

March 20, 2020

Governor Bill Lee
1st Floor, State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243

RE: Construction is an Essential Service

Dear Governor Lee:

As governments at all levels continue their tireless work to limit the spread of Covid-19 through closures, limiting large gatherings and other social contact, it is imperative that the construction industry and those that produce essential building materials like concrete, cement and aggregate are able to perform their work so that our communities can continue to function.

Our industries are essential to critical public infrastructure. We appreciate and support the Tennessee Department of Transportation's decision to allow their construction projects to continue during this period, and we urge that commercial and residential construction also be allowed to continue during this crisis. Construction drives billions of dollars of economic activity in our state and it provides livelihoods for tens of thousands of Tennessee citizens, while making it possible for all of us to live, travel and work safely.

For these reasons, we request that Tennessee join other states in exempting construction activities from quarantines and other restrictions of business and social activity by designating construction as an essential service in our state.

Construction industry companies have responded quickly to provide safe working environments for employees and customers by changing work practices to respect social distancing at production facilities as well as job sites, while allowing important work to continue. Please allow us to continue the essential work of Building Tennessee.

Respectfully,

Alan Sparkman, CAE, CCPf(x3), LEED AP
Executive Director
Tennessee Concrete Association