



March 11, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McCarthy and Minority Leader McConnell:

On behalf of the Virginia Creditors Bar Association (“VCBA”), representing more than 100 law firms and over 250 attorneys practicing creditors rights law in the Commonwealth of Virginia, we continue to support, as we have throughout the pandemic, that stimulus funds provided by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 should be exempt from garnishment.

Consumers are faced with many challenges as they deal with the unprecedented coronavirus pandemic and the resulting state of emergency. VCBA believes that the stimulus funds should be treated similarly to other government payments that are exempt from garnishment (e.g., social security, disability, and veterans’ benefits). VCBA encourages Congress to pass legislation that would allow banks to preclude these much-needed stimulus payments from any form of garnishment.

VCBA continues to encourage its members to lead in identifying, offering, and utilizing existing hardship policies and extending hardship accommodations, including the cessation of garnishments, to any consumer who is adversely affected by the current health crisis.

VCBA continues to take the current COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing financial hardships seriously and is grateful for the initiatives you, the Administration, and Congress have implemented to protect consumers and the economy.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or comments you may have regarding this important issue.

Very truly yours,

L. Robert Richman, Esquire
President

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