lost Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, 1.


\(^{21}\) One – Third of US Restaurants Face Permanent Closure This Year.

\(^{22}\) Independent Restaurants Are a Nexus of Small Businesses in the United States and Drive Billions of Dollars of Economic Activity That Is at Risk of Being Lost Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

\(^{23}\) Ibid, 1, 2.

\(^{24}\) Ibid, 43.

\(^{25}\) Ibid, 45.

\(^{26}\) Ibid, 9.

\(^{27}\) Ibid, 8.

\(^{28}\) Middle-class jobs are growing rapidly in restaurants, National Restaurant Association.