

CLIENT ALERTS

Bipartisan Workgroup Seeks Your Input

4.16.2020

The COVID-19 virus has shaken employers and employees to their core. Unemployment is at the highest level since the Great Depression and as reported in the press, thousands of individuals gathered in Lansing to protest the April 9, 2020, executive orders that increased restrictions and extended the stay-at-home mandate to midnight, April 30, 2020.

Increasingly, however, questions are now being asked as to how the economy and the workforce can be re-stimulated. In this regard, a Michigan Senate bipartisan Workgroup has been created to advise Governor Gretchen Whitmer on best practices and means to slowly re-open Michigan's economy. The Senate Workgroup consists of three Senators from each side of the aisle who have come together to meet with business executives and CEOs from the State's largest corporations and hospitals.

On April 16, 2020, in an effort to seek input and advice of all individuals and small to mid-size businesses, the Workgroup created a website that allows those interested to provide their suggestions directly. You can access the website directly: <https://www.misafeworkplaces.com/>.

This website is very easy to navigate and allows those interested to provide suggestions as to how employers and employees can safely return to work. The website asks for general background information, including name, address, email, and phone number. It also asks whether you are an employer or employee and the number of employees.

From there, you are asked to submit your proposals and suggestions for "safety protocols" that should be implemented, as well as suggestions for other sectors as well. Suggestions regarding "social distancing" measures as to employees and interactions with the public are likewise invited.

Related People

Daniel J. McCarthy
Shareholder

Joseph E. Richotte
Shareholder

Kurtis T. Wilder
Shareholder

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The Workgroup is scheduled to meet with the Governor to discuss these issues and present suggestions as to how best Michigan can safely return to work. And in this regard, Butzel Long is at the forefront in assisting its clients in navigating through these difficult times. Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Dan McCarthy

248.258.1401

mccarthyd@butzel.com

Joe Richotte

248.258.1407

richotte@butzel.com

Kurt Wilder

313.983.7491

wilder@butzel.com