

July 30, 2020

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS:

The undersigned organizations urge you to support the timely, targeted, and temporary liability relief provisions contained in S. 4317, the “SAFE TO WORK Act.” These crucial protections would safeguard healthcare workers, providers, and facilities, as well as businesses, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions against unfair lawsuits so they can continue to contribute to a safe and effective economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. This legislation is critically needed and should be enacted as soon as possible. To that end, we strongly urge you to support the inclusion of these provisions in a Phase IV COVID-19 relief package.

Healthcare workers and facilities continue to work tirelessly to protect us from COVID-19 and provide care and treatment to those who become ill. Likewise, businesses and non-profit organizations of all types and sizes continue to adapt in incredible ways to safely provide their communities with much-needed goods and services, in addition to keeping workers employed and the American economy afloat. But, as those workers and businesses keep our communities safe and provided for, our members and constituencies remain concerned that, despite doing their best to follow applicable government guidelines, they will be forced to defend against an onslaught of frivolous lawsuits. Unfortunately, this concern has already begun to materialize.

COVID-19-related lawsuits and their consequent exorbitant legal costs could deter entities from reopening and could ultimately cripple businesses, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations both large and small. Furthermore, absent the proposed liability protections, many frontline healthcare workers and facilities, as well as manufacturers of critical personal protective equipment, would be punished for their efforts in the form of costly lawsuits.

The temporary and targeted liability relief provisions contained in S. 4317 are balanced and would ensure that unfair lawsuits against those who work to comply with applicable governmental guidelines do not impede the American people’s health, social, and economic recovery. Importantly, the protections contained in this legislation are limited in duration and scope. They are not permanent changes to federal law. Furthermore, they allow states to provide additional protections if they so choose and, critically, preserve reasonable recourse for those harmed by truly bad actors.

In the wake of prior crises, Congress came together to pass needed liability protections with strong bipartisan support because lawmakers understood the acute threat of lawsuits at moments of maximum economic vulnerability. That threat is present again now, perhaps more than ever. As such, now is the time for Congress to take strong action and provide a national baseline of protection during this national pandemic to stop a growing wave of lawsuits from inhibiting our return to a robust economy and healthy citizenry.

Sincerely,

U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform
 U.S. Chamber of Commerce
 AdvaMed - Advanced Medical Technology Association
 Aeronautical Repair Station Association
 Aerospace Industries Association
 Agricultural Retailers Association
 Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA)
 Airlines for America
 Airports Council International - North America
 Alabama Restaurant & Hospitality Association
 Alabama Retail Association
 Alaska Hotel & Lodging Association
 Albany Area Chamber of Commerce
 Allen Fairview Chamber of Commerce
 Alliance for Automotive Innovation
 Alliance of Wisconsin Retailers
 America's Health Insurance Plans
 America's SBDC
 American Academy of PAs
 American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing (AAPACN)
 American Bakers Association
 American Bankers Association
 American Beverage Licensees (ABL)
 American Business Conference
 American Car Rental Association
 American Chemistry Council
 American Council for Capital Formation
 American Council of Engineering Companies
 American Council of Life Insurers
 American Dental Association
 American Farm Bureau Federation
 American Forest and Paper Association
 American Foundry Society
 American Frozen Food Institute
 American Gaming Association (AGA)
 American Gas Association
 American Health Care Association (AHCA) & National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL)
 American Hotel & Lodging Association
 American Institute of CPAs
 American International Automobile Dealers Association
 American Medical Association
 American Mold Builders Association
 American Property Casualty Insurance Association
 American Rental Association
 American Resort Development Association
 American Society of Travel Advisors (ASTA)
 American Staffing Association
 American Supply Association
 American Tort Reform Association
 American Trucking Associations (ATA)
 American Veterinary Medical Association
 AMT - The Association For Manufacturing Technology
 Angel Fire Chamber of Commerce
 Argentum
 Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Arizona Lodging & Tourism Association
 Arizona Retailers Association
 Arkansas Hospitality Association
 Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce/AIA
 Asian American Hotel Owners Association
 Associated Builders and Contractors
 Associated Builders and Contractors
 - Greater Tennessee
 Associated Builders and Contractors
 - South Texas Chapter
 Associated Builders and Contractors
 Central California Chapter
 Associated Builders and Contractors of New Mexico
 Associated Builders and Contractors of San Diego
 Associated Builders and Contractors of Western PA
 Associated Builders and Contractors of Wisconsin
 Associated Equipment Distributors
 Associated General Contractors of America
 Associated Wire Rope Fabricators
 Association of Lodging Professionals
 Association of the Wall and Ceiling Industry
 Association of Washington Business
 Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce
 Auto Care Association
 Automotive Recyclers Association
 Bandon Chamber of Commerce
 Bartlesville Regional Chamber of Commerce
 Beer Institute

