FLORIDA’S $50.1 BILLION RESTAURANT ECONOMY IS AT RISK

Over 75% of Florida’s 41,366 eating and drinking locations are in danger of closing permanently without The RESTAURANTS Act

THE RESTAURANTS ACT WOULD GENERATE $12 BILLION ECONOMIC BENEFIT FOR FLORIDA

- Restaurants and drinking places account for 9.1% of all employment in Florida.
- Food services projected to contribute 125,957 new Floridian jobs from 2019 to 2027.
- The RESTAURANTS Act would galvanize Florida’s tourism industry, encouraging travelers to eat in Florida’s establishments and spend money on lodging, other tourist attractions, and retail, generating $6.6 billion, the 4th largest benefit in the nation.
- The RESTAURANTS Act would provide $1.1 billion in benefits to countless other bakers, fishermen, butchers, and, of course, Florida’s 44,400 small farms.

WITHOUT HELP FOR INDEPENDENT RESTAURANTS, FLORIDA’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 1,280,000 FLORIDIAN JOBS

- Since the beginning of March, the leisure and hospitality industry has accounted for 50% of all jobs lost in Florida.
- Keeping many of Florida’s 1,280,000 leisure and hospitality workers employed would save Florida $2 billion in unemployment benefits and insurance taxes.

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1 Florida 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.
3 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. This number represents the total benefits generated by the RESTAURANTS ACT for the state of Florida. It excludes dollars attributed to Federal benefit.
5 Occupational Projections (Long-term) for Multiple Occupations in Florida 2019-2027.
6 Ibid, page 2.
7 Ibid, page 3.
9 Ibid, page 22.
11 Ibid, page 2.
13 Florida Economy at a Glance.
14 Ibid.
15 Ibid; 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.
• 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.\(^{16}\)

• 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.\(^{17}\)

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.\(^{18}\)

• 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%.\(^{19}\)

• 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.\(^{20}\)

CONGRESS CAN SAVE 16 MILLION JOBS NATIONWIDE AND GENERATE UP TO $271 BILLION IN TWO YEARS BY PASSING THE RESTAURANTS ACT\(^{21}\)

• 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.\(^{22}\) 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.\(^{23}\) 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.\(^{24}\)

• Restaurants are hubs of minority employment and advancement. Sixty percent of all chefs nationwide are minorities. Minorities also make up 53% of bussers, runners, baristas, prep-cooks, dishwashers and kitchen porters. Restaurants also employ more minority employee-managers than any other industry.\(^{25}\)

• Over half of all restaurant workers are women, and restaurants employ over one million single mothers.\(^{26}\)

• Restaurants generate middle class jobs at a rate three times faster than the economy.\(^{27}\)

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\(^{16}\) Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
\(^{17}\) 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.  
\(^{20}\) One – Third of US Restaurants Face Permanent Closure This Year.  
\(^{21}\) 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  
\(^{22}\) Ibid, 1, 2.  
\(^{23}\) Ibid, 43.  
\(^{24}\) Ibid, 45.  
\(^{25}\) Ibid, 9.  
\(^{26}\) Ibid, 8.  
\(^{27}\) Middle-class jobs are growing rapidly in restaurants, National Restaurant Association.