December 11, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-230
U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-221
U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-222
U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204
U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

We are writing you to encourage your support for funding for the private motorcoach industry in the next stimulus package. The CERTS Act provides $10 billion of relief and includes support for the school bus and passenger ferry industries. The CERTS Act is co-sponsored by 60% of Congress (269 House Members and 59 Senators). We are extremely grateful for the inclusion of $8 billion for motorcoaches in the Bipartisan Emergency COVID Relief Act of 2020 proposal. This is the first time that relief for the motorcoach industry has been included in any broader stimulus package.

The private bus industry has not received any industry-specific stimulus funding to date, unlike other modes of transportation including airlines, Amtrak, and public transit. Our 3,000 mostly small and family-owned companies have suffered unprecedented economic losses and their businesses do not expect to see a return to normal business until 2022, at the earliest.

The motorcoach industry provides vital transportation services, playing an essential role in the national transportation network, as well as providing sustainable employment for 100,000+ workers directly, and many more indirectly. Our specialized workers need your help now!

The motorcoach industry has been designated critical infrastructure by the Department of Homeland Security for our role providing transportation to the military as well as supporting evacuations in the event of natural disasters. Without Congressional support, it is estimated that up to 50% of companies will soon be out of business and banks have already begun to repossess motorcoaches as business has nearly come to a halt. The impact of fewer companies and motorcoaches will be devastating and will impact our military, youth groups, sports teams, travel and tourism, schools, natural disaster evacuation, entertainer travel as well as the entire transportation network.
We ask for your support of the private motorcoach industry by making sure the CERTS Act legislation is included in the next stimulus bill, and adequately funded at $8+ billion.

Thank you in advance for your leadership.