

ISSUE	AGENCY	BACKGROUND	ACTIONS	STATUS
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS		Due to the shortage of healthcare contact textiles (PPE such as isolation and barrier gowns and scrubs) because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress has been conducting hearings on steps to take to ensure a shortage does not occur again.	Contact federal agency and policymakers to highlight the safety and importance of restoring the linen, uniform and facility services industry to address a natural disaster.	Presented questions to FEMA administrator during hearing to address disaster preparedness.
CALIFORNIA SB 275		The legislature in California is currently considering legislation to establish a stockpile of needed healthcare PPE. State Sen. Richard Pan (D-CA) has introduced SB-275 to amend the state's Health and Safety code.	Contact state legislators to inform them of the importance of a 50% operating stock of reusable healthcare contact textiles to increase the supply chain.	Amended legislation to include reusable HCTs. Placed on State Stockpile Task Force.
REUSABLE TABLE LINENS		While many states recognize the importance of cloth reusable table linens to public safety, several states and even federal agencies did not do so originally.	Contacted each federal agency or state policymaker to highlight the safety and importance of reusable cloth table linens.	FDA and CDC changed guidance to recognize the safety of reusable cloth table linens. Majority of states recognized reusable table linens as a safe option when dining.
INCREASE SUPPLY OF REUSABLE HEALTHCARE PPE		TRSA members supply, launder and maintain sustainable, reusable, hygienically clean and safe textiles, including linens, uniforms, garments and PPE, as well as facility and cleaning supplies for CISA-designated Critical Infrastructure Businesses. The industry, if properly incentivized, can fill the void of the shortage of single-use, disposable healthcare contact textiles (HCTs). Due to the increased reliance on single-use, disposable HCTs, the current supply chain lacks the capacity to produce needed reusable HCTs to offset the shortage of disposables. The industry can stabilize the supply chain through the use of reusable HCTs.	Highlight the benefits of reusable healthcare linens and garments such as cleanliness safety and supply.	Establish partnership with healthcare unions to raise importance of reusable healthcare contact textiles. Contact with the vice president and staff on the Coronavirus Task Force.
FOOD & BEVERAGE SAFETY GUIDANCE		Maximizing restaurants' hygiene requires more of them to adopt a cleanliness practice of outsourcing a supply of expertly laundered tablecloths, garments and other textiles and products that keep these facilities clean. TRSA, the Association for the Linen, Uniform and Facility Services Industry, is calling on states to feature such services in guidance documents for restaurants as they reopen amid the current COVID-19 environment.	Advance an advocacy and publicity campaign to prompt restaurants reopening during the COVID-19 pandemic to maximize hygiene through linen and uniform services.	Sent letters to governors, mayors and local health officials. Provide template for operators and supplier partners to personally send to their elected and appointed officials.
ESSENTIAL BUSINESS LISTING		State officials took significant steps to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus. Some of the steps being taken range from governors telling all state residents to stay home unless they work for "essential" industries, to requiring businesses to close if they are not considered "lifesaving." These gubernatorial executive orders are confusing in that there is no consistent guidance on what industries fall under the appropriate categories to stay open.	Reach out to DHS and individual states to ensure that the linen, uniform and facility services industry is recognized as a critical workforce.	Recognized by DHS and all states.