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March 17, 2020

Governor Gretchen Whitmer
P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909

RE: Next steps after Executive Order 2020-9

Dear Governor Whitmer:

As you consider if taking additional steps beyond Executive Order 2020-9 is warranted to manage the novel Coronavirus (COVID19) situation in Michigan, please consider how vital support industries, such as the heating, air conditioning, ventilation, and refrigeration (HVACR), will be allowed to function in the next steps.

We understand the basis for the aggressive action for social gatherings but please keep in mind the service industries like HVACR works to keep businesses running as well as making it practical for people to stay at home. With some of the more vital facilities such as medical, institutional, police stations, fire departments, data centers sometimes needing more constant attention. Likewise those with special needs where a no heat situation could be just as devastating to some as the Coronavirus. Please keep this at the forefront while making these critical decisions during these uncertain times.

Before Coronavirus became a concern, American's were already staying indoors 91% of the time. Today, they are being asked to stay inside more and away from the general public. Likewise, hospitals, data centers, telecom communication facilities, police and fire are vital services that also need HVACR. Our food supply chain, from the wholesaler to the home, relies on refrigeration that needs to remain functional. Without fresh air, steady power, heating, air conditioning, fresh water and refrigeration, many will become very ill, when kept isolated indoors and with limited resources.

Once again, the Michigan Air Conditioning Contractors Association (MIACCA) just wants to stress that being able to provide heating to buildings, refrigeration for food storage, air conditioning for data centers, and ventilation for healthier buildings, are just a couple of vital services that are needed at this time and provided by our industry when allowed to function. If you have any additional questions, please contact myself, Phil Forner, MIACCA President at phil@allendaleheating.com or Michael L. Cain, MIACCA Director hvac@mecc1.com is ready to help in any way we can.

Best Regards,

M.J. D'Smith
Executive Director

Cc: Mr. Robert Gordon, MHHDS Director
Ms. Orlene Hawks, LARA Director