

temporary standard to protect all frontline workers from COVID-19, including (H.R. 6800 (HEROES) - Sec. 120302)¹:

- Ensuring immediate company-specific OSHA consultations about the precautions companies should take as they reopen, ramp up, or change over production to make personal protective equipment (PPE), medical devices, and necessary supplies;
 - Requiring the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) to issue, enforce, and train employers and workers in the provisions of an emergency standard to protect coal miners from COVID-19;
 - Allowing workers to self-quarantine if they are concerned about exposure to the virus, and protect them from termination if they are quarantined;
 - Ensuring workers who provide direct patient care, emergency services, or are otherwise in hazardous working environments are compensated with appropriate pay; and
 - Rejecting provisions to shield corporations from liability if their workers get sick on the job while offering no U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) protections to ensure worker safety.
- **Protect communities and workers' jobs, wages, and benefits:**
 - Extend unemployment insurance (UI) benefit eligibility for the duration of the COVID-19-caused economic downturn and expand UI work-sharing eligibility to avoid layoffs;
 - Ensure workers in all sectors—and at companies of all sizes—have access to paid sick leave for themselves and family members, closing the loophole from the Families First Coronavirus Response Act to cover companies with less than 50 or more than 500 employees (H.R. 6800 (HEROES) - Sec. 120104);
 - Ensure a worker's leave for COVID-19 is separate from their existing leave, and that they are eligible at any time they are employed (H.R. 6800 (HEROES) - Sec. 120106);
 - Protect workers' healthcare and pension plans and coverage of missed contributions due to missed work or layoffs;
 - Guarantee retirement security through a federally-funded cash infusion to shore up multi-employer pension plans,;
 - Issue a moratorium on all evictions, foreclosures, and utility shut-offs;
 - Increase funding to the Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program (\$5 billion) (H.R. 6800 (HEROES) - Sec. 190703);
 - Provide direct additional, unrestricted, funding to state and local government facing severe budget shortfalls (\$1 trillion) (H.R. 6800 (HEROES) - Title III);
 - Ensure that any taxpayer is eligible to receive stimulus benefits (H.R. 6800 (HEROES) - Sec. 20102);

¹ Note that all legislation referenced is from the 116th Congress

- Provide \$265 million over ten years for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's (BOEM) Office of Renewable Energy to assist in offshore wind lease sales, environmental review, and stakeholder engagement.

Pillar 3: Clean Energy, Clean Technology Manufacturing, and Industrial Transformation

Grow clean energy and domestic manufacturing, while reinvesting and retooling industry to build more of the products, materials, and technologies of the future here - all while providing more pathways into good family-supporting jobs and ensuring strong, secure clean technology supply chains. BGA's manufacturing policy platform can be found [here](#).

- **Capitalize an industrial bank or revolving loan fund** to provide loans and grants to manufacturers to expand domestic production of clean energy, transportation, and infrastructure technology and energy efficient products and for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from manufacturing facilities;
 - Ensure criteria for domestic, high-quality job creation, as well as targeted investment in impacted communities
- **Fund urgent manufacturing conversion and retooling:**
 - Fund Section 132 Manufacturing Conversion/Industrial Retooling Grants to shift or retool facilities to produce clean vehicles or components and update to include key EV propulsion technologies. Facilitate reinvestment in deindustrialized communities and at-risk plants (H.R. 2 Sec. 33341):
 - Prioritize conversion of existing plants to produce critical components and clean technologies;
 - Emphasize priority investments in plants recently closed or at risk of closure, or in deindustrialized or under-invested communities; and
 - Retain and enhance mechanisms encouraging collaboration with local and state investments, workforce development measures, and related economic development tools.
 - Expand and update the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing (ATVM) Loan Program to, at a minimum, cover medium- and heavy-duty clean vehicles and component manufacture, the manufacture of related electric charging/hydrogen fueling equipment, and prioritize economically critical technologies. It should also prioritize the manufacture of strategic components, target investment in deindustrialized communities, and ensure the creation of and access to good-paying jobs (H.R. 2 Sec. 33342); and
 - Fund Section 1603 grants in lieu of tax credits for clean technology deployment, manufacturing and/or industrial retooling or conversion.
- **Greatly increase U.S. funding for RD&D and industrial transformation:**
 - Launch a National Institute of Manufacturing to coordinate manufacturing initiatives across the federal government;

