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April 20, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

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

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM), on behalf of our more than 1,000-members in the \$288 billion equipment manufacturing industry, has asked the federal government to take steps to help equipment manufacturers navigate this unprecedented situation. AEM's federal priorities include:

- designating equipment manufacturers, as well as their suppliers and distributors, as essential and providing state and local officials with a clear and consistent directive moving forward;
- ensuring that the demand for equipment remains strong by keeping contractors on projects, farmers in the field, and utilities operating;
- providing liquidity to equipment manufacturers of all sizes in order to protect the 2.8 million men and women working in the industry.

Congress and the Trump administration have taken bold action to help equipment manufacturers through this difficult time with the first three tranches of pandemic response legislation. The Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) authorized in the CARES Act is an important program for small manufacturers trying to stay afloat. However, eligible companies are still in need of program funds. I urge you to reach consensus early this week on a bipartisan, bicameral compromise to replenish funds for the PPP.

AEM is thankful for the work Congress has already done to mitigate the harm of the pandemic on businesses and American families. Unfortunately, due to the impact of this pandemic, it is clear that further assistance will be needed to help the economy on the path to recovery. I hope that Congress will continue to keep the needs of equipment manufacturers at the forefront as discussions progress and I look forward to serving as a resource to you as our country moves forward in these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,

Dennis Slater  
President  
Association of Equipment Manufacturers