

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