

Dear General Mills Supplier,

As we continue our important work of making sure that Americans have enough safe, high quality food during the Coronavirus pandemic, I wanted to reach out to you about the Defense Production Act (DPA). As you may be aware, last week President Trump issued an Executive Order invoking the DPA. While the Act is complex, the key provisions allow the President to direct suppliers to produce certain goods for national needs and to have those orders “cut in line” ahead of other orders. At this point, the Health & Human Services Secretary has not yet taken action in the exercise of these authorities.

We believe it is unlikely that the Administration will issue orders directed at the food industry (the Order only discusses health and medical resources at this time) because the Administration has publicly stated that the food industry is a “Critical Industry” during this time of national crisis. However, some of you may make items both inside and outside of the food industry, and may be subject to a DPA Order that will (perhaps unknowingly) impact General Mills.

Therefore, **we would ask that if you receive any DPA-related order (or suspect that you may receive such an order), please immediately notify your General Mills contact.** We will then consider asking the federal government to revoke the order, or modify it to allow critical food supplies to continue to be manufactured. Early notice from you is critical to enabling us to solve issues before they impact production.

Thanks for all of your work during this incredibly difficult time. Our importance to society cannot be overstated at this time, and we are proud of our efforts so far.

Please contact your General Mills contact if you have any questions or comments.

Thanks,

Colleen Soukup