

January 5, 2022

Governor Asa Hutchinson  
Chairman  
National Governors Association  
Association 444 North Capitol Street  
Washington D.C., 20001

Governor Phil Murphy  
Vice Chairman  
National Governors  
444 North Capitol Street  
Washington D.C., 20001

Dear Governors:

With COVID-19 cases surging nationwide, along with an influx of holiday travel and family get-togethers and the unanticipated high transmissibility of the Omicron variant, our nation stands at a pivotal point in the pandemic, with the strength of the domestic supply chain to provide health products and essential goods. Both citizens and the economy rely on workers at every link of the supply chain.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the spread of Omicron poses the challenge of rapid disruption to America's critical supply infrastructure sectors. These sectors and the industries they represent depend on essential workers, all of whom contribute to ensure the health, safety and well-being of Americans every day.

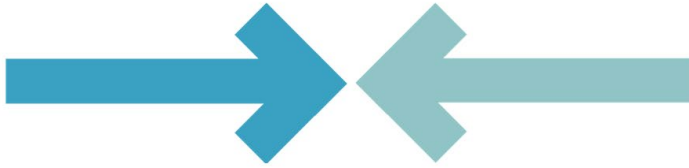
Critical for sustaining this supply chain is the availability of accurate, readily available testing supplies to slow the spread of COVID-19, in accordance with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The undersigned organizations urge the nation's governors to work with the Biden administration to accelerate efforts to ensure test kit and supply availability and recognize the essential role of the industries represented below, by taking steps that would prioritize testing availability and access for our nation's critical infrastructure. Doing so would prevent interruption to critical goods and services at a time when Americans need them the most and would help to protect those workers who remain on the front lines of the pandemic.

We are encouraged by efforts already underway at the state and federal levels to distribute testing supplies; nevertheless we know from the earliest days of the pandemic that the prioritization of testing supplies for essential workers is critical to preserving the functionality of the supply chain, upon which we all rely.

We are grateful for your attention to this need and your continued strong leadership and dedication to combatting the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

Agriculture Retailers Association  
American Bakers Association  
American Building Materials Alliance  
American Cleaning Institute  
American Feed Industry Association



Association of Equipment Manufacturers  
Consumer Brands Association  
Consumer Healthcare Products Association  
Corn Refiners Association  
Crop Life America  
Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S.  
FMI - The Food Industry Association  
Fragrance Creators Association  
Fresh Produce Association of the Americas  
International Bottled Water Association  
International Fresh Produce Association  
National Aquaculture Association  
National Association of Beverage Importers Inc.  
National Automatic Merchandising Association  
National Confectioners Association  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Grocers Association  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Restaurant Association  
National Turkey Federation  
North American Meat Institute  
North American Millers' Association  
North American Renderers Association  
Pet Food Institute  
Responsible Industry for Sound Environment  
The Fertilizer Institute  
Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America