



STAT FACTS

FROM THE UNION

AFL-CIO petitions Labor Department for emergency coronavirus standard

The AFL-CIO has petitioned U.S. Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia to issue an Emergency Temporary Standard under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in response to the growing coronavirus outbreak.

According to the petition, at least 19 million health care, social service, transportation and other workers would be at risk of exposure to COVID-19 if the virus intensifies.

"These are the workers who answer the call when an outbreak occurs," the petition reads, "and they deserve to have confidence that the appropriate resources, equipment, training and protocols are readily available in their workplaces to protect themselves, as well as to avoid infecting other people."

The petition states that the current government recommendations to protect workers fall short and that a new Emergency Temporary Standard should include several provisions, such as an exposure control plan, methods of compliance, medical surveillance and vaccinations, and communication of hazards and training.

The AFL-CIO is asking workers to urge their U.S. representatives to call on OSHA to issue this standard. To find your rep and get connected, [click here](#) or call 866-832-1560.

**DEMAND OSHA ISSUE AN EMERGENCY
TEMPORARY STANDARD FOR
INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Call Your U.S. Representative Now:

866-832-1560

AFL-CIO

How is your employer responding to COVID-19?

Have they met with employees and shared new policies or procedures with you? Have you been provided with personal protective equipment? Please share your experience with us!

Email information about your employers response to our Health Care Workers Council Coordinator Tamara Lefcowitz at tlefcowitz@usw.org.

SPEAK OUT

As we continue pushing for the Workplace Violence Prevention Act for Health Care and Social Service Workers here in the U.S., we are collecting personal stories members and other workers would like to share with us. Communication is key, and it's vital that Congress knows there are humans behind this rising epidemic.

[Feel free to fill out this Google form](#) (and share it with family, friends, and co-workers) if you would like to contribute a personal story regarding workplace violence in health care/social service work for us to share with OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration).

TELL US YOUR STORIES

Has your local done something outstanding? Have you had a great solidarity action? Done something huge to help your community? Made significant connections with other labor groups? Is your Women of Steel or Next Gen committee making waves? Tell us about it!

Contact Chelsea Engel at cengel@usw.org or at 412-562-1178.

SHARE STAT FACTS

Please encourage any of your union brothers and sisters who do not currently receive the newsletter to text **HCWC** to **47486** if you're in the United States or **32323** if you're in Canada.

Questions? Contact Chelsea Engel at cengel@usw.org or at 412-562-1178.