April 6, 2020

To: PMA Texas Members

On Tuesday, March 31, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott signed an executive order requiring all residents to stay home to minimize social gatherings and in-person contact except as necessary to provide or obtain essential services. The order is effective beginning at 12:01 a.m. on April 2, 2020, until April 30, 2020.

Under the order, Texas uses a federal definition of critical infrastructures to determine essential services. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) developed a list of essential critical infrastructure to determine the sectors, sub-sectors, segments or critical functions that should continue normal operations. The Texas order also deems religious services essential.

The CISA list includes Critical Manufacturing as Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce and classifies workers necessary for the manufacture of “materials and products needed for medical supply chains, and for supply chains associated with transportation, energy, communications, information technology, food and agriculture, chemical manufacturing, nuclear facilities, wood products, commodities used as fuel for power generation facilities, the operation of dams, water and wastewater treatment, processing and reprocessing of solid waste, emergency services, and the defense industrial base. Additionally, workers needed to maintain the continuity of these manufacturing functions and associated supply chains, and workers necessary to maintain a manufacturing operation in warm standby” as essential, as well as “workers who produce or manufacture parts or equipment that supports continued operations for any essential services” (page 13, Critical Manufacturing). Manufacturers supporting the defense supply chain are also deemed essential (page 14, Defense Industrial Base).

Additional essential services may be added by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). To apply to be designated as an essential business, submit a request to TDEM.

The situation is fluid and, while PMA is a national organization, we are mobilizing all of our resources to assist our members throughout the country. We’ve also created a coronavirus resource center on the PMA website, which is being regularly updated to provide members with important information and links to government resources.

Please feel free to reach out to us at any time with questions.