







ISSUE	AGENCY	BACKGROUND	ACTIONS	STATUS
OPPOSE EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT		In March, legislation was passed to extend a \$300 weekly jobless-aid supplement that lawmakers approved in December, while down from the original \$400, the length was extended through Sept. 6. This increase in benefits has created a significant workforce shortage for the linen, uniform and facility services industry as well as hospitality and food service industries.	TRSA is working with industry coalitions to keep the enhanced unemployment benefits from extending any further than Sept. 6.	TRSA has sent a letter to President Joe Biden (D) and congressional leaders urging them not to extend the benefits.
PROFESSIONAL LAUNDERING OF HEALTH CARE UNIFORMS - SCRUBS		The linen, uniform and facility services industry has partnered with international partners on a study to examine how coronavirus behaves on three fabrics commonly used in the healthcare industry. The study was conducted by De Montfort University. Among the findings, the study suggests that virtually all wash processes, except potentially for low-temperature home washing, will effectively eliminate any infection risk caused by coronavirus. This finding underscored the need for healthcare personnel attire (HPAs) to be laundered by an industrial laundry with the ability to supply hygienically clean HPAs. The study also shows the dangers of healthcare personnel wearing HPAs in public after a shift and handling soiled HPAs at home.	TRSA will be reaching out to other healthcare stakeholders to build a coalition of organizations to lobby legislators and regulators to encourage/require healthcare facilities to process their healthcare employee scrubs to the standards of an industrial laundry.	Congressional letter to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) asking to recommend that healthcare facilities provide professionally laundered scrubs to ALL healthcare facility staff. Highlight the safety and importance of healthcare scrubs being laundered by an industrial laundry.
FEMA DISASTER PREPAREDNESS		The COVID-19 pandemic has shed light on many issues as it pertains to the personal protective equipment (PPE) supply chain. As natural disasters (including pandemics) occur, TRSA is working to ensure that one of the primary industries to resume operations will be the linen, uniform and facility services industry.	Encourage legislators to question Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials on adding the linen, uniform and facility services industry as an essential industry to restore after/during a natural disaster.	Submit white paper and Questions for the Record to members of Congress to submit to FEMA for a response.
INCREASE SUPPLY OF REUSABLE HEALTHCARE PPE		TRSA members supply, launder and maintain sustainable, reusable, hygienically clean and safe textiles, including linens, uniforms, garments and personal protective equipment (PPE), plus facility services/cleaning supplies for CISA-designated Critical Infrastructure Businesses. The industry, if properly incentivized, can fill the void created by the shortage of single-use, disposable healthcare contact textiles (HCTs). Due to the increased reliance on single-use, disposable HCTs, the supply chain lacks the capacity to produce needed reusable HCTs to offset the disposable shortage. Reusable HCTs can stabilize the supply chain.	Highlight the benefits of reusable healthcare linens and garments such as cleanliness safety and supply.	Congressional letter to the CDC asking them to recommend that 50% of operating stock be reusable PPEs. Establish Partnership with healthcare unions to stress the importance of reusable Healthcare Contact Textiles (HCTs). Contact with the vice president and staff on the Coronavirus Task Force.
VACCINE PRIORITIZATION		As vaccines for COVID-19 become available, TRSA is working to ensure that the linen, uniform and facility services industry is among the top of the priority list of those receiving the vaccines. We understand that frontline healthcare workers and those most vulnerable should get the highest priority. The next level should include members of the linen, uniform and facility services industry.	TRSA is in regular contact with the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to highlight the industry. TRSA has contacted every state governor, their respective chiefs of staff and state COVID-19 Task Forces.	Each state is operating it's own individual plan. TRSA developed Vaccine Priority Resources to aid industry in outreach.
CALIFORNIA SB 275		As governments at all levels—federal, state and local—look to alleviate future shortages of important healthcare contact textiles (HCTs), TRSA is ensuring that the importance of reusable HCTs is recognized and a part of the supply-chain equation. The California legislature is currently considering legislation to establish a stockpile of needed healthcare PPE.	TRSA is advocating across all levels of government for healthcare facilities to maintain at least a 50% operating inventory of reusable HCTs to protect against a drastic shortage in case of an unforeseen emergency such as a natural disaster or pandemic.	Bill Signed: Establishes a PPE stockpile (Reusable/ Disposable) at the Department of Public Health. Establishes in-state PPE manufacturing capability. Establishes a Personal Protective Equipment Advisory Committee. TRSA will participate.