



April 9, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States

The White House
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Re: COVID response should rely more on American companies

Dear Mr. President:

The Coalition for a Prosperous America (CPA) greatly appreciates your tireless efforts to fight the COVID battle and to respond to continuously changing needs across the country. We are concerned, however, that large multinational companies involved with production of ventilators, personal protective equipment, and other supplies are relying excessively on the same global supply chains that helped cause the US to lose its capacity to produce many needed items.

CPA has identified hundreds of US manufacturers that are ready, willing, and able to scale up or modify their existing capabilities to produce needed equipment for the COVID-19 crisis. We believe these US manufacturers can greatly assist OEMs and the US government in increasing production of personal protective equipment (PPE), medical devices, and critical pharmaceuticals.

We ask that you increase and formalize agency efforts to tap the underutilized US supply chain to save lives, rebuild and maintain stockpiles, and assist with the economic recovery. Large multinational OEMs should work with more of these domestic suppliers by sharing designs and inviting bids.

Our nation should focus its efforts on spurring domestic production of the above-mentioned items. Such an effort would provide economic relief for companies currently struggling due to the COVID-19 crisis and would assist our government with identifying reliable American manufacturers. We should not be overcompensating multinational companies who enabled current shortages by way of cheap labor in countries like China. The domestic companies on our list have spare capacity today and, unlike foreign suppliers, will put the needs of Americans first.

CPA has surveyed manufacturers across the country and has assembled a current list of over 600 companies that want to help. These companies have expertise in making active pharmaceutical ingredients, printed circuit boards, precision

metal and plastic parts, optics, textiles, sterilization, and many other products. Our list also includes contract manufacturers who can make final products that augment the primary production lines of OEMs.

Most of these companies are already certified under ISO or FDA standards. They have quality control, distribution, and compliance capabilities. Some have already reached out to OEMs but received no response.

While we appreciate the efforts of Philips Healthcare, GE Health, General Motors, WalMart, and CVS to help with the COVID-19 crisis, reliance on their global supply chains is far from optimal. Over 16 million Americans lost their jobs in the last three weeks. We need Americans to produce America's needs. We should not wait until the crisis is over to tap our domestic industrial base.

Only the federal government can and should require multinationals and OEMs to change—and start relying on domestic suppliers who are ready, willing, and able to help. These high-quality jobs can help reverse the trend of low-job quality in the US.

CPA has enclosed our list of companies and will share with any agency or OEM that is interested in making the effort to work with American suppliers. We look forward to working with you to see that more Americans are put back to work.

Sincerely,



Daniel DiMicco, Chairman



Michael Stumo, CEO

CC: Department of Commerce, Secretary Wilbur Ross
Department of the Treasury, Secretary Steven Mnuchin
White House Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy, Director Peter Navarro
White House Director of National Economic Council, Larry Kudlow
White House Director of Domestic Policy Council, Joe Grogan
United States Trade Representative, Ambassador Robert Lighthizer