March 30, 2020

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: U.S. Department of Homeland Security memorandum regarding residential construction

Dear Governor Wolf:

As we are sure you are aware, on March 28th the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a new “Advisory Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response”. We write today asking that you review this memorandum and consider placing all residential construction on your essential business list as the memorandum identifies. This would include your guidance to all “essential businesses” on proper safety protocols, requiring social distancing measures which can protect the workforce and allow operations to continue.

During this unprecedented time, we must put public health and safety first. Operational critical infrastructure is vital during the response to the COVID-19 emergency for both public health and safety as well as community well-being. Critical infrastructure industries have a special responsibility in these times to continue operations, and the U.S. DHS has identified construction as one of those industries.

In addition to the identified critical need of construction, we also believe this work, operated under the proper safety protocols, is essential now due to its role in continuing economic and societal functions post pandemic.

We thank you for your time and attention to this matter and ask for your urgent consideration.

Sincerely,

Senator Joe Scarnati
President Pro Tempore

Senator Jake Corman
Majority Leader

Senator Patrick Browne
Chair, Appropriations
The Honorable Tom Wolf
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[Signatures]

Senator John Gordner
Majority Whip

Senator Bob Mensch
Majority Caucus Chair

Senator Ryan Aument
Majority Caucus Secretary

Senator Kim Ward
Majority Caucus Administrator

Senator David Argall
Chair, Majority Policy Committee