



Legislative Priorities 4 & 5

Updated May 26, 2020

The exhibition, meetings, and events industry recognizes the need to protect public health, build confidence in the American people that when the time is right we will be ready with safety and sanitation measures and to establish a reopening of our industries economy.

- 1) **Protect businesses that protect public health:** Enact targeted and temporary safe harbor from liability for businesses that follow proper health and safety guidelines to protect against COVID-19.
 - a) Any business that remained open during social distancing or reopens based on state reopening plans and follows recommended guidance, in good faith, from public health officials to protect their employees and customers must be allowed limited safe harbor from litigation related to COVID-19. Providing temporary and targeted safe harbor from liability for companies that maintain a safety plan based on CDC or OSHA guidelines would provide greater certainty that businesses need to reopen, rehire and act in the interest of public health.
- 2) **Enable safe and healthy economic activity:** Expand the federal role in the White House "Testing Blueprint" to strategically position COVID-19 tests to support travel, convention centers, and venue sites as well as significant funding for implementation.
 - a) Expansive, rapid, transportable COVID-19 testing is not only essential to slow the spread of the coronavirus, but also to allow for a phased reopening of the economy and facilitate the freedom of movement and travel. Federal leadership and funding to increase the number of testing facilities and accelerate the production of new COVID-19 testing technology are both essential for protecting workers and consumers as more elements of business and public life reopen.

Why this matters to you:

- Every measure listed as our priorities serves a building block to a faster and safer recovery of the exhibitions, meetings, and events industry which will ensure a solid foundation to rebuilding the economy.
- All of these events are mission critical to the organizations that use these vehicles to; buy and sell goods and services, educate and engage in collaborative efforts, and allow people to get to the business of business.
- Without proper and timely implementation of our priorities will result in an expanded and prolonged economic recovery, resulting in millions of dollars and job losses.

Our Call to Action: We urge all Members of Congress, to use all procedural levers at their legislative disposal, to move on these priorities swiftly and efficiently to get the economy moving.

Our message: In these extraordinary financial times, it is critical for the federal government to use whatever fiscal means they have at their disposal to prop up the economy. The lack of investment will cost the U.S. economy millions in revenue and jobs and prolong the recovery. Please consider all measures to keep the country from sliding into a depression.