

February 23, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell:

The undersigned are among the 1,110 employers across the country that contribute to the Central States Pension Fund. These businesses make nearly \$550,000,000 in contributions annually as part of our commitment to provide a secure retirement for 363,000 Central States participants, including 53,000 active employees. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are the grocers that have adapted and stayed open to serve our communities, the manufacturers that have safely and effectively kept production online, and the trucking and delivery companies that have continued to serve as the lifeline of the American economy.

The contributions we make to Central States represent a significant cost, especially for the many small businesses among us. To improve the plan's funding, employer contributions have already more than doubled since 2008. For years, those pension contributions have played a pivotal role in attracting and maintaining a skilled and competitive workforce. However, the perfect storm of external factors that threatens Central States and more than 120 other multiemployer pension funds has turned this strength into a crippling liability that will only worsen if Congress does not take action now.

As you know, without a legislative solution to the national multiemployer pension crisis, both Central States and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation multiemployer program will run out of money to pay benefits in 2026. This catastrophe will virtually wipe out the pension benefits of 1.3 million retirees and working Americans. It will also pose a grave risk to the future of our businesses.

Some have cynically referred to solving this growing multiemployer pension crisis as a "bailout," but nothing could be further from the truth. As evidenced by two reports released by the Government Accountability Office in 2018, it is abundantly clear that neither Central States, its employers nor the participants caused the crisis facing the Pension Fund. The problems plaguing the Pension Fund can be traced back to the 1980 federal deregulation of the trucking industry, which ultimately caused a loss of more than 10,000 contributing employers and about 400,000 of its active workers. The Pension Fund, like many others, was also hit hard by the 2001 dot-com bubble burst and the 2008 financial crisis. Central States was also denied relief under the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014, leaving it no alternative beyond insolvency or federal relief.

Contributing employers to Central States currently face a combined \$46 billion in withdrawal liability under the Fund, which has already complicated the ability of many employers to maintain essential lines of credit. Additionally, a substantial number of smaller employers can no longer afford to hire new workers because doing so would further increase their withdrawal liability. It's a vicious cycle.

If Central States is allowed to become insolvent, our withdrawal liability will remain and, in many cases, due to the size of our withdrawal liability and the inability to satisfy it, we will be forced to continue paying contributions into a Fund that can no longer provide any meaningful retirement benefits to our employees. Our workers know this full well—and so do any prospective hires. This will limit our ability to attract and retain high-quality employees. And so, unless Congress acts now, these combined impacts across the multiemployer

pension system has the potential to force thousands of businesses into bankruptcy and eliminate tens of thousands of good paying jobs.

To avoid this outcome for Central States employers and thousands more just like us across the multiemployer pension system, we urge you to support the Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act of 2021 as part of the upcoming COVID-19 relief package. Enacting this legislation will protect participants' benefits, save jobs and help the communities that rely on them. Thank you for your attention to this urgent national priority.

Sincerely,

Employer Name	Principal Location
Yellow	Kansas (Multistate)
ABF Freight System, Inc.	Arkansas (Multistate)
Bimbo Bakeries USA, Inc.	Missouri (Multistate)
Jack Cooper Transport Company	Missouri (Multistate)
Associated Wholesale Grocers	Kansas (Multistate)
Cassens Transport Company	Illinois (Multistate)
Dairy Farmers of America Inc.	Kansas (Multistate)
Standard Forwarding	Illinois (Multistate)
DHL	WA (Multistate)
Crowley Maritime Corp.	Florida (Multistate)
Active USA	Wisconsin (Multistate)
Schnuck Markets, Inc.	Missouri (Multistate)
Prairie Farms Dairy	Illinois (Multistate)
United Dairy Inc.	Ohio (Multistate)
Quality Carriers, Inc.	Florida (Multistate)
Kenosha Releasing, Inc.	Illinois (Multistate)
Auto Releasing, Inc.	Illinois (Multistate)
Claycomo Releasing, Inc.	Illinois (Multistate)
Cassens & Sons, Inc.	Illinois (Multistate)
Air Express	Ohio (Multistate)
Miller Transporters, Inc.	Mississippi (Multistate)
Precision Vehicle Solutions LLC	Ohio (Multistate)
Duluth Transit Authority	Minnesota
Wichita Transit	Kansas
Schwebel Baking Company	Ohio
The Standard Group - Louisville, KY	Kentucky
Transit Management of Racine Inc.	Wisconsin
Sealy Mattress Manufacturing Company LLC	Kentucky
Palmer Moving	Michigan
Parke Warehouses	Illinois
Ferrous Processing & Trading Co.	Michigan
Fargo Glass and Paint Co.	North Dakota
Highland Machine Co.	Illinois
A & B Freight Line, Inc.	Illinois
Kuhlman Corporation	Ohio
Tramonte Distributing Company	Ohio

