April 23, 2020

**AEM is committed to providing you with the latest updates, information, and resources to help you navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and the unfolding economic crisis. In order to keep these e-mail updates relevant and the information timely, we may adjust the frequency of the e-mails over the coming days and weeks.**

As this message hits your inbox, the U.S. House of Representatives is preparing to vote on the latest coronavirus relief package (H.R. 266, the Paycheck Protection Program and Healthcare Enhancement Act) to deliver aid to small businesses and hospitals and expand COVID-19 testing. The measure passed the U.S. Senate on Tuesday and will go to President Trump for his signature after it is approved by the House. The President Trump has expressed his support for the legislation and indicated that he will sign it.

We hear from our friends on Capitol Hill that today’s vote will be different than the normal voting procedure. One member of Congress tells us: “To ensure members properly adhere to social distancing guidelines, they are keeping votes open for extended periods of time and splitting the members into eight groups of roughly 60 members to quickly vote and leave the floor.”

H.R. 266 will add more than $300 billion in additional funds for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), $50 billion for the Small Business Administration’s Disaster Loans program, $10 billion for emergency Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL), $75 billion for hospitals, and $25 billion for coronavirus testing. It also clarifies that agricultural enterprises with fewer than 500 employees are eligible for the EIDL program.

Earlier this week, AEM’s Dennis Slater sent a letter to congressional leadership, urging them to reach a deal to boost funding for the Paycheck Protection Program. And this week AEM staff and member company CEOs have been making calls to lawmakers urging them to pass the measure immediately.

***IMPORTANT:*** Last week, we deployed a survey to help us better understand how the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting member companies, identify the challenges facing executives, and understand the outlook for the next three to six months. The survey results will help us as we continue to support our member companies during the COVID-19 pandemic, including ongoing advocacy efforts. **If you have yet to complete the survey, please do so by close of**
business today. **Complete the survey here.** Please don’t hesitate to **email me** if you have any questions about the survey. ***

Here are today’s latest updates:

**SBA issues new guidance on PPP, with warning for larger companies**
The Small Business Administration (SBA), in consultation with the U.S. Department of the Treasury, issued new guidance on the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) today through a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. In today’s document the Small Business Administration said all borrowers should consider the certification they must make when applying for loans that "[c]urrent economic uncertainty makes this loan request necessary to support the ongoing operations of the applicant." **Read the full FAQ.**

**AEM Continues to Monitor Mexican Essential Business Guidance**
Equipment manufacturers are obtaining guidance from the U.S. Department of Commerce and U.S. State Department on the ongoing manufacturing facility shutdowns and cross-border supply chain disruptions caused by health emergency decrees issued by the Mexican government.

If your business is negatively impacted, please;
1) Contact AEM’s Alex Russ (**aruss@aem.org**) for further information and guidance, and to provide information on how your company is negatively impacted.

2) Have your Mexican suppliers and subsidiaries contact their local government officials, asking to re-open facilities on a case-by-case basis emphasizing measures undertaken to protect the health and safety of facility workers during the pandemic.

3) If your facility is shut down, or supply chains are disrupted, please provide us with a testimonial highlighting the economic damage and we will make sure we get it to the appropriate government officials.

**AEM’s Slater Makes the Case for National Manufacturing Strategy in Op-ed**
Slater explained the need for a national manufacturing strategy in a **Morning Consult op-ed**, writing “**while Congress and President Donald Trump consider its next potential deal to help kickstart the U.S. economy – even after the federal government passed a $2 trillion rescue package – there’s another strategy the federal government should deploy that would not only meet the challenges we face today, but also rise to the opportunities of tomorrow: creating a national manufacturing strategy.**”

This comes two weeks after **AEM was the first group to call on the federal government** to implement a comprehensive national strategy for manufacturing to ensure the U.S. is the best place in the world for equipment manufacturers to innovate, manufacture, and do business.
**State Activities**
AEM has been monitoring activities taken by Governors as they continue to issue closure orders and other guidance, and we are in close contact with their staff to make the case that our industry should be deemed “essential.”

The map below summarizes each state’s status. For all of the latest information, please visit our [dedicated state by state tracker](#).

**Many states have implemented initiatives that halt various economic activities**

**Business-related state mitigation strategies**

*AS OF APRIL 22, 2020*

- Stay-at-home orders/advisories
- Closed bars and/or restaurants
- Closed non-essential businesses

![Map of state activities](image)

*States with localities that have stay-at-home advisories

**Canada Activities**
We continue to update our resources on Canadian activities on [AEM’s COVID-19 resources page](#). You can also click here for the latest updates from [Ottawa and all the provinces](#).

Do you have questions or need to get a hold of AEM’s Advocacy Team? E-mail our Response Team at [responseteam@aem.org](mailto:responseteam@aem.org) with any questions or feedback.

As always, if you have any questions about AEM’s ongoing efforts, need assistance with a specific issue, or would like to share how the unfolding COVID-19 pandemic is impacting your business, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [keideberg@aem.org](mailto:keideberg@aem.org).

Best,
-Kip

Kip Eideberg
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