

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

CONGRESSMAN ANDY LEVIN
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November 20, 2020

Jon McPherson
Vice President Labor Relations
The Kroger Company
1014 Vine Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Steve Yancey
Corporate Vice President
The Kroger Company
1014 Vine Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Dear Messrs. McPherson and Yancey:

I am writing on behalf of the hardworking women and men of The Kroger Company who are represented by United Food and Commercial Workers Local 876.

As you know, the COVID pandemic has taken a tremendous toll on our country. More than 250,000 people have died from COVID-19 since the pandemic began, many millions more have been sickened, and our economy suffered an unprecedented blow. Over the summer, the virus appeared to be far more under control in Michigan and in many states. Tragically, that is no longer the case. I know you are well aware that we have far more daily positive tests now than during the initial outbreak in March and April, and experts advise that this surge in COVID cases will be followed by a surge in hospitalizations and deaths in the weeks ahead.

I understand that UFCW Local 876 has been in contact with you about the urgent need to secure the safety – both physical and economic – of its members who work for The Kroger Company. These measures include the restoration of “hero pay,” a reduction in the number of customers permitted in your stores at any one time, additional physical barriers, further cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces, and more.

We all depend on the services that the employees of The Kroger Company provide. Indeed, Kroger workers are essential workers by every definition. I urge you to work with UFCW Local 876 officials to implement these measures, which would help provide for the safety of Kroger employees during this increasingly dangerous time.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



ANDY LEVIN
Member of Congress