Employer Name	Principal Location
Heding Truck Service, Inc.	Wisconsin
Doan Companies	Michigan
Van Horn Brothers, Inc.	Michigan
Messina Concrete Inc.	Michigan
D.W. Dickey & Son Inc.	Ohio
Houghton County Road Commission	Michigan
River City Ready Mix, Inc.	Wisconsin
Metropolitan Ford, LLC	Minnesota
Toledo Museum of Art	Ohio
Old Dutch Foods	Minnesota
Cash Concrete Products, Inc.	Indiana
MJ Kellner Co. Inc.	Illinois
Toledo Shredding, LLC.	Ohio
Freeway Ford LLC	Minnesota
Nash & Sons Trucking Inc.	Indiana
Sunset Auto Co. Inc.	Missouri
Raineri Building Materials Inc.	Missouri
Riggio Distribution	Michigan
Trierweiler Construction & Supply Co., Inc.	Wisconsin
Reymond Products International, Inc.	Ohio
Key Cadillac, Inc.	Minnesota
Federal Warehouse Company	Illinois
Capitol Readymix, Inc.	Illinois
Johnny Londoff Auto Group	Missouri
Bommarito Automotive Group	Missouri
Best Block Company	Michigan
Branick Industries, Inc.	North Dakota
G & J Automotive, Inc.	Missouri
Weirton Construction Company	West Virginia
Andrews Brothers, Inc.	Michigan
Bloomington Lincoln Mercury	Minnesota
Jim Butler Chevrolet, Inc.	Missouri
Brim Concrete, Inc.	Indiana
New Berlin Redi-Mix, Inc.	Wisconsin
Nissen Lumber and Coal Co. Inc.	Ohio
Ampro Services, Inc.	Minnesota
Shakopee Chevrolet, Inc.	Minnesota
Modified Concrete Supply	Indiana
A J Goss Distributor, Inc.	Missouri
George J. Igel & Co., Inc.	Ohio
Lynn Trucking, Inc.	Indiana
United Ready Mix, Inc.	Illinois
Dobson Industrial Inc.	Michigan

Employer Name	Principal Location
Delta Sanitation, Inc.	Michigan
MGA, Inc.	Wisconsin
Christy Foltz, Inc.	Illinois
Martin & Company Excavating	Illinois
B & D Trucking Co.	Illinois
Azcon Corp.	Minnesota
Duluth Ready Mix Inc.	Minnesota
Mosser Construction, Inc.	Ohio
CW Marsh	Michigan
Carenbauer Distributing Corp.	West Virginia
Universal Oil Inc.	Ohio
Weber Sand & Gravel, Inc.	Michigan
Brown's Ice Cream Co.	Minnesota
Sun Prairie Concrete, Inc.	Wisconsin
Missouri Petroleum	Missouri
City of Peshtigo	Wisconsin
Wabash Valley Asphalt Co.	Indiana
Hall Brothers Lumber Co.	Missouri
City Supply Corporation	Iowa
Merlo Automotive Group Inc.	Missouri
Baker's Gas & Welding Supplies, Inc.	Michigan
The Levy Company	Illinois
W L Tucker Supply Company	Ohio
Mayfield Transfer, Co., Inc.	Illinois
Don Brown Chevrolet, Inc.	Missouri
D & H Trucking Co., Inc.	Missouri
Central-Allied Enterprises, Inc.	Ohio
K & T Switching Service, Inc.	Ohio
Brooks Construction Company	Indiana
Warning Lites of St. Louis	Missouri
Kirscher Transport Inc.	Minnesota
Starnes Trucking, Inc.	Indiana
Anderson Brothers Moving & Storage Company	Illinois
DK Contractors, Inc.	Wisconsin
Dump Trucks, Inc.	Indiana
Barry Trucking Inc.	Wisconsin
Madison Sand & Gravel Company	Wisconsin
Culligan of Terre Haute, Brazil, & Rockville, IN	Indiana
Ed Schory & Son Company	Ohio
Advantage Trucking LLC	Michigan
Sabiston Builders Supply Inc.	Michigan
Walsh & Kelly, Inc.	Indiana
Tobey's Construction and Cartage, Inc.	Illinois
Roberts Motors, Inc.	Illinois

