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Redwood Area Chamber along with regional chambers and MN Chamber of Commerce call on Walz to provide relief to businesses

Redwood Area Chamber & Tourism is continuing its advocacy with the Minnesota Ready Coalition to call on Gov. Tim Walz to provide immediate support to businesses most impacted by Executive Order 20-99. The Minnesota Ready Coalition is led by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and consists of over 80 chambers and business associations from across the state. This is not the first time Redwood Area Chamber & Tourism has partnered with the Minnesota Ready Coalition in sending Walz a letter urging him to take action to immediately support the businesses and employees impacted most by his latest executive order.

Anne Johnson, Executive Director of Redwood Area Chamber & Tourism said, "We will continue to follow and educate our Redwood Area businesses on proposed relief plans and will push for action to support local businesses through a variety of initiatives." Recently,, Walz and the Minnesota House Republican Caucus released outlines for COVID-19

economic relief packages that are aimed at helping small businesses and workers across the state. “When a special session convenes in December, the Walz administration and the legislature must work together to provide immediate support to those businesses and their employees most at risk of closure due to issuance of Executive Order 20-99. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the business community has shared the responsibility of balancing the need for public health protections while absorbing the economic blows from the loss of customers and business activity. Small and mid-sized Minnesota-based businesses, along with their employees, have been severely impacted,” said officials from the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce in a statement. Sales tax and property tax relief, as well as replenishing the Small Business Grant Relief Program first released in June are items the Coalition is advocating for, among additional relief for small businesses, according to Johnson.

Some of the other members of the Minnesota Ready Coalition from Southern Minnesota include Chambers of Commerce from Albert Lea-Freeborn County, Austin, Blooming Prairie, Blue Earth, Fairmont, Faribault, Greater Mankato Grow, Hutchinson, Jackson, Marshall Area, New Ulm Area, Sleepy Eye, Waseca, and Worthington. State organizations and associations who have partnered with the coalition include the Minnesota AgriGrowth Council, Minnesota Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus, Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association, Minnesota Recruiting and Staffing Association, Minnesota Retailers Association, and Minnesota Utility Contractors Association, and others.

For more information, including the most recent Minnesota Ready Coalition’s letter to the Walz administration and congressional delegation, visit the Redwood Area Chamber & Tourism website at redwoodfalls.org .