Bend Chamber of Commerce
 Billings Chamber of Commerce
 Biocom – Life Science Association of California
 Biotechnology Innovation Organization
 Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
 Boise Metro Chamber
 Bossier Chamber of Commerce
 Bowling Centers Association of Wisconsin (BCAW)
 Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce & CVB
 Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce
 Business Roundtable
 Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau
 California Hotel & Lodging Association
 California Retailers Association
 CAMBA and CAMBA Housing Ventures
 Carson City Chamber of Commerce
 CCIM Institute
 Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance
 Central Chamber of Commerce
 Central Fort Bend Chamber
 Central LA Regional Chamber of Commerce
 Chamber of Commerce Hawaii
 Chamber Of Commerce Of Cape Coral
 Chamber of Shipping of America
 Charlotte Regional Business Alliance
 Chattooga County Chamber of Commerce
 Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry
 Civil Justice Association of California
 Cloudcroft Chamber of Commerce
 Coalition of Franchisee Associations
 Colorado Chamber of Commerce
 Colorado Hotel & Lodging Association
 Colorado Retail Council
 Columbia Chamber of Commerce
 Commercial Vehicle Solutions Network (CVSN)
 Committee of 100 for Economic Development
 Community Associations Institute
 Connecticut Lodging Association
 Connecticut Retail Merchants Association
 Conroe/Lake Conroe Chamber of Commerce
 Construction Industry Round Table
 Consumer Bankers Association
 Consumer Technology Association
 Convenience Distribution Association
 Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers
 Covington County Chamber of Commerce
 Credit Union National Association
 CTIA-The Wireless Association
 Deadwood Gaming Association
 Delaware Hotel & Lodging Association
 Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce
 Distilled Spirits Council of the United States
 Edison Electric Institute
 Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance
 Equipment Leasing and Finance Association (ELFA)
 Equipment Marketing & Distribution Association
 (EMDA)
 Explore Charleston
 Exton Region Chamber of Commerce
 Fairmont Area Chamber of Commerce
 Family Business Coalition
 Federation of American Hospitals
 Florida Chamber of Commerce
 Florida Justice Reform Institute
 Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association
 Florida Retail Federation
 FMI - The Food Industry Association
 Foodservice Equipment Distributors Association
 Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce
 Forum for Community Leaders
 Franchise Business Services
 Fuel Merchants Association of New Jersey
 Gallup McKinley County Chamber of Commerce
 Gases and Welding Distributors Association
 Georgia Chamber of Commerce
 Georgia Hotel & Lodging Association
 Georgia Retailers
 Glass Packaging Institute (GPI)
 Global Business Travel Association
 Global Cold Chain Alliance
 GPA Midstream Association
 Granbury Chamber of Commerce
 Graphic Arts Association
 Graphic Media Alliance
 Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce

Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Grays Harbor, Inc.
 Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber
 Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Minden Chamber of Commerce
 Greater New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce, Inc.
 Greater New Orleans Hotel & Lodging Association
 Greater New Orleans, Inc.
 Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Pensacola Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Summerville/Dorchester County
 Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Topeka Partnership
 Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC
 Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce
 HealthCare Institute of New Jersey (HINJ)
 Healthcare Leadership Council
 Heating, Air-conditioning, & Refrigeration
 Distributors International
 Hospitality Maine
 Hospitality Minnesota
 Hotel Association of New York City
 Hotel Association of Washington DC
 Humboldt Chamber of Commerce
 Idaho Chamber Alliance
 Illinois Chamber of Commerce
 Illinois Civil Justice League
 Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association
 Illinois Retail Merchants Association
 Independent Bakers Association
 Independent Electrical Contractors
 Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America
 Independent Office Products & Furniture Dealers Alliance
 Independent Petroleum Association of America
 Indiana Chamber of Commerce
 Indiana Restaurant & Lodging Association
 Indianola Chamber of Commerce
 Industrial Fasteners Institute
 Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)
 Institute of Real Estate Management
 International Association of Amusement Parks
 and Attractions
 International Association of Plastics Distribution
 International Caterers Association
 International Council of Shopping Centers
 International Dairy Foods Association
 International Foodservice Distributors Association
 International Franchise Association
 International Housewares Association
 International Sign Association
 International Warehouse Logistics Association
 International Wood Products Association
 Iowa Gaming Association
 Iowa Retail Federation
 Irrigation Association
 ISSA - The Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association
 Jefferson Chamber of Commerce
 Job Creators Network
 Kansas Chamber & Kansas Retail Council
 Keizer Chamber of Commerce
 Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
 Kentucky Retail Federation
 Kentucky Travel Industry Association
 Klamath County Chamber of Commerce
 Klamath Falls Chamber of Commerce
 Latino Hotel Association
 Leading Builders of America
 LeadingAge
 LeadingAge Texas
 League City Regional Chamber of Commerce
 Lewistown Area Chamber of Commerce
 Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI)
 Louisiana Casino Association
 Louisiana Coalition for Common Sense
 Louisiana Lawsuit Abuse Watch
 Louisiana Retailers Association
 Lowcountry Hospitality Association
 Lubbock Chamber of Commerce
 Mansfield Area Chamber of Commerce
 Manufactured Housing Institute
 Manufacturer & Business Association

Marana Chamber of Commerce
Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Maryland Chamber of Commerce
Maryland Hotel & Lodging Association
Maryland Retailers Association
Mason City Chamber of Commerce
Massachusetts Lodging Association
McAllen Chamber of Commerce
Medical Device Manufacturers Association (MDMA)
Metals Service Center Institute
Metrocrest Chamber of Commerce
Michigan Chamber of Commerce
Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association
Michigan Retailers Association
Midwest Food Products Association
Mineral Wells Area Chamber of Commerce
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
Minnesota Retailers Association
Mississippi Economic Council - the State Chamber
Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Missouri Retailers Association
Missouri Tire Industry Association
Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce
Montana Chamber of Commerce
Montana Lodging & Hospitality Association
Montana Manufacturing Association
Montana Retail Association
Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce
Motion Picture Association
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association
Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce
Natchez-Adams County Chamber of Commerce
National Air Carrier Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Broadcasters
National Association of Chain Drug Stores
National Association of Chemical Distributors
National Association of Electrical Distributors
National Association of Federally-Insured
Credit Unions
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of Mutual Insurance
Companies (NAMIC)

National Association of Professional Employer
Organizations
National Association of Professional Insurance Agents
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®
National Association of Security Companies
(NASCO)
National Association of Theatre Owners
National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors
National Automobile Dealers Association
National Business Aviation Association
National Business Coalition on E-Commerce
& Privacy
National Community Pharmacists Association
National Cotton Council
National Council of Chain Restaurants
National Demolition Association
National Electrical Contractors Association
National Fastener Distributors Association
National Franchisee Association
National Grocers Association
National Independent Automobile Dealers
Association (NIADA)
National Limousine Association
National Lumber and Building Material Dealers
Association
National Marine Distributors Association
National Mining Association
National Multifamily Housing Council
National Ocean Industries Association
National Office Products Alliance
National Propane Gas Association
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
National Restaurant Association
National Retail Federation
National Roofing Contractors Association
National RV Dealers Association (RVDA)
National Shooting Sports Foundation
National Small Business Association
National Tooling and Machining Association
National Waste & Recycling Association
NC Chamber Legal Institute
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Nebraska Grocery Industry Association
Nebraska Hotel & Lodging Association

