Dear Click or tap here to enter text.,

I am a small businessperson and my business is suffering because of the COVD-19 crisis.

As you know, SMEs are the engine of Europe’s economy and in this difficult time, cash flow needs to be our top priority to help us survive this situation.

European SMEs are already reporting alarming cash flow problems following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Measures taken across the continent, despite being necessary, are hurting small businesses like mine.

So, I am supporting the ‘#Payin7’ campaign aimed at all public bodies across Europe to respond to the cash squeeze caused by the COVID-19 crisis by facilitating a €65 billion boost to small business cash flow resulting from all public payers **paying their bills within 7 days**, rather than the standard 30, while the effects on small business due to this crisis persist.

The ‘#Payin7’ campaign, which includes a Change.org petition (access here http://chng.it/QJtCBmRC62) and a dedicated toolkit, has been launched by the European Small Business Alliance (ESBA) who represent one million micro and small companies like mine across the EU, to advocate that this cash boost to business is implemented by all public bodies, to accompany the European government’s plans for increased lending already announced.

The €65 billion figure has been arrived at by taking public procurement procedures as an example, and using the figures provided in the [European Semester Thematic Factsheet on Public Procurement 2017](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/file_import/european-semester_thematic-factsheet_public-procurement_en_0.pdf):

*Total of public procurement in the EU28 (including spending by*

*utility companies) = 2.3 trillion EUR*

*SMEs win 45% of the aggregate contract value above EU thresholds — directly*

*or as joint bidders or subcontractors*

2*.3 trillion EUR x 0.45 = 1.035 trillion EUR for SMEs per year.*

***1.035 trillion EUR* ÷ *365 x 23 = 65.2 billion EUR of extra cash flow for SMEs***

As part of the campaign launch David Caro, president of ESBA, released a statement to the media which contains this quote:

*“The COVID-19 crisis will cause a cash crunch. Improved lending will help, but even better would be to pay small businesses what they are due, faster. Cutting payment terms back to just 7 days will put €65 billion extra into the balances of small businesses just when they need it most. Governments want to know how they can help. We think they should set an example, show their support for European SMEs, and ‘Pay in 7.”*

Your support for the ‘Pay in 7’ campaign will be of extreme importance for me and all European SMEs, and I hope I can count on you among to promote the implementation of the 7 days change in payment terms while the crisis lasts.

Yours sincerely,