



March 24th, 2020

Dear Governor Baker,

On behalf of the over 10,000 working men and women whom we represent in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts I want to thank you for your efforts to ensure that grocery and food processing workers have access to the Exempt Emergency Child Care Program during these difficult times. The members whom we represent at businesses such as Stop & Shop and Gorton's Seafood have been working incredibly long and hard hours to ensure that our communities still have access to the food and items that are needed everyday and, with the closure of schools and daycare centers, access to these child care services are vital.

I am writing you again today, however, because more action is urgently needed in our grocery stores to ensure the continued health and safety of the workforce, customers, and our communities. **The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, whether through the Executive or Legislative branches, or through relevant state agencies, must immediately implement additional safety measures and requirements at all of the Commonwealth's grocery stores.** These measures should, in the very least, include:

- **Limiting the total number of customers allowed within any one grocery store at a time.** This will help ensure that guidelines close to CDC recommendations on social distancing can be followed, to ensure the safety of workers within the store and our customers as well.
- **Temporarily lifting any one-time-use plastic bag bans and temporarily restricting the use of reusable bags.** These temporary measures will help ensure optimal cleanliness and sanitation and limit the spread of any pathogens from customers to baggers and cashiers.
- **The use of security at each grocery store to ensure order and safety.**

The immediate implementation of these safety measures will not only help keep our members and all grocery workers safe, but our customers we are so proud to serve as well. The sooner Massachusetts takes these steps the sooner we limit the spread of this disease, and the quicker we can resume our normal routines. I am again urging immediate action on these items, and am available to answer any questions or discuss any safety measures that can be implemented. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fernando Lemus", is written over a horizontal line.

Fernando Lemus

President

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