

## United States Senate

March 19, 2020

The Honorable Mike Pence  
Vice President  
1 Observatory Circle  
U.S. Naval Observatory  
Washington, D.C. 20392

Dear Mr. Vice President,

As the Chair of the Senate Warehousing and Distribution Caucus, I write to draw your attention to a pressing matter within the logistics community. I thank you in advance for your attention to this timely matter.

The outbreak of COVID19 has challenged all sectors of our economy, and the logistics sector is no exception. I am specifically concerned about the well-being of our nation's food distribution network, with over one million employees in its ranks and an economic impact that tops \$330 billion.

This industry in particular ensures that food makes its way into our nation's hospitals, grocery stores, schools, restaurants, and other aspects of our communities. This industry has 15,000 distribution centers nationally, delivering 24 million cases daily and 8.7 billion cases annually. It is essential that this network remain vibrant in the weeks and months to come. Endpoints in this delivery system have necessarily closed to help contain COVID19—and while necessary, closures have disrupted the overall strength of the food distribution industry.

As the Administration works with Congress to mitigate impacts of the COVID19 on the nation, I appreciate the opportunity to work with you to make sure that key distribution networks continue to serve our communities reliably.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. I am happy to discuss this issue at any time, or to provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Mike Braun  
Indiana