



June 30, 2020

Governor Beshear, President Stivers, and Speaker Osborne:

On behalf of the Kentucky Association of Manufacturers and the over four hundred Kentucky businesses that we represent, thank you for your service to the Commonwealth. We appreciate all you do, especially during these challenging times. Over the past several months, Kentucky manufacturers have worked to manage the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic while continuing to safely provide essential services and goods, including personal protective equipment, both in the Commonwealth and worldwide. Our members have done their best to provide products and supplies necessary to serve the public while following Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Healthy at Work guidelines in an effort to keep employees and customers safe.

There are concerns, though, that predatory legal claims intended to realize a windfall at the expense of the Commonwealth's employers will threaten the ability of our members to remain operational. Manufacturers must be protected to continue to provide jobs and for Kentucky to move towards a robust economic recovery.

We respectfully request that you work to put in place safeguards to protect Kentucky manufacturers from frivolous claims related to COVID-19. KAM believes that any effort to provide liability relief should be specific to this pandemic and should not shield companies that operate in reckless or intentional disregard of available guidance to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

KAM has joined other businesses, organizations, and local governments to advocate for sensible targeted and temporary relief. We are also working with our members to learn more about their experiences and specific needs related to liability relief, as well as gathering information from states across the country that are also working to implement similar protections. We look forward to working with our state leaders to make certain that Kentucky manufacturers can continue to operate and provide needed and essential services without fear of frivolous legal claims.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee Lingo".

Lee Lingo  
Executive Director  
Kentucky Association of Manufacturers

Cc:  
Members of the Kentucky General Assembly