



April 28, 2021

Good Afternoon,

Following yesterday's announcement regarding the full re-opening timeline in MA, we prepared a statement reflecting our views and those of the industry. Here is the statement that I issued:

"While we are pleased to see a timeline emerge, the announcement today that the full reopening of the Commonwealth will not happen until August 1st is disappointing for the entire hospitality and tourism industry. While we respect the administration's decision, the rest of New England has taken a more proactive approach to lifting all restrictions by July 4 at the latest, putting us at a distinct disadvantage for existing group hotel and venue bookings larger than 200, as well as our tour and attraction partners who will remain at 50% capacity well into the summer. With one-third of the year already behind us, this narrows our region's tourism window significantly and hotels, tour operators, restaurants and entertainment venues will no doubt be negatively impacted. There is no facet of our industry that will not be affected by today's announcement."

This is our position. We respect the Administration's decision, but it leaves our beleaguered industry in an untenable position as it relates to recovery in the critical months of May, June and July. As the attached graphic illustrates, our region will be wide open and accepting group and leisure business throughout key summer months while Boston and Massachusetts remain stuck in neutral. We continue to advocate for adjustments to this plan. The livelihood of our industry depends on it.

The Small Business Association has announced that starting Monday, May 3 at 12pm the [Restaurant Revitalization Fund](#) will open its portal and begin accepting applications. Eligible businesses can submit applications via the portal but they will have to register first. Registration begins this Friday, April 30 at 9am. Businesses may also apply through an SBA-recognized POS vendor such as Square, Toast, Clover and NCR Corporation. Please reach out directly to your vendor to see if they are recognized and can apply.

The SBA has [organized a webinar](#) taking place today, April 28, at 2:30pm to cover details and the application process. There will be [another session](#) tomorrow, April 29, at 3pm hosted by the Office of Senator Markey, MRA, and MA Restaurants United. Additionally, SBA has created a [Knowledge Base](#) page for your reference. We'd also encourage businesses to utilize this [sample form](#) to prepare all information before submission. Do NOT submit these sample forms, simply use them as a preparation guide.

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