

May 28, 2020

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

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

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

On behalf of the undersigned trade associations representing millions of employees and many millions more customers, we urge you to support the *Clean Start: Back to Work Tax Credit*. If enacted, this tax credit will help businesses protect their workforce and the public from further spread of the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19, as well as any future emerging pathogens as businesses start to reopen.

There is significant research demonstrating the novel coronavirus can survive on surfaces for days unless properly cleaned and disinfected. As a result, the combination of properly trained cleaning personnel and utilizing the correct cleaning products are critical in helping prevent the further spread of this virus as businesses reopen. Unfortunately, many businesses lack the necessary expertise, products, or trained personnel to properly disinfect for coronavirus and other viruses.

The *Clean Start: Back to Work Tax Credit* would create a tax credit per business entity to help defray the unforeseen and increased cleaning costs associated with fighting the coronavirus. The credit would be temporary, capped, and used to help offset the costs of cleaning services, cleaning products and sanitary-related equipment, as well as obtaining certification in cleaning. Qualified cleaning expenses also would include personal protective equipment, which are critical to protecting employees and the public.

ISSA—The Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association estimates the increased cleaning costs associated with the coronavirus will be at least 50 percent more than they were prior to the outbreak. These costs could be even higher for specialized spaces such as nursing homes and healthcare facilities.

We stand ready to provide resources and work with your offices to develop policies to help protect against the future transmission of the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 as businesses get back to work.

Thank you for your consideration of this suggested provision for inclusion in the next stimulus bill. The *Clean Start: Back to Work Tax Credit* will help ensure the safety of Americans as businesses begin to reopen and workers return to their jobs. The proposal will also prepare workplaces to better deal with emerging pathogens that we could be confronted with in the future.

Sincerely,

American Car Rental Association

American Hotel & Lodging Association

Asian American Hotel Owners Association

Building Service Contractors Association International

Building Owners and Managers Association International

Independent Office Products & Furniture Dealers Association

International Franchise Association

ISSA—The Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association

National Pest Management Association

National Restaurant Association

North American Meat Institute

Professional Beauty Association

U.S. Travel Association