

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
 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
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
Central Chamber of Commerce
Central Fort Bend Chamber
Central LA Regional Chamber of Commerce
Chamber Of Commerce Of Cape Coral
Chamber of Shipping of America
Charlotte Regional Business Alliance
Chattooga County 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)
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
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 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 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 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 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 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 Retail Association

Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce

Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles Association

Securities and Financial Markets Association

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
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 Mansfield Area Chamber of Commerce
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
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