



March 17, 2020

Dear Senator:

The members of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), like all Americans, have faced an unprecedented challenge in response to the Coronavirus outbreak. NECA commends Members of Congress for the swift passage of the first Coronavirus Supplement appropriation. The second response bill, H.R. 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, poses significant challenges for contractors across the country. In its current form, we believe that the provisions of this bill are unworkable for many of our contractors and the full implementation of this bill would be disastrous for and bankrupt our nation's electrical contractors.

Specifically, the tax credit to offset the cost of the expansion of paid sick leave is capped and the current capped rates of \$511 per day, and \$7,156 altogether are crippling to our member companies. These limits are far less than the average wage a NECA contractor pays its employees. The Qualified Family Leave Wages Employers covered by this requirement would also be subject to a tax credit cap of \$200 per day for up to 50 days. NECA thanks Congress for providing the tax credit to help offset the expansion of paid sick leave, but we ask that the caps be removed to keep our contractors afloat during this difficult time.

NECA is the voice of the \$171 billion electrical construction industry that brings power, light and communication technology to buildings and communities across the U.S. Our national office and 118 local chapters advance the industry through advocacy, education, research and standards development. A diverse group of nearly 4,000-member companies account for approximately 300 million man-hours per year.

NECA firmly believes that a compromise can be found that would not only support the American worker but also the American business owner in order to provide a healthy workforce and sustain America's businesses. NECA thanks the Senators who have worked on this important legislation and we continue to look forward to working with Members of Congress to address this unprecedented crisis.

Thank you for consideration of our views. If you have any questions or concerns please contact my staff at any time by reaching out to James Farrell, Director of Government Affairs, at James.Farrell@necanet.org or 412-418-1480.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Marco A. Giamberardino, MPA
Vice President, Government and Public Affairs

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