Dear NLA Member:

The Nation and you as business owners continue to make decisions about how to best address the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Likewise, your legislators are also working diligently to flatten the curve and stop the spread of the virus. Most state and local governments have closed bars, restaurants, theaters and much more in an effort to keep people contained and at home. Whether we want to believe it or not, the next step will be the determination as to whether your state will elect to close all non-essential businesses. Already, states like Massachusetts have areas deeming construction - the act of AND the supply of - as non-essential. This means closing your doors and waiting for this to end.

As an industry, the National Lumber & Building Material Dealers Association (NLBMDA), NAHB, the National Hardware Association and many others are doing everything possible to ensure that construction and more specifically lumber & hardware operations are deemed “essential” to the community. Likewise, Northwestern Lumber Association and its peers around the country are working together, sharing resources and working to combat this issue as quickly and as best as possible.

But it is going to take YOU and your voice to ensure that if/when a nationwide shutdown is announced - which is a strong possibility - that your business can remain open and ready for the needs of your customers and community.

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**Member Call to Action**

Click [Here](#) to quickly and easily send a letter to your state legislators - including your governor - to request that LBM operations be considered "essential" businesses.

Thanks to our friends and colleagues at the Northeastern Retail Lumber Association (NRLA), this form has been made available and is EASY to use. All you need is your name, address and email address to complete the form. It will take you less than 2 minutes to complete.

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By acting today, you can help yourself stay open and operational and help our industry stay active and prepared as we work to get through these uncharted and unprecedented times.

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