Employer Name	Principal Location
C J Link Lumber Co	Michigan
Ritschard Bros., Inc.	Indiana
Chappell & Zimmerman, Inc.	Ohio
Howard L. Bowers Contracting Co. Inc.	Ohio
Metzger Building Materials Co.	Minnesota
Ferguson Block Company, Inc.	Michigan
Gaunt & Son Asphalt, Inc.	Indiana
North Electric Supply Co.	Michigan
Toebe Construction LLC	Michigan
Central Paving, Inc.	Indiana
Mathie Supply Inc.	Ohio
Haier Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	Illinois
Miracle Express Inc.	Minnesota
Beuckman Ford, Inc.	Missouri
Contractors Ready Mix	Illinois
Hennes Services Inc.	Wisconsin
White Dove Mattress Ltd.	Ohio
Hearn Paper Co.	Ohio
Fred Weber Reinforced Concrete Products, Inc.	Missouri
Homewood Disposal Service	Illinois
Wiegmann & Associates	Missouri
Geo. F. Alger Company	Michigan
Wildcat Trucking Inc.	Indiana
James Peterson Sons, Inc.	Wisconsin
Northwestern Fruit Company	Minnesota
Rich Gullet & Sons, Inc.	Missouri
Edward J. White, Inc.	Indiana
Independent Mechanical Industries, Inc.	Illinois
Royal Air Freight, Inc.	Indiana
Schroeder Truck Repair	Missouri
Technical Products, Inc.	Ohio
United Plumbing & Heating Supply Co.	Wisconsin
Freeway Ford Truck Sales	Illinois
Ohio Teamsters Credit Union	Ohio
Jim Trenary Chevrolet, Inc.	Missouri
Welsch Furnace Company	Missouri
Fred Weber, Inc.	Missouri
M&M Truck Parts, Inc.	Michigan
LaKing Trucking Inc.	Ohio
Special Mine Services, Inc. - Kentucky Location	Illinois
Kreiling Roofing Company	Illinois
Stang Sales and Service	Michigan
Feutz Contractors, Inc.	Illinois
Superior Linen Supply Company	Missouri

Employer Name	Principal Location
Larson-Danielson Construction Co. Inc.	Indiana
Sterling Industrial, LLC	Indiana
Tuttle Construction, Inc.	Ohio
Shook Construction	Ohio
Koenig Sand & Gravel	Michigan
Flynn Paving	Michigan
Monarch Welding & Engineering	Michigan
Eagle Drayage Co, Inc.	Missouri
Edward R. White Contractor, Inc.	Michigan
Frank Fischer Inc.	Missouri
Frye-Williamson Press, Inc.	Illinois
Helmkamp Construction Company	Illinois
Hoyt, Brumm & Link Inc.	Michigan
Midwest Steel, Inc.	Michigan
U.S.M.M., Inc.	Illinois
Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers	Illinois
Convention Distribution Services, Inc.	Missouri
Freitag Weinhardt, Inc.	Indiana
R. C. Hendrick & Son, Inc.	Michigan
RGS Hauling, Inc.	Missouri
Magra, Inc.	Michigan
S&E Enterprises	Ohio
Madison Crushing & Excavating Company, Inc.	Wisconsin
Louis Del Prince & Sons, Inc.	New York
Union Payroll Agency, Inc.	California
H. J. Eppel and Company Inc.	Illinois
Iron Mountain Trap Rock Company	Missouri
Bluff City Minerals	Illinois
J.T.R., Inc.	Missouri
Lone Star Aggregates Acquisition	Missouri
Missouri Valley Asphalt	Missouri
Beco Acquisition	Missouri
Hamilton Engine Sales, Inc.	Oregon
South County Dodge Chrysler Jeep RAM	Missouri