

March 17, 2020

TO: ALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
PENN-DEL-JERSEY CHAPTER, NECA

FROM: AARON R. KELLEY,
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COORDINATOR

RE: **FEDERAL CORONAVIRUS BILL & PENNSYLVANIA SHUTDOWN**

Following up our discussion at yesterday's Board Meeting, see below for more information on H.R. 6201 and Pennsylvania's construction industry remaining open during the state's shutdown:

Federal Coronavirus Bill

As discussed yesterday, the **Families First Coronavirus Response Act (H.R. 6201)** is a Bill with provisions providing workers emergency sick and family leave options due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This Bill was passed by the United States House of Representatives and will soon be received in the Senate. **It is NOT yet law.**

The Chapter understands your concerns that this Bill would cause hardship for many NECA Members, and especially for those in Pennsylvania where all schools are closed. These concerns are being expressed at the highest levels of government by NECA Government Affairs Staff.

This morning, Chapter Executive Director Jeffrey P. Scarpello and I held a conference call with NECA CEO David Long, NECA Vice President of Government and Public Affairs Marco Giamberardino, and three other members of NECA National's Government Affairs staff.

During this call, Jeff and I expressed the Chapter's concerns with H.R. 6201. NECA National agrees that this Bill would create major issues for our Contractors. However, it is likely that some harmful sick and family leave provisions will remain in the final bill and become law.

That said, **NECA is actively working with legislators to ensure that a massive economic stimulus package is approved by Congress.** This package, expected to inject around \$850 billion dollars into the economy, would alleviate hardship created by H.R. 6201. Such a stimulus will likely be approved late this week or early next week.

I will send updates as things develop further. Please carefully review all Chapter notices emailed to you in the coming days and weeks, as the situation is rapidly changing.

Pennsylvania "Non-Essential Business" Shutdown

PA Governor Tom Wolf released language clarifying that the Construction Industry is indeed included in the state's definition of "essential" businesses. This means that **our Industry may continue to operate during the State's "non-essential business" shutdown.**

I will update you as soon as possible if the situation changes. Please keep your eyes open for additional alerts from the Chapter, NECA National, GCs, and project owners. Please also do your best to comply with new government guidelines should any be pronounced.

If you have any questions regarding either of the above issues, please contact me via email (akelley@neca-pdj.org) or phone (267-872-5890). Thank you very much for your time.

Very Respectfully,
ARK