



TOPIC: LETTER URGING BIPARTISAN SOLUTIONS TO PENSION AND HEALTH CRISIS EXACERBATED BY COVID-19, THE MARKET COLLAPSE AND THE GOVERNMENT MANDATED SHUTDOWN OF THE U.S. ECONOMY

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** YESTERDAY, NCCMP PARTNERED WITH A NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING PLANS, LABOR UNIONS, EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYER ASSOCIATIONS, IN A JOINT LETTER URGING CONGRESS TO TAKE ACTION TO ADDRESS THE CRITICAL MULTIEMPLOYER HEALTH AND PENSION ISSUES THAT ARE BEING DEEPLY IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 MARKET COLLAPSE AND THE GOVERNMENT MANDATED SHUTDOWN OF THE U.S. ECONOMY.

THE LETTER URGES CONGRESS TO PASS FULL PREMIUM SUPPORT FOR COBRA TO ENSURE THAT WORKERS DO NOT LOSE ACCESS TO THEIR HEALTHCARE BECAUSE THEY ARE LAID OFF OR DUE TO REDUCED HOURS. WE ALSO URGE CONGRESS TO ENSURE THAT PLANS ARE PROVIDED WITH REINSURANCE FOR PANDEMIC RELATED MEDICAL AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG CLAIMS.

WE ASK CONGRESS TO PROTECT THE PENSIONS OF MILLIONS OF PARTICIPANTS IN MULTIEMPLOYER PENSIONS AND SHORE UP THE PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION (“PBGC”) THROUGH A SPECIAL PARTITION PROGRAM. THE SPECIAL PARTITION PROGRAM WOULD MOVE LIABILITIES FROM FAILING PLANS TO THE PBGC, ENSURING THAT PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE FULL BENEFITS WHILE PROVIDING PLANS WITH THE PATH TO LONG-TERM SOLVENCY. AS PART OF THAT PROGRAM, THE PBGC MUST BE PROVIDED WITH ENOUGH ANNUAL FUNDING BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO CARRY OUT ITS MISSION.

FINALLY, WE URGE CONGRESS TO INCLUDE PROVISIONS SIMILAR TO THE WORKER, RETIREE, AND EMPLOYER RECOVERY ACT OF 2008, TO ALLOW PLANS TO FREEZE THEIR ZONE STATUS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, AND THE PENSION RELIEF ACT OF 2010, TO ALLOW PLANS TO SMOOTH INVESTMENT AND CONTRIBUTION BASE UNIT (“CBU”) LOSSES IN THE FUNDING STANDARD ACCOUNT, AND INVESTMENT LOSSES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ACTUARIAL VALUE OF ASSETS.

PURPOSE: INFORMATIONAL  
CATEGORY: LEGISLATION  
ISSUER: NCCMP  
TARGET AUDIENCE: TRUSTEES OF AND PLAN ADVISORS TO MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION AND HEALTH PLANS  
FOR MORE INFORMATION: [MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION AND HEALTH SIGN ON LETTER APRIL 9, 2020](#)  
[SENATE DEMOCRAT PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE TEXT](#)  
SEND COMMENTS TO: [nccmp@nccmp.org](mailto:nccmp@nccmp.org)  
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*If you have questions about the NCCMP, or about this or other issues of Multi-Elert, please contact the NCCMP, by phone at (202) 737-5315 or by e-mail at [nccmp@nccmp.org](mailto:nccmp@nccmp.org).*

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