



March 24, 2020

Mr. Dave Wills
Executive Director
Association of County Commissioners of Georgia
191 Peachtree Street, NE
Suite 700
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: Consistent Designation of Essential Critical Infrastructure Worker Recommendations

Dear Dave:

Thank you for your steadfast leadership in guiding counties throughout our state to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and secure Georgia's future. The state's business community stands firm in our commitment to be a trusted partner as we navigate this time of uncertainty. To be certain, stopping the spread of COVID-19 and its impact on Georgians remains a top priority. However, as we navigate this temporary and unprecedented situation, it is imperative that Georgia remain open for business for critical and essential services. This is extremely important as necessary supplies continue to flow through the state and must be delivered to those individuals fighting on the frontlines of this pandemic. The designation of an essential business will substantially impact how our state weathers this crisis both short- and long-term.

Recently, one of the most frequent questions the Chamber has received from employers is what will be categorized as "essential businesses". We believe a baseline standard for this designation is the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response dated March 19, 2020 and enclosed in this letter.

I want to thank you for advising your member counties to adopt the enclosed federal guidelines defining "essential businesses" when exploring the implementation of "shelter-in-place" ordinances. By adopting this interpretation, our hope is to mitigate supply chain disruptions that could leave Georgians vulnerable in their greatest times of need.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued leadership during these difficult times. We value your partnership with the statewide business community to place our state in the best position for effective response to the COVID-19 crisis and ensure our economic recovery.

Sincerely,

Chris Clark
President and CEO
Georgia Chamber of Commerce