

July 21, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Mitch McConnell Majority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer Minority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, and Leader McCarthy,

Thank you and your members for providing greater resources to states during COVID-19. We are grateful for the partnership from Congress as well as the Trump Administration in supporting the lead role of state governments in responding to the public health emergency as well as recovering from the economic downturn.

As Congress debates a potential phase four bill, we ask that you take action to provide common sense civil liability protections to health care workers, businesses, and schools. When Americans take sensible steps to implement public health best practices, they should have confidence that they will be secure from unreasonable claims. Liability protections must be predictable, timely, targeted, and shield employers from legal risk when following the appropriate standard of care to protect employees, customers, and students. To be clear, liability protections are not a license for gross negligence, misconduct, or recklessness.

To accelerate reopening our economies as quickly and as safely as possible, we must allow citizens to get back to their livelihoods and make a living for their families without the threat of frivolous lawsuits. As public policymakers, it is our duty to provide clarity, consistency, and stability to our citizens and their businesses, and the uniformity that federal law provides is critical to America's industries that work across state lines.

Again, thank you for your partnership. We hope you will take action to protect employees as well as employers in the workplace, and we look forward to working with you to strengthen our states and our nation and get our economy back up and running.

Sincerely,

HOLLOMB

Governor Eric Holcomb State of Indiana

Jouglan M. Tucey

Governor Doug Ducey State of Arizona

Governor Kim Reynolds State of Iowa

Governor Mike Parson State of Missouri

Governor Doug Burgum State of North Dakota

Governor Henry McMaster State of South Carolina

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Governor Gary Herbert State of Utah Kay lvey

Governor Kay Ivey State of Alabama

Governor Asa Hutchinson State of Arkansas

Governor Larry Hogan State of Maryland

Governor Pete Ricketts State of Nebraska

Governor Mike DeWine State of Ohio

Governor Bill Lee State of Tennessee

Governor Jim Justice State of West Virginia Governor Mike Dunleavy State of Alaska

Governor Brad Little State of Idaho

Governor Tate Reeves State of Mississippi

Governor Chris Sununu State of New Hampshire

Governor Kevin Stitt State of Oklahoma

Governor Greg Abbott State of Texas

Governor Mark Gordon State of Wyoming

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