

Sample Letter for RIPA Members Asking State Governors to Designate the Industrial Packaging Industry An “Essential Industry” Under Statewide “Shelter in Place” Orders
Access a List of Governors Below

COMPANY LETTERHEAD

[DATE]

RE: [Insert Company Name] - Essential Industry Designation

Dear Governor (Insert Governor’s Name):

I would like to thank you for your excellent leadership as we all work together to stem the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). It is only through concerted action that we will succeed in this crucial effort.

I am writing in response to your recent Executive Order [Cite Order if Possible] in which you stated that all nonessential businesses should cease operation and their employees should remain at home. I understand that you will consider requests to revise this Order to accommodate requests from companies such as mine that were not specifically identified in the Order, but which do provide “essential” business services and should be allowed to operate.

[Insert Company Name] is a reconditioner/manufacturer and distributor of industrial packagings that are used by a wide range of industries that have been named in your Order and also by the Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) as being part of the nation’s “Critical Infrastructure Workforce.” Industrial packagings include steel and plastic drums, intermediate bulk containers are similar packagings used for the transportation of commodities. In its guidance, CISA identifies a list of industries and workers that are essential to continuity of operations, including but not limited to manufacturers that provide industrial packagings to key industry sectors, including energy, petroleum, food and agriculture, water and wastewater, transportation and logistics, hazardous materials, chemical and waste management. A significant number of our customers are companies that fit within the CISA critical infrastructure list.

Therefore, we respectfully ask that you amend your list of “essential” businesses to include “industrial packaging reconditioners, manufacturers, distributors and firms that provide to these companies necessary goods and services for their continued operation.” This amendment would provide clarity and certainty so that our company and other industrial packaging businesses in the state can continue to operate and provide products that help ensure the safety of our citizens.

Thank you for your efforts.

NOTE FOR SUPPLIER MEMBERS: Paragraphs 3 and 4 above can be revised to reflect your specific business activity.

FIND YOUR GOVERNOR (you may need to cut and paste into browser:

<https://www.nga.org/governors/addresses/>