

# Healthy Workplace Tax Credit

SENATOR ROB PORTMAN AND SENATOR KYRSTEN SINEMA

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**Background:** As businesses across America continue reopening and welcoming back employees and consumers, we must ensure the safety and security of everyone involved by incentivizing steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace through a tax credit. A successful reopening of our economy is dependent on both employees and consumers feeling comfortable and confident until the vaccine is more widely available.

That's why Senator Portman and Senator Sinema introduced the Healthy Workplace Tax credit. This bipartisan bill creates a refundable tax credit against payroll taxes for 50 percent of the costs incurred by a business for increased testing, personal protective equipment (PPE), disinfecting, extra cleaning, reconfiguring work spaces to adhere to social distancing guidelines, and training and education on the prevention of COVID-19 transmission.

**The Healthy Workplace Tax Credit will help businesses reopen safely while ensuring employee and customer confidence by:**

- Providing a refundable tax credit against payroll taxes for 50 percent of the costs incurred by the business for COVID-19 testing, PPE, disinfecting, extra cleaning, reconfiguring workspaces, and employee education and training until the end of the year;
- Encouraging and enabling businesses to take the recommended steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in their workplaces;
- Limiting this benefit to a maximum of \$1,000 per employee for a business's first 500 employees, \$750 per employee for the next 500 employees, \$500 for the next 1500 employees, \$250 for the next 2500 employees, and \$50 for each employee thereafter—recognizing the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on small- and medium-sized businesses.
- The bill also provides an income tax credit for expenditures made to reconfigure work spaces last year (March 13, 2020- December 31, 2020). Thus, allowing those that have already adapted to public health guidelines to receive a benefit on their 2020 tax return. The credit provides 50% of costs incurred up to \$3,000 per employee for a business's first 500 employees.

*The Healthy Workplace Tax Credit Act shares support from the National Clean Start Coalition , International Sanitary Supply Association, International WELL Building Institute, American Car Rental Association, National Safety Council, National Restaurant Association, North American Meat Institute, American Hotel and Lodging Association, International Paper Company, and Ecolab.*