

June 24, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

Thank you for your leadership in response to the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. Early in your Administration, you wisely named the food and agriculture sector as part of the nation's critical infrastructure. As organizations representing the food, agriculture, retail and consumer packaged goods (CPG) supply chain, we appreciate the steps you and your Administration have taken to protect workers and keep the food supply chain running.

Our members have been on the front lines of the response to the pandemic by continuing operations and ensuring Americans have access to safe, nutritious, and affordable food. Challenges have taxed the food supply chain over the past four months, but the food, agriculture, CPG, and retail industries are resilient and the supply chain did not break.

Scientists have advised that COVID-19 will remain a continuous public health concern, so the importance of a vaccine cannot be overstated. A vaccine targeting COVID-19 is likely the only way to generate immunity across a population. Once a vaccine for COVID-19 is developed, it is imperative the federal government coordinate vaccine distribution. Leaving vaccine distribution to the states will result in an inconsistent, inefficient process. Further, to continue to protect the food supply, we ask that food and agriculture workers be given the next highest priority for receiving the vaccine behind our nation's healthcare workers, first responders, and high-risk individuals. Prioritizing vaccinations for food, agriculture, retail, and CPG workers will be a key intervention to help keep workers healthy and the food and CPG supply chain operating.

The food, agriculture, CPG, and retail industries will continue to fulfill the "special responsibility" critical infrastructure industries carry, and we are proud our industry's workforce selflessly persevered to feed America.

We appreciate your consideration of this request. Thank you for your leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

American Bakers Association  
American Frozen Food Institute  
Consumer Brands Association  
Corn Refiners Association  
FMI – the Food Industry Association  
Global Cold Chain Alliance  
International Dairy Foods Association  
National Confectioners Association

National Fisheries Institute  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Restaurant Association  
North American Meat Institute  
North American Millers' Association  
Peanut and Tree Nut Processors  
Association  
United Fresh Produce Association