



AMERICAN BENEFITS
COUNCIL

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American Benefits Council unveils policy recommendations
**Strengthening employee benefit plans an
essential response to the COVID-19 pandemic**

WASHINGTON, DC – “The COVID-19 pandemic has created both a health and an economic crisis. Employer-sponsored benefit plans are an essential part of the nation’s response to provide health and financial security for workers and families,” American Benefits Council President James A. Klein said today.

“As lawmakers consider additional action to ease some of the burdens imposed by the pandemic, we urge them to focus on how to do the most good most quickly,” Klein said. “That means strengthening employer-provided health and retirement benefits. The American Benefits Council has developed a blueprint for doing just that.”

“The Council is proud of the role it has played in the legislative and regulatory responses we’ve seen thus far, and we commend policymakers from both parties for their quick action. But more must be done,” said Klein. The Council has shared with Congress and the executive branch [a set of recommendations for supporting displaced workers](#) and others affected by the “pandemic economy.” Taken together, these proposals constitute a comprehensive plan to help employers harness the strength of employee benefit plans. “We will continue working with Congress and the Administration to help as many people as quickly as possible,” Klein concluded.

For more information, or to arrange an interview with the Council’s health or retirement policy teams, contact Jason Hammersla, Council vice president, communications, at jhammersla@abcstaff.org or by phone at (202) 422-4652 (cell).

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The Council is a public policy organization whose members include over 220 of the world's largest corporations, as ranked by Fortune and Forbes. Collectively, the Council's members either directly sponsor or administer health and retirement benefits for virtually all Americans covered by employer-sponsored plans.