

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 6, 2020

David L. Calhoun
President and Chief Executive Officer
The Boeing Company
100 North Riverside Plaza
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Mr. Calhoun:

As you are aware, the nation's aviation and aerospace industries and workforce are among the hardest hit by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in stalled deliveries, halted production operations, employee layoffs and significant financial harm.¹ Recently, Congress passed the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act*², providing critical emergency relief for Washington state workers, families and businesses suffering from the economic impacts of this outbreak.

Last month, the Boeing Company requested an estimated \$60 billion in federal financial relief "needed to manage the pressure on the aviation sector and the economy as a whole,"³ as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The *CARES Act* includes \$454 billion in loans for businesses, including \$17 billion in loans for businesses critical to maintaining national security. However, we are disappointed to read reports that you are now considering forgoing the relief Boeing requested.⁴ We are especially troubled by this development given your recently announced decision to indefinitely suspend operations at Puget Sound and Moses Lake area facilities, require employees who are unable to telework to use earned vacation and/or sick leave or to seek unemployment, and implement a vague voluntary layoff program.

Given the severe harm the nation's aerospace industry and hardworking women and men at the Boeing company are experiencing during this pandemic, we hope you will consider utilizing the economic assistance provided by the *CARES Act* to safeguard thousands of jobs at Boeing in Washington state and across the country.

Furthermore, we request the Boeing Company provide our staff with the following information:

1. Do you expect to apply for the financial assistance provided by the *CARES Act*, including the conditions required under the law?

¹ Gates, Dominic. "Layoffs Begin as Aviation Collapse Due to Coronavirus Hits Washington Companies." *The Seattle Times*, 24 Mar. 2020, www.seattletimes.com/business/boeing-aerospace/layoffs-begin-as-aviation-collapse-due-to-coronavirus-hits-state-aerospace-companies/.

² Public Law No: 116-136

³ "Boeing Statement on Support for Aerospace Manufacturers." *The Boeing Company*, Boeing Communications, 17 Mar. 2020, boeing.mediaroom.com/news-releases-statements?item=130642.

⁴ Josephs, Leslie. "Boeing CEO Balks At Idea Of Government Equity Stake In Exchange For Coronavirus Aid." 24 Mar. 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/24/boeing-ceo-will-take-a-few-years-to-get-balance-sheet-back-to-state-before-coronavirus-and-737-max-issues.html?&qsearchterm=737%20max>

2. Will you ensure complete support for the Boeing Company workforce by eliminating layoffs, maintaining full compensation and benefits levels and returning hours to appropriate employee levels when medically safe?
3. What will be the changes to corporate practices regarding cleaning, minimizing manufacturing-based risks and instituting permanent safeguards to prevent future viral spread?
4. What specific tools will Boeing use to assist the 17,000 suppliers and 2.5 million industry jobs³ your company supports?

Aviation and aerospace machinists, engineers, electricians, technicians and other line workers are the backbone of Washington state's economy and communities across the country. We hope the Boeing Company will consider making full use of the *CARES Act's* economic relief provisions to support these workers, local communities and the U.S. aviation and aerospace industry.

Thank you and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress