



Sylvia,

Did you see tonight's breaking news?

47 Democrats in the US Senate rejected a national COVID-19 relief plan that would have put corporate profits first and left working families behind.

**Tonight I'm asking you to call our Texas US Senators and tell them that we reject this crony capitalism and call for the Senate to put workers first.**

For more information, please see the statement below from President Richard Trumka, and an informational graphic from our friends at the national AFL-CIO.

## **PUT WORKERS FIRST PASS THE LABOR PLAN**

- ✓ Workplace Safety Protections
- ✓ Paid Sick Days
- ✓ Unemployment insurance
- ✓ Health Care
- ✓ Help Paying the Bills
- ✓ Free Testing and More Hospital Beds
- ✓ A Real Say in Any Bailouts

CALL YOUR SENATORS NOW:  
**866-832-1560**

AFL-CIO

The Texas AFL-CIO will continue to work with our affiliates and central bodies to lift up the voices, priorities, and values, of working families and frontline workers as we face the threat of coronavirus with unyielding solidarity.

We wish you peace and safety during these trying times.

In Solidarity,

Rick Levy  
President  
Texas AFL-CIO

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AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka made the following statement after the Senate failed to advance the latest coronavirus response bill:

We commend the 47 Democratic senators under the leadership of Sen. Chuck Schumer (N.Y.) who voted to reject legislation that would have left workers behind while further entrenching money and power in the hands of corporations. Now it is time for the Senate to bring forward a better deal that addresses the public health crisis, keeps workers on the job, creates a real safety net for the unemployed and prohibits companies from using government assistance to lay us off, cut our benefits or enrich themselves.

This is not a moment for corporate power grabs or crony capitalism. Working people deserve better.



# TEXAS AFL-CIO

P.O. BOX 12727

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

OFFICE: (512) 477-6195

FAX: (512) 477-2962

RICHARD LEVY  
*President*

MONTSERRAT GARIBAY  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

We have always encouraged union members to become delegates at every level. The SD/County Conventions are the path toward becoming a state delegate and potentially a national delegate. **We want you to participate and you can do so from home.**

The Texas Democratic Party will hold pro forma conventions, as the rules require, but no business will be conducted other than to gavel the meetings in and out. To register online and enter the mix to become a state delegate, go to: [2020.texasdemocrats.org](https://2020.texasdemocrats.org). The website will walk you through the process as if you were signing in at the traditional gathering.

For those in the Republican convention process, the Texas Republican Party has announced its local parties will adjourn the March 21 Senate/County conventions to a later, as yet uncertain date.

## U.S. Census

The Texas AFL-CIO has strongly advocated for a complete count in the 2020 U.S. Census. At stake is political strength for Texas, for your cities and counties, and for your neighborhoods. Also at stake: billions of dollars in formula funding that is based on population. Texas has traditionally been one of the most difficult states in which to count, and not just because of sheer numbers.

Please encourage all Texas residents to fill out the form. And please fill out the form for your households. Postcards from the Census Bureau with information on how to connect online are arriving across the state as we speak.

For more information on the Census, go to: <https://www.texasaflcio.org/census-2020>. To participate in a survey on the best time for a virtual U.S. Census information session to be conducted by the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance and Texas AFL-CIO, go to this link: <https://bit.ly/3daXAtm>

We will be in touch through this outlet and others as we move forward together through these difficult times. Again, let us know if there is any way we can help.

In solidarity,

Richard Levy  
President

Montserrat Garibay  
Secretary-Treasurer

RL:MG:mt  
opeiu277/afl-cio



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*Secretary-Treasurer*

March 18, 2020

## Memo

To: Texas AFL-CIO Executive Board, CLC Officers, Key International Reps  
From: Rick Levy & Montserrat Garibay  
Re: Important Updates

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

First and foremost, we hope you are well. The spread of coronavirus and the precautions we are taking as a society are unprecedented in our lifetimes. As you know, the officers and staff of the Texas AFL-CIO are working from home. We miss person-to-person contact but we are moving forward with the resources we have, for however long it takes. If you have union business or just need a friendly ear, don't hesitate to call or otherwise contact any of us.

We want to bring a few items to your attention.

### **Victory on Unemployment Insurance Benefits**

Last week, as part of a larger call for action to help working families navigate this crisis, the Texas AFL-CIO advocated for removal of barriers to obtaining Unemployment Insurance benefits. A growing number of Texans are losing their jobs, whether permanently or temporarily, and workers should not have to observe a waiting period or engage in work-search in a contracting economy.

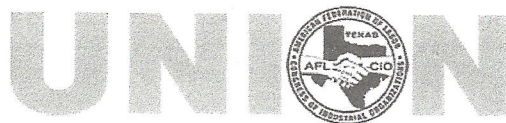
We renewed the call in a news release yesterday. Late afternoon, the Texas Workforce Commission announced that it would waive the requirements for workers losing their jobs because of the pandemic. This is certainly not everything working people need, but it is the right thing to do and a major win in a difficult arena. We were proud to lead the call for these actions.

See our news releases from yesterday: the call to action (<https://bit.ly/2vwqanX>) and the victory (<https://bit.ly/33rWJQp>). Here is the Texas Workforce Commission announcement: <https://bit.ly/2U3z5qt>. See and hear KRLD News Radio's coverage shortly after the announcement: <https://bit.ly/38VE5I2>

Also, our news conference last week included a call for an emergency proclamation that would ease the way for state agencies to help working families. Gov. Greg Abbott announced a disaster proclamation for the entire state last Friday.

### **Senate District and County Conventions**

The coronavirus may upend the near-term political schedule, including one matter that is immediate. This Saturday, March 21, was the date for all of us to get together in Senate District/County Conventions.



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In Solidarity,

Rick Levy

President, Texas AFL-CIO



Visit us at [texasaflcio.org](https://www.texasaflcio.org) | Twitter | Facebook

Text **WORK** to **AFLCIO** (235246) to join our text action team. (Message and data rates may apply.)

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Sent via [ActionNetwork.org](https://www.actionnetwork.org). To update your email address, change your name or address, or to stop receiving emails from Texas AFL-CIO, please [click here](#).

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**Sherry Seals** <SStanley@cwa-union.org>  
To: "Sylvia J. Ramos" <sramos@cwa-union.org>  
Cc: Christina Schmittgens <cschmittgens@cwa-union.org>

Thu, Mar 19, 2020 at 9:52 AM

Action Network post complete.

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