Nebraska Retail Federation
 Nevada Hotel & Lodging Association
 Nevada Resort Association
 New Hampshire Retail Association
 New Jersey Civil Justice Institute
 New Jersey Hotel & Lodging Association
 New Jersey Independent Electrical Contractors
 Association
 New Jersey Motor Truck Association
 New Jersey Retail Merchants Association
 New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce
 New Mexico Association of Commerce and Industry
 New Mexico Retail Association
 New Orleans Chamber of Commerce
 New York State Hospitality & Tourism Association
 News Media Alliance
 NFIB
 NH Grocers Association
 Norman Chamber of Commerce
 North American Association of Food Equipment
 Manufacturers (NAFEM)
 North American Die Casting Association
 North American Meat Institute
 North Carolina Chamber
 North Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association
 North Carolina Retail Merchants Association
 North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce
 North Country Chamber of Commerce
 North Dallas Chamber of Commerce
 North Myrtle Beach Chamber/CVB
 North San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
 Ocean City Hotel Motel Restaurant Association
 Office Furniture Dealers Alliance
 Ohio Chamber of Commerce
 Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
 Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association
 Oklahoma Hotel & Lodging Association
 Oklahoma Retail Merchants Association
 Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association
 Oregon State Chamber of Commerce
 Outdoor Power Equipment and Engine
 Service Association
 Overland Park Chamber of Commerce
 Pacific Printing Industries Association
 Paperboard Packaging Council
 Park Rapids Chamber of Commerce
 Pennsylvania Association of Community Bankers
 Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry
 Pennsylvania Coalition for Civil Justice Reform
 Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association
 Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association
 Pennsylvania Retailers Association
 Pennsylvania's Americana Region Visitors Bureau
 Pet Industry Distributors Association
 Petroleum Equipment Institute (PEI)
 Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America
 Phoenixville Regional Chamber of Commerce
 Physician Assistant Education Association
 PIA MidAmerica
 PINE (Printing Industries of New England)
 Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS)
 Plumbing Manufacturers International
 Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors
 --National Association
 Portland Cement Association
 Precision Machined Products Association
 Precision Metalforming Association
 Printing & Imaging Association of Georgia
 Printing Industries Alliance
 Printing Industries Association, Inc.
 of Southern California
 Printing Industry Midwest
 PRINTING United Alliance
 Professional Background Screening Association
 (PBSA)
 Professional Beauty Association (PBA)
 Reinsurance Association of America
 Retail Association of Maine
 Retail Association of Nevada
 Retail Council of New York State
 Retail Merchants of Hawaii
 Retailers Association of Massachusetts
 Rhode Island Hospitality Association
 Round Rock Chamber
 Rowlett Chamber of Commerce
 RV Industry Association

S Corporation Association
San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
SC Trucking Association
SC Retail Association
Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce
Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles Association
Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA)
Security Hardware Distributors Association
Shelton-Mason County Chamber
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council
Society for Human Resource Management
Society of Collision Repair Specialists (SCRS)
Society of Industrial and Office REALTORS®
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce
South Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association
South Dakota Retailers Association
South Padre Island Chamber of Commerce
Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce
Southern Oregon Solutions
Specialty Equipment Market Association
Spring River Area Chamber of Commerce
Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
St. Louis Area Hotel Association
St. Louis Regional Chamber
State Chamber of Oklahoma
Stayton Sublimity Chamber of Commerce
Tag and Label Manufacturers Institute, Inc. (TLMI)
Tarpon Springs Chamber of Commerce
TechNet
Tennessee Hospitality & Tourism Association
Texans for Lawsuit Reform
Texas Alliance for Patient Access
Texas Civil Justice League
Texas Hotel & Lodging Association
Texas Retailers Association
The Aluminum Association
The American Waterways Operators
The Association for Hose and Accessories Distribution
The Chamber Grand Forks / East Grand Forks
The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce
The Fertilizer Institute
The Hardwood Federation
The Longview Chamber
The Orchard Park Chamber of Commerce
The Printing Industry of the Carolinas, Inc.
The Real Estate Roundtable
The Transportation Alliance
The Travel Technology Association
Tile Roofing Industry Alliance
Truck Renting and Leasing Association
Tulsa Regional Chamber
Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce
Umatilla Chamber of Commerce
Utah Tourism Industry Association
Vail Valley Partnership
Vegas Chamber
Vermont Chamber of Commerce
Victor Chamber of Commerce
Virginia Chamber of Commerce
Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association
Virginia Retail Federation
Virginia Retail Merchants Association
Washington Hospitality Association
Washington Liability Reform Coalition
Washington Retail Association
West Calcasieu Chamber of Commerce
West Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association
Western Equipment Dealers Association
Western Garfield County Chamber of Commerce
Western Growers
Wholesale & Specialty Insurance Association (WSIA)
Wholesale Florist and Florist Supplier Association
Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce
Window and Door Manufacturers Association
Winona Area Chamber of Commerce, Inc.
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association
Wisconsin Civil Justice Council
Wisconsin Dairy Alliance
Wisconsin Grocers Association
Wisconsin Hotel & Lodging Association
Wisconsin Independent Businesses
Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce
Women's Business Enterprise National Council

(WBENC)

Worldwide ERC®

WV Retailers Association

Wyoming Lodging & Restaurant Association