



## **One Voice Urges State and Local Governments to Follow Federal Guidance on Essential Businesses, Keep Manufacturers Open to Address Economic and National Security Needs**

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Washington, DC – March 20, 2020 - One Voice, the combined federal advocacy effort of the National Tooling and Machining Association (NTMA) and the Precision Metalforming Association (PMA) is urging policymakers across the country to remember the importance of manufacturing in America's infrastructure as they enact policies to address the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

U.S. states and local officials have significant powers to handle the crisis, which means that directives and ordinances vary widely, creating confusion for manufacturers who often operate across a patchwork of cities, counties and states.

One Voice has been working with the White House as well as relevant federal agencies to address this issue and provide as much certainty as possible for small- and medium-sized manufacturers by making their voices heard with the White House and relevant federal agencies.

We encourage states and localities to follow [federal guidance](#) issued last night by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) which included a list of "Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers." Under this list, the majority of One Voice member companies are classified as essential, allowing them to remain open and help meet vital needs of economic and national security.

We also ask that states and localities that have already taken action reconsider any business closures that are inconsistent with the federal government's newly released guidance.

Manufacturing is – and always has been – the backbone of the American economy. Manufacturers are needed now, more than ever, to create the products our nation needs.

*About One Voice: One Voice is the combined federal government advocacy effort of The Precision Metalforming Association (PMA) and the National Tooling and Machining Association (NTMA). One Voice represents approximately 2,500 metalworking companies, promoting U.S. government policies that will ensure a strong manufacturing sector in the United States. For additional information, please visit [www.metalworkingadvocate.org](http://www.metalworkingadvocate.org)*