- Establish a new DOE Office of Industrial Transformation, and execute a program of technology development, demonstration, and deployment in energy-intensive industry commensurate with achieving net zero emissions by 2050;
 - Establish a permanent jobs, labor, and energy workforce program in the Office of the Secretary of Energy;
 - Direct investments to spur innovation and industrial transformation, which should build on the Clean Industrial Technologies Act (H.R. 3978/S. 2300 (Casten/Whitehouse)). This should include funding a new program within the Department of Energy's Advanced Manufacturing Office to award competitive grants to eligible entities for first of kind commercialization projects - including demonstration and pilots - of technologies that increase energy savings and lower greenhouse gas emissions of U.S. energy intensive manufacturers;
 - Increase funding across DOE programs, including EERE, the Office of Science, and ARPA-E, building on H.R. 7827 (Cartwright));
 - Increase funding for DOE's Title XVII Innovative Energy Loan Guarantee and Tribal Loan Guarantee programs to support low and no carbon electricity production as well as first in class and subsequent deployment of innovative industrial technologies, including industrial carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS), that modernize energy-intensive manufacturing and reduce industrial emissions (H.R. 2 Sec. 33181);
 - Ramp up technical assistance and funding at DOE to greatly enhance deployment of combined heat and power (CHP), waste heat to power (WHP), smart manufacturing, and other existing and near-term energy and materials efficiency technologies and processes in industrial facilities; and
 - Enhance grant programs for small- and medium-sized manufacturers to deploy industrial efficiency, repowering, and emissions reduction technology and processes (H.R. 7446 (Cartwright)).
- **Renew and expand clean energy and clean energy manufacturing tax credits:**
 - Renew and enhance funding for the Section 48C Manufacturing Tax Credit program, which provides an investment tax credit to reequip, expand, or establish domestic clean energy, transportation, and grid technology manufacturing facilities. The scope should be expanded to capture the manufacture of key energy and carbon reducing technologies, such as battery cells (H.R. 2 Sec. 90441) and include targeted investments in coal, deindustrialized, and impacted communities;
 - Increase the Section 48 investment tax credit for CHP and clarify waste heat to power is also eligible for this credit (S. 2283 (Carper));
 - Adapt the Section 45M technology production tax credit to fund domestic production (or manufacturer purchase) of strategic clean energy/vehicle component technologies, including batteries, solar cells, and wind components; and

- Extend major clean energy, clean vehicles, energy storage, industrial efficiency and other tax credits to spur demand; and improve key tax credits to enhance their domestic economic and equity impacts (S. 2185 (Merkley), (H.R. 2 Sec. 90441).
- **Use public investment and incentives to boost a strong, clean, and fair manufacturing economy in America**
 - Pass Buy Clean legislation to ensure that materials used for public projects, like infrastructure improvements, are the cleanest and most sustainable available. Buy Clean can ensure that taxpayer dollars support products manufactured in a clean, efficient, environmentally-friendly manner—reducing pollution while supporting good jobs across the nation;
 - Buy America/n: Direct agencies to extend, clarify and enforce Buy America/n. Extend and ensure its effective application to manufactured goods, clean technologies, and materials, and to all forms of public spending. Ensure all major public spending on clean technology deployment—such as tax incentives, loans, grants, and bonds—also support high labor standards and domestic manufacturing throughout the supply chain:
 - Extend Buy America/n applicability—including melted and poured provisions—to more infrastructure sectors and materials;
 - Tighten and clarify rules on manufactured goods and subcomponents—especially for emerging clean technologies and materials—to support development of critical components in the United States;
 - Improve transparency and waiver rules; and where waivers are approved, improve mechanisms to regularly review, and to require and phase in domestic supply over time;
 - Supplement Buy America/n requirements with procurement requirements that require or incentivize high labor standards, union neutrality, career pathways, equity, and community benefits agreements for public procurement of major manufactured materials and equipment;
 - Utilize domestic ‘qualified’ or ‘preferred’ domestic entity certification or similar to raise labor standards for General Services Administration (GSA) procurement;
 - Incentivize and/or require significant domestic content and high labor standards in clean technology products and projects receiving tax, grant, or loan funds, and for private activity bonds; and
 - Update trade rules on procurement to support domestic manufacturing as discussed further below.
 - Boost direct federal—and state and municipal—procurement to spur demand for clean, fair, safe, and domestically manufactured clean technology, such as enhanced government purchases of clean government fleets and net-zero government buildings, innovative community resilience, and disaster response technology; and

