TWIN SMALL BUSINESS CRISES
We need decisive action to preserve U.S. small businesses and jobs

COVID-19
As of July 2021, almost 70% of businesses in the United States remain negatively affected. Roughly 40% believe it will take more than six months to return to normal.

SILVER TSUNAMI
Over half of all businesses have owners over retirement age, around 2.9 million U.S. firms. 6 out of 10 will try to sell their business in the coming decade, and many won’t find buyers.

EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP
Can support business continuity, preserve good jobs and rebuild local economies in the United States.

Local businesses are the lifeblood of our economy
Small businesses employ almost half of the United States’ private sector workforce. In addition, local businesses circulate 3x more money back into their communities than absentee-owned businesses and corporate chains.

Investing in employee ownership
as part of the United States’ recovery agenda creates more resilient local economies with stronger small businesses and higher quality jobs. In addition to temporary relief measures, we need cost effective strategies that build truly resilient economies.
Employee ownership increases engagement, dedication and ingenuity, which are key to business success. During this uncertain time, businesses must respond quickly to change. By embedding employee ownership into the recovery, we can help small businesses get through the crisis and help build their resilience for the future.

**Employee Engagement Helps Flatten the Closure Curve for Businesses**

Employee ownership increases engagement, dedication and ingenuity, which are key to business success. During this uncertain time, businesses must respond quickly to change. By embedding employee ownership into the recovery, we can help small businesses get through the crisis and help build their resilience for the future.

**Employee Ownership Creates More Resilient Businesses**
- Higher sales and growth
  2% higher sales and employment growth year after year (NCEO).
- Lower unemployment
  In normal times, employee-owners are six times less likely to be laid off; 50% less likely in the last two recessions (Rutgers).

**We Can Help**

Join us in advancing a two-pronged small business recovery agenda that supports business continuity and incorporates employee ownership. With our partners, we are accelerating our efforts and working across the United States to help business owners who are considering closing their businesses for good or looking for a succession solution that preserves their legacy and yields benefits for all.

We must rebuild with more resiliency and equity for workers, businesses and communities.

**Employee Ownership Creates High Quality Jobs**
- Median wage income is 33% higher
- Median job tenure is 53% higher
- Household net worth is 92% higher

*Based on a 2017 study by the National Center for Employee Ownership*