



**By Electronic Mail**

July 28, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20511

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressional Leaders:

The Consumer Brands Association appreciates your leadership during these difficult times and the constructive relationship between our industry and the Congress in our joint efforts to address the challenges in responding to COVID-19. As Congressional leadership readies to begin negotiations around the next COVID-19 relief package, Consumer Brands respectfully requests Congress supply sufficient federal funding to ensure schools can purchase needed disinfecting and cleaning supplies to safely open America's schools.

We recognize that the decisions on how and when to go back to school will be made at the state and local level. However, in order to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission among our country's students and teachers, an adequate supply of disinfecting and cleaning supplies is critical to any effort to reopen schools physically this fall.

In addition to funding, we encourage Congress to work with the administration to create a task force to study and protect the supply chain for crucial sanitization and disinfectant products. Accordingly, we recommend this task force be directed to initiate the following steps upon creation:

- Quickly provide an accurate assessment of the disinfectant products necessary to keep an average-size school clean.
- Assess the total number of schools — public and private — likely to reopen and the overall impact on current supply chains for disinfectant products.
- Evaluate the likely demand on active and inactive ingredient suppliers, determine whether there is enough domestic supply and how we ensure access to international supply chains when ingredients can't be sourced in the United States.
- Move to further codify the supply chain and efficacy claim regulatory changes EPA has already made in coordination with Consumer Brands.



- Provide tariff relief for any base materials or ingredients used to make disinfectants that are currently listed or plan to be listed for tariff penalties to help keep costs as minimal as possible for America's schools.

Given the very personal nature by which parents make the decisions on where, how and when to educate their children, with safety being paramount, Consumer Brands remains hopeful that this issue rises above partisan politics. The American Academy of Pediatrics noted "no single action or set of actions will completely eliminate the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission, but implementation of several coordinated interventions can greatly reduce that risk."

Regardless of the decisions made by local officials and parents, every child, teacher and school employee must have access to the disinfecting and cleaning products in the classroom to stop the spread of COVID-19.

We appreciate your leadership in ensuring federal funds are available for adequate supplies of disinfectants as schools and families face these difficult decisions. Please let me know if you would like for Consumer Brands to facilitate discussions with leading disinfectant manufacturers.

Regards,

Bryan Zumwalt  
Executive Vice President, Public Affairs  
Consumer Brands Association