

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

August 5, 2026

The Honorable Kelly Loeffler
Administrator
Small Business Administration
409 3rd Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20416

Dear Administrator Loeffler,

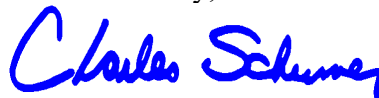
I am pleased to write in strong support of the New York Wine & Grape Foundation's application for \$500,000 through the U.S. Small Business Administration's Supply Chain Acceleration and Logistics Enablement (SCALE) Program. This funding will enable the Foundation to conduct a comprehensive feasibility study for a producer-owned logistics cooperative serving New York's wine, beer, spirits, and cider producers.

Established by New York State in 1985 as an economic development entity, the New York Wine & Grape Foundation has the statewide industry, relationships, authority, and technical capacity necessary to coordinate this effort. New York's craft beverage producers – particularly small and mid-sized businesses in the Finger Lakes and other rural communities across Upstate New York – have been hit by overlapping losses in freight-forwarding, cold-storage, and distribution capacity. The foundation has brought craft beverage associations together around a collaborative response and is well-positioned to develop a durable solution that strengthens market access and supply-chain resilience.

If awarded, the foundation will complete the marketing research, business modeling, governance design, financial analysis, and legal planning needed to evaluate and establish a multi-beverage logistics cooperative. A successful cooperative would restore reliable storage and shipping capacity, expand access to markets, and help New York producers across the industry remain competitive.

For additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Grants Director, Kaia Moore, in my Washington office at grants@schumer.senate.gov. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator