



March 21, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
U.S. Senate  
Majority Leader  
The Capitol, S-230  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
U.S. Senate  
Minority Leader  
The Capitol, S-221  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell and Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies, as you work to finalize legislation to address the human and economic impacts of the COVID-19 virus, we urge you to retain provisions in the base bill that will help America's engineering industry meet the cash flow needs necessary to support our people and perform the essential functions engineers play in maintaining and improving critical infrastructure.

These policies include:

- Allow firms to delay and/or reduce 2019 taxes owed, 2020 quarterly estimated taxes, and payroll taxes that fund Social Security and Medicare. Delaying these tax payments would add liquidity to help firms continue to pay their employees, and reducing taxes would provide more significant relief.
- Allow lending to firms impacted by the economic slowdown by using accounts receivable and/or physical assets as collateral, providing additional liquidity during the cash flow crunch, as well as other forms of accessible credit to businesses of all sizes.
- Amend the 2017 tax law to lift limits on interest deductibility, which would facilitate borrowing.
- Amend the 2017 tax law to restore the ability of all businesses to carry back net operating losses against previous tax payments.

These and other measures will help engineering firms to continue supporting our most critical resource – our people – as well as to remain viable and operational as we weather this crisis. Thank you for your consideration and attention, and please let me know if we can assist you further in any way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Bauer Darr". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda Bauer Darr  
President & CEO