

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 30, 2020

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590-0001

The Honorable Chad F. Wolf  
Acting Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528-0001

Dear Secretary Chao and Acting Secretary Wolf:

As the United States continues to weather the ramifications of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the resulting COVID-19 illness, we are writing you today to express our deep concern at the ongoing lack of personal protective equipment (PPE) for essential, frontline workers at our nation's airports and other transportation hubs as well as for those working on our means of mass transportation (e.g. airlines, Amtrak, etc.).

As you are aware, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention continues to recommend that everyone wear a mask when unable to practice social distancing. For many of our nation's transportation workers, social distancing is logistically impossible. Therefore, we request that you require the use of masks, gloves, eyewear, and any other PPE that may be appropriate for our nation's transportation workers (such as airline ticket and gate agents, flight attendants, and those responsible for providing wheelchair or other assistance to passengers), frontline Federal employees (such as Transportation Security Officers and Customs and Border Protection officers) who have continued to diligently perform their duties, and the passengers they interact with.

Unfortunately, a Federal directive has become necessary because too many employers are not allowing their employees to protect themselves at work or are making the use of PPE optional, potentially endangering not only the employee but their families, passengers, and everyone else they come in contact with. It is our firm belief that no worker should be penalized or endangered for continuing to perform their essential job functions amid this global pandemic. By issuing this directive, the United States government would not only lead by example, they would provide critical protections to these frontline workers.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress

/s/  
John Lewis  
Member of Congress

/s/  
José E. Serrano  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Ron Kind  
Member of Congress

/s/  
James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Adam Smith  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

/s/  
John B. Larson  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Wm. Lacy Clay  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Susan A. Davis  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Jim Costa  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Al Green  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr.  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress

/s/  
John A. Yarmuth  
Member of Congress

/s/  
André Carson  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Judy Chu  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Bill Foster  
Member of Congress

/s/  
David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress

/s/  
William R. Keating  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Cedric L. Richmond  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Donald M. Payne Jr.  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Tulsi Gabbard  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Alan S. Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Mark Takano  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Ed Case  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Brenda L. Lawrence  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress

/s/

J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress

/s/

Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress

/s/

Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

/s/

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress

/s/

Darren Soto  
Member of Congress

/s/

Susan Wild  
Member of Congress

/s/

Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress

/s/

Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress

/s/

Val Butler Demings  
Member of Congress

/s/

Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

/s/

A. Donald McEachin  
Member of Congress

/s/

Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress

/s/

Thomas R. Suozzi  
Member of Congress

/s/

Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress

/s/

Jesús G. “Chuy” García  
Member of Congress

/s/

Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Katie Porter  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Max Rose  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Donna E. Shalala  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress

/s/  
David Trone  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Jennifer Wexton  
Member of Congress

/s/  
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress