Chamber Outlines Vision for 'Phase 4' Relief Package

Today, U.S. Chamber Executive Vice President and Chief Policy Officer Neil Bradley outlined the Chamber's vision for a "Phase 4" coronavirus relief package on a press call, as lawmakers on Capitol Hill work on legislation.

"This moment in time gives us an opportunity to make sure that we get the policies in 'Phase 4' right," said Bradley. "It will help determine how many of the unemployed we can get back to work, how many businesses will remain open, and what the outlook is for those businesses."

Key Phase 4 policy priorities for the Chamber include:

- Liability relief to provide businesses a safe harbor from unwarranted lawsuits.
- Extending a bridge to businesses that will be the last to reopen, allowing them to operate at something other than a loss.
- Helping individuals that have no job to return to get skills training to move to new jobs that are being created in their area.
- Encouraging Congress to take a more detailed look at funding for state and local governments, focusing on meeting budget needs that truly exist.

Also on the call was Harold Kim, the Chamber's President of the Institute for Legal Reform discussing liability relief.

"Legislative solutions, or even executive actions, should be timely, they should be targeted, and they should be temporary." he said.

Kim added that liability relief policies "should draw from bipartisan ideas and precedents in the past—whether it was in the wake of 9/11 or to the Y2K Act in 1999," which did have bipartisan support and provided sensible solutions to "remove the cloud of liability that could really hamper any economic restart."

Neil Bradley also appeared on Bloomberg Radio and discussed the need for litigation relief.

"If you're a business who is complying with the public health guidance from the CDC, OSHA, your state officials, you shouldn't have to be worried about being second-guessed," he said. "However, if you're a bad actor, if you're being negligent, if you're engaging in misconduct, you should be held accountable."