



U.S. HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
– CHAIRWOMAN MAXINE WATERS –
THE HEROES ACT
SUPPORTS SMALL BUSINESSES, NON-PROFITS AND PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

The Heroes Act supports small businesses, public universities, and non-profit organizations of all sizes, especially those that predominantly serve low-income communities.

The Federal Reserve announced the Main Street Lending Program (MSLP), which is designed to support financial institutions extending loans to small and mid-sized businesses, but inappropriately limited access to America's businesses and nonprofits.

The Heroes Act expands and strengthens the MSLP by:

- **Mandating nonprofit organizations, including public universities be eligible for MSLP loans and receive low-cost loan options.**
- **Offering smaller loan options to expand access.** Many small businesses do not need a loan of more than \$500,000, the Fed's current minimum loan size, so the Heroes Act directs the Fed to create a low-cost loan option with deferred payments and without a minimum loan size.
- **Loan forgiveness for nonprofits that predominantly serve low-income communities.** In addition to the Heroes Act extending expanded forgivable Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans to all nonprofits, regardless of size, the bill creates a second loan forgiveness option through the MSLP for certain nonprofit organizations. Specifically, any nonprofit that predominantly serves low-income communities, as determined by the Federal Reserve, may have a MSLP loan forgiven.
- **Provide a Banking Safe Harbor for Legal Cannabis Businesses.** Legitimate, state-regulated cannabis businesses have been deemed essential and remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic and deserve access to banking services.

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