

AMERICA WORKS BEST
WHEN WE SAY . . .



PENNSYLVANIA AFL-CIO

RICHARD W. BLOOMINGDALE
President

FRANK SNYDER
Secretary-Treasurer

March 16, 2020

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Office of the Governor
508 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf:

People across Pennsylvania are seeing their everyday lives impacted by our Nation's public health crisis. In the past week we have seen policy measures enacted to protect public health from the spread of COVID-19. All working people have a part to play in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, and workers' rights must be treated as primary concerns with concrete solutions, not with inadequate, short-term gestures.

The National AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka has sent the following letter to U.S. Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia, calling for an emergency temporary standard to protect frontline workers from exposure to this infectious disease. The AFL-CIO has also directed Congress to pass emergency legislation in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO is calling for action to protect all working people across the Commonwealth, union members or not. No one should be required to choose between their paycheck and the health and the safety of themselves and others. All workers should be afforded paid sick leave and, in this time of crisis, enhanced unemployment benefits.

We must protect our workers on the frontlines of this pandemic including healthcare workers, first responders, those in transportation, protection, and the service industry. All workers across America are quintessential stakeholders in this crisis. The affiliate unions of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO will work to ensure our workers' safety and security is preserved, as they preserve ours.

We have included President Trumka's letter to Secretary of Labor Scalia, along with AFL-CIO Legislative Director Bill Samuel's letter to the U.S. Congress, and we support and endorse those demands.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bloomingdale, President
Frank Snyder, Secretary-Treasurer