



April 7, 2020

Dr. Jorge Alcocer Varela
Mexican Ministry of Health
Lieja 7 Alcaldía Cuauhtémoc,
Colonia Juárez, Ciudad de México. C.P. 06600

Via Email Delivery

Dear Secretary Alcocer Varela,

Representing USA's largest exporting State, the undersigned Texas industries, chambers of commerce, and economic development entities request unity among the vital trading partners in North America to ensure all critical infrastructure/essential industries, and their supply chains, can continue to safely operate across Mexico, Canada, and the United States even amidst the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

For many decades Mexico and Texas have benefitted from a healthy and symbiotic relationship. On both sides of the border our prosperous businesses and industries depend daily on the close trading and global supply chain ties we share.

To help preserve our very successful industry relationships through these challenging times, particularly now that USMCA is finally in place, we urge Mexico to adopt guidelines aligned with the [U.S. Department of Homeland Security guidelines](#) for critical infrastructure industries and the newly issued federal [guidelines from the Canadian federal government](#).

Texas' industries that support public safety, first responders, and national security across the region have thus far had great success in keeping many of our manufacturing plants open while keeping our employees as safe as possible with protective health guidelines now in place to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, the lack of clarity with recent announcements from the Mexican government about what manufacturing is deemed "essential" is causing significant adverse impacts for many Texas and U.S. plants dependent on Tier 1 and 2 suppliers across Mexico that support our critical industries.

We would urge unity among the vital trading partners in North America to ensure all critical infrastructure and essential industries, and their supply chains, can continue to operate across Mexico, Canada, and the United States during the COVID-19 crisis. We believe the health of our employees, their livelihoods, and each of our nation's economies can be successfully managed.

TAM Letter to Mexican Ministry of Health

Re: Alignment of North American Critical Infrastructure Policy for COVID-19

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Please let me know if there is any supporting information we can provide, or if you have further recommendations. Thank you for considering our request and we look forward to even healthier and more prosperous days ahead for each of our countries.

Respectfully,



Richard A. "Tony" Bennett
President & CEO
Texas Association of Manufacturers

On behalf of:

San Antonio Manufacturers Association
Texas Defense Aerospace & Aviation Alliance
Texas Economic Development Council
South Texas Manufacturers Association
Austin Chamber of Commerce
Garland Chamber of Commerce
Austin Regional Manufacturers Association
North Texas Commission
San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
Abilene Chamber of Commerce
North Dallas Chamber
Cedar Park Chamber of Commerce
Longview Chamber of Commerce
United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce
Greater Arlington Chamber of Commerce
Plano Chamber of Commerce
Metroport Chamber
Round Rock Chamber of Commerce
Midlothian Chamber of Commerce
Frisco Chamber of Commerce

Texas Association of Business
RGV Partnership
Borderplex Alliance
Dallas County Manufacturer's Association
Texas Business Leadership Council
Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce
Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute
Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce
Greater Irving–Las Colinas Chamber Commerce
Greater Houston Partnership
Mineral Wells Chamber of Commerce
Dallas Regional Chamber
Hurst Euless Bedford Chamber of Commerce
Mansfield Chamber of Commerce
Texas Oil & Gas Association
Southwest Merit Association
El Paso Chamber of Commerce
NE Tarrant Chamber of Commerce
San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

cc: Dra. Graciela Márquez Colín
Secretaría de Economía
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Demarcación Territorial Cuauhtémoc
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