

Congress to Introduce \$60 Billion Add-On to Restaurant Revitalization Fund

THE SBA NEEDS AT LEAST \$50 BILLION TO FUND ALL SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS.

JUNE 10, 2021

To ensure more restaurants get the help they deserve, the National Restaurant Association is kick-starting a grassroots campaign to support the \$60 billion Restaurant Revitalization Fund Replenishment Act.

The bipartisan bill, set to be introduced in Congress Thursday, would add more cash to the \$28.6 billion Restaurant Revitalization Fund, which already ran out of grant money. Sens. Kystren Sinema and Roger Wicker, along with Reps. Earl Blumenauer and Brian Fitzpatrick, are leading the charge in Congress.

Within the first hour of pre-registration for the RFF, more than 41,000 people joined—an early indicator that the billions of dollars may not be adequate. Sure enough, by the time the fund closed on May 24, the Small Business Administration received more than 362,000 applications requesting \$75 billion in funding in the three weeks the application portal was open, with an average grant application just over \$200,000. The figures mean more than half of eating and drinking places open at the start of COVID operated with “severe revenue loss” last year, according to the Association.

ADD YOUR VOICE: Tell Your Elected Officials to Replenish the RRF

Tell Congress you care about the Restaurant Revitalization Fund and agree that the struggles of the restaurant industry warrant continued federal support, I urge you to weigh in with your representatives in Washington. Add your voice, share your perspective, and together we can move Congress to support our favorite local restaurants.