

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Re: Lubbock Chamber Joins Nationwide Coalition Fighting for COVID-19 Liability

**Protections** 

LUBBOCK, Texas – The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce has joined almost 500 organizations nationwide in calling for COVID-19 liability protections.

The coalition is fighting for timely, targeted, and temporary liability relief provisions contained in <u>S. 4317</u>, the <u>"SAFE TO WORK Act."</u> This would protect healthcare workers, providers, and facilities, as well as businesses, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions against frivolous lawsuits so they can continue working towards the road of recovery amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I believe all businesses deserve these liability protections as they continue to safely re-open in Lubbock and across the country," said Eddie McBride, Lubbock Chamber President and CEO. "This coalition, spearheaded by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, is a no brainer. We must protect businesses from unfair lawsuits due to the COVID-19 pandemic in order to keep our economy afloat."

The coalition letter states, "COVID-19-related lawsuits and their consequent exorbitant legal costs could deter entities from reopening and could ultimately cripple businesses, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations both large and small."

The signed letter sent to members of the United States Congress can be found in its entirety here.

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The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce represents almost 1,700 businesses and over 79,000 employees on the South Plains which accounts for over \$2 billion in annual household earnings in Lubbock and West Texas. Since 1913 the Chamber, as a catalyst for business growth; a convener of leaders and influencers; and a champion for a stronger community, has served as a unified voice of business by actively advocating for a pro-jobs, progrowth, pro-business climate.

