



**Chris Spear**  
President & Chief Executive Officer

March 17, 2020

President Donald J. Trump  
Vice President Mike Pence  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump and Vice President Pence:

We appreciate the hard work that you, your Administration, and all levels of government are undertaking to keep us safe during the COVID-19 virus outbreak. Public officials and private counterparts are responding in ways we have never seen, and they are having an impact.

On behalf of the trucking industry, we are writing to ask your assistance to assure that trucks are able to continue to safely deliver medicine, food, fuel, water and other basic necessities to communities and homes. Mail and parcel delivery is also essential when Americans are avoiding public places and receive supplies and checks at home.

Governments, especially state and local executives, are issuing important guidance – closures and restrictions – to help slow and stop the spread of the virus in impacted communities. Let me assure you, the trucks are delivering vital supplies to communities now, but confusion and lack of clarity are causing delays and problems.

As governments consider public health decisions to limit travel, shelter in place, close public facilities and quarantine communities, we ask that you consider trucking with these specific policies:

- Exempt trucking services for the delivery of essential goods explicitly from restrictions. Guidelines that make clear the role of shipping necessities by truck will ensure smooth resupply and delivery.
- As many states shutter their DMV facilities, support the ability of the trucking industry to continue to provide critical services by providing alternatives for drivers who need to renew or obtain commercial drivers licensing credentials.
- Keep rest stops open – commercial drivers have temporary relief from Hours of Service regulations, but they must manage fatigue as they respond to this emergency, and rest stops are an irreplaceable component, along with commercial truck stops.
- Provide guidance for the health of drivers, including possible testing for COVID-19. Clear guidance on public health assets is important to our employees, just like it is for all other Americans, and our drivers are typically away from home.

Absent policies like these, it will be more difficult to ensure that the shelves are stocked and emergency supplies reach first responders and medical personnel.

The efforts to keep us safe, healthy and supplied are shared by government, private citizens and businesses alike. Trucking will continue to do its part in these difficult times. In this current crisis, we ask for your help in supplying America, together.

Sincerely,



Chris Spear  
President & CEO  
American Trucking Associations

cc: Secretary Elaine L. Chao, U.S. Department of Transportation  
Secretary Alex Azar, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services