

On and Off the Job, Workers Need Protection

We are at an unprecedented time in our nation. While many of our members are facing mass layoffs, others are on the job or being ordered to return to work. That's why we must work harder than ever to push Congress to enact consistent, uniform safety standards that would help slow the virus' spread and demand employer compliance.

Protecting Workers on the Job

In March, we demanded that OSHA implement an emergency, temporary infectious disease standard that would specify the steps employers must take to keep workers safe. Unfortunately, the Secretary of Labor refused. A bill in Congress, [the COVID-19 Every Worker Protection Act of 2020 \(H.R. 6559\)](https://bit.ly/2YfGF3Q) (<https://bit.ly/3aRqgwx>), would require OSHA to immediately issue an enforceable Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS), based on CDC guidance, to protect all workers from exposure to Covid-19 in the workplace. These measures are absolutely necessary to keep workers safe while we restart our economy.

Protecting Health Care for Those Who Have Lost Their Jobs

Over the past seven weeks, over 33 million Americans have lost their jobs - tens of thousands of Steelworkers and their family members included. We have deep concerns that our members will not be able to afford to continue their health care during this time because of the high cost of COBRA coverage. [The Worker Health Coverage Protection Act \(H.R. 6514\)](https://bit.ly/3alsUNI) (<https://bit.ly/2yT6g7K>), would provide 100 percent federal financing to cover the full cost of COBRA premiums owed by workers who have lost their jobs, who are furloughed, or who have had their hours reduced as a result of the coronavirus crisis. We know that this is also a priority for those we represent.

Urge your members of Congress to support the Covid-19 Every Worker Protection Act of 2020 and the Worker Health Coverage Protection Act today!

There are two ways you can help.

1. Click [HERE](https://bit.ly/3cpvPw3) (<https://bit.ly/3cpvPw3>) to email your Representative and urge them to cosponsor both of these critical bills.
2. **Make a quick call to urge your Representative to cosponsor these bills.**
 - Dial our toll-free number to the U.S. House: 866-202-5409. You will be automatically routed to your Representative's office.
 - Tell the office who you are and where you are from, and ask your Representative to **COSPONSOR BOTH** the Covid-19 Every Worker Protection Act of 2020 (H.R. 6559) and the Worker Health Coverage Protection Act (H.R. 6514).

We know we don't typically ask for engagement on two issues at once, but unprecedented times call for unprecedented action, especially with our members' and their families' health and safety on the line. Please take a moment to email and call your legislators. Urge them to cosponsor both of these critical bills!