

Action Needed Today!

CFLCA and other agricultural associations have been informed of a pending executive order from the Governor which would have major impacts on the future costs of workers compensation insurance.

The Governor is considering signing a proposal to make it very easy for any essential worker, including farm workers, to file a workers comp claim for COVID-19, even without a positive test! The old rules requiring work-relatedness would go away for COVID claims. The costs for such claims could be enormous to insurers or large self-insured groups. Those costs will ultimately be passed on in increased workers compensation premiums to you!

Please take action NOW - **take a few short minutes** - copy and paste the letter below and send it to the Governor's email address provided here now

Visit our webpage for additional details here or to send the letter.

Thank you for your immediate help!

April 20, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

We are writing because we've just learned that you are considering making a fundamental change to the system, mandating that all employees working outside of the home who contract COVID-19 during the shelter in place order will automatically be covered by worker's compensation. As we understand it, there would be no opportunity to review or rebut the claim and an actual, positive test would not be required.

If all industries are now forced to pay workers' comp for COVID-19 infections that are claimed to have occurred at the workplace, with no ability for companies or insurance to investigate the veracity of the claim, workers' comp costs will dramatically increase across the board. All of this would happen at precisely the wrong time when the economy attempts to restart in the weeks or months ahead.

We would ask instead that you limit the irrebuttable presumption of compensability for "front line" first responders, hospital workers, and those providing direct patient care to infected individuals. But all other workers, essential or otherwise, should continue to follow existing workers' comp guidelines and processes.

Governor, we appreciate the leadership you've shown in the face of this terrible virus. And you've made some bold decisions that have protected the health of millions of Californians. We respectfully ask, therefore, that you apply that same measured and thoughtful approach to workers' compensation given the complexity of what is at stake, including the survival of our economy.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(Your name and company here)

Time is of the essence. Reply today!