

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

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<https://coronavirus.house.gov>

MEMORANDUM

October 22, 2021

To: Members of the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis

Fr: Committee Staff

Re: Hearing on “How the Meatpacking Industry Failed the Workers Who Feed America”

On **Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. ET** the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis will hold a hearing on the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on essential workers in America’s meatpacking industry and their communities.

This hearing will convene in person in 2154 Rayburn House Office Building and remotely using Zoom, which has been approved by the House, at the discretion of the Chairman, the witnesses, and other Members.

Participants appearing in person will be required to adhere to the current [Attending Physician’s Guidelines](#), which provide for “all individuals, both vaccinated and unvaccinated alike, to wear a mask in indoor spaces to further reduce spread of Delta agent coronavirus.”

Members attending remotely are asked to connect by 1:30 p.m. to ensure their participation and troubleshoot any connectivity issues. The hearing will be recorded and livestreamed for the public.

I. SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF HEARING

The hearing will examine the impact of the coronavirus on workers in meatpacking plants around the country—many of whom are residents of rural communities, minorities, and immigrants—including the number of infections and deaths in those plants. It will also examine the government and private sector decisions that may have led to avoidable sickness and loss of life, as well as further steps that must be taken to protect these essential workers as we continue to emerge from this pandemic.

II. WITNESSES

Debbie Berkowitz

Practitioner Fellow

Kalmanovitz Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor

Georgetown University

Magaly Licolli

Co-Founder & Executive Director

Venceremos

Martin Rosas

President

United Food and Commercial Workers Local 2

Rose Godinez

Interim Legal Director

American Civil Liberties Union of Nebraska

Potential additional witness to be added