- Fund accelerated deployment of advanced vehicles through programs like Clean Cars for America that spur vehicle turnover and the purchase of highly efficient and electric cars, trucks, buses and school buses; ensure these programs incentivize domestically manufactured vehicles and technology and provide options for all income levels.

Pillar 4: Rebuild the Public Sector and Services and Invest in Social Infrastructure and the Care Economy

Rebuild the capacity of the public sector, the health care system, education, and community-based resources to prepare for and respond to crises. BGA’s social infrastructure policy platform can be found [here](#).

- **Ensure adequate funding and staffing:**
 - At all levels of government, the public sector must be made whole from losses suffered during the pandemic. There must be full investment in the public sector and public services to ensure we have the resources and capacity we need to respond and recover;
- **Provide resources for planning and support to ensure the public sector and those providing public services can properly respond to pandemics and other crises:**
 - Ensure public and private entities have adequately prepared and tested preparedness plans. Workers must play an active role in the development of these plans;
 - School systems must proactively develop plans describing the potential impact of a crisis (e.g., a pandemic or climate-related disaster) on worker health and student learning, (e.g., student and staff absences, school closings, and extracurricular activities) and develop alternative procedures to ensure continuity of instruction and continuity-of-operations plan for essential central office functions, including payroll and ongoing communications with students and parents:
 - Communication plans must take into account language, culture, and reading-level appropriateness and must be routinely tested on any communication platform used in the plan (e.g., hotlines, telephone trees, dedicated websites, and local radio or TV stations).
 - Healthcare systems must also proactively develop plans describing impacts on healthcare workers during a pandemic:
 - All workers (doctors, nurses, caregivers, custodial staff, etc.) should be supplied with all necessary and recommended equipment and working conditions so they are ready to keep themselves, their patients, and their families healthy;

- Develop a communications plan to ensure healthcare workers have clear guidance on protocols for protection and prevention of exposure to the virus; and
 - Ensure essential healthcare employees have childcare in the event that schools and daycares are closed.
- Provide adequate training and support to home and community-based care workers to provide caregivers with the resources to better protect the most vulnerable in our society from crises; and
- Municipal, healthcare, and school systems, and other public services must work to address provisions for mental health support services for staff, students, and families during and after a pandemic and climate-related disasters.

Pillar 5: Provide Critical Long-Term Support and Protections for Workers

Rebuild and expand the social safety net, including pensions, healthcare, and retirement security, and ensure/enforce worker and community health and safety

- **Guarantee retirement security through a federally-funded cash infusion to shore up multi-employer pension plans;**
- **Ensure workers' rights and representation:**
 - Remove policy barriers to organizing by passing the following legislation:
 - H.R. 2474/S. 1306, the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act;
 - H.R. 3463, the Public Service Freedom to Negotiate Act;
 - H.R. 1154, the Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act;
 - Ensure access to unions for EPA staff and other federal employees; and
 - Discourage misclassification and misuse of temporary labor.
- **Improve existing social safety net programs:**
 - Permanently modify laws to allow immediate access to unemployment insurance, increase benefit size, expand work-sharing eligibility, allow for extensions, and expand coverage to self-employed and gig workers;
 - Ensure mandatory paid two weeks sick leave and family leave;
 - Provide mental health support for workers providing critical public services; and
 - Provide adequate supplies and safe workplaces to:
 - Ensure OSHA has enough budget to hold employers accountable for workplace health and safety, focusing on staffing for timely and effective enforcement; and
 - Require the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) to evaluate OSHA's current use of maximum penalties where warranted.
- **Ensure worker health and safety.** For decades, OSHA and MSHA, the federal agencies charged with keeping American workplaces safe have not had the regulatory or the financial resources to fulfill their missions. The Trump administration has further

weakened these agencies by refusing to issue new rules or enforce existing standards to protect the lives and health of American workers. We urge swift action on the following:

- OSHA and MSHA should promulgate permanent safety and health standards for infectious disease for all workers;
 - OSHA should double the number of inspectors and immediately fill vacancies among inspectors, SES and other career staff;
 - OSHA and NIOSH should establish a formal collaboration with EPA on the implementation of TSCA;
 - MSHA should promulgate a silica standard;
 - Workplace reports on occupational injury and illness and agency enforcement activities should be made publicly available; and
 - New standards that address heat stress and the other safety and health hazards of climate change should be promulgated.
- **Modernize our federal health and safety laws and ensure adequate policy enforcement:**
 - Require OSHA to expedite its review and update of the existing emergency response and preparedness standards, including an assessment of the durability of the revised standards under future conditions; and
 - Amend Section 3 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSH Act) to extend federal protections to public sector workers in all federal OSHA states and territories.
- **Improve training, retraining and career pathways:**
 - Increase funding for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Worker Education and Training Program and DOL Susan Harwood Training Grants program;
 - Incentivize community workforce agreements, targeted hire requirements, and similar measures focused on increasing employment of disadvantaged and underrepresented workers and communities in manufacturing and infrastructure projects;
 - Boost investment in registered apprenticeship, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship-integrated programs with community-based “wrap around” services to maximize retention of disadvantaged and underrepresented workers; and
 - Require the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) to work with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Office of Personnel Management to develop a coordinated and publicly accessible national surveillance system for occupational health and safety that includes education for all workers on their right to refuse dangerous work.
 - Establish a climate resilience workforce training program targeted at training workers on climate impacts, disaster response, and resilience. This should build

on existing programs such as the Department of Labor's Susan Harwood Training Program, NIEHS's Environmental Worker Training Program, and FEMA's Community Emergency Response Training Program.

Pillar 6: Prioritize investment in those communities most in need

Prioritize those hit first and worst by the crisis as well as low-income communities, communities of color, and deindustrialized communities.

- **Make targeted and equitable reinvestment in impacted communities a priority for any grant and loan programs established;**
- **Reclaim abandoned mines and wells and spur economic development opportunities in hard hit communities in need of an economic boost:**
 - Expedite the use of existing funds in the AML fund to reclaim abandoned mines and stimulate economic development on reclaimed land (RECLAIM Act - H.R. 2156) and reauthorize the AML fee (H.R. 4248 (Cartwright)) (H.R. 2 Sec. 84301-84305));
 - Provide funding to reclaim orphaned oil and gas wells.
- **Protect disabled coal miners with black lung who are disproportionately vulnerable, including:**
 - Extending the excise tax on coal companies for 10 years (H.R. 3876 /S. 3172 (Scott/Machin)) and improving the functioning of the program (S. 2205 (Casey)); and
 - Providing extra funding for federally-supported black lung clinics to ensure they are well-staffed, can acquire extra space in order to ensure social distancing, and have adequate cleaning supplies.
- **Increase funding for key agencies and programs that focus on investing in hard-hit communities, redeveloping industrial sites, spurring economic development, and remediating environmental degradation, including:**
 - Increase federal funding for the Economic Development Administration;
 - Increase funding for the Appalachian Regional Commission;
 - Increase federal funding for waste cleanup programs such as EPA's superfund and Brownfield programs; and
 - Increase funding to additional critical EPA programs, including EPA's
 - Small and Disadvantaged Communities Drinking Water Grant Program;
 - State and Tribal Assistance Grants;
 - Environmental Justice Program; and
 - Lead Risk Reduction Program.

Conclusion:

Investment in a forward-looking recovery is critical to assure American families, workers, businesses—and the markets—that we will rebuild a fair and resilient economy. The ancillary benefits of those investments will pay dividends for decades.

We call upon Congress to enact these recommendations.