

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

July 10, 2020

Mr. Claudio Del Vecchio  
Chairman and CEO  
Brooks Brothers Group, Inc.  
346 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Del Vecchio,

We are writing to respectfully request that Brooks Brothers give full and fair consideration to the proposal by UNITE HERE Local 187 for severance and health care benefits for workers at the Southwick facility in Haverhill, Massachusetts. This is an urgent issue for many of our constituents who will be without a source of income.

As you know, on May 15<sup>th</sup>, the company issued a WARN Act notice that the Southwick worksite would permanently close on July 20<sup>th</sup> or thereafter – laying off 413 employees. It is our understanding that, on July 7<sup>th</sup>, Local 187 presented its request for severance and health coverage to the company's negotiator. Specifically, the proposal sought two weeks of severance for each year an employee worked for the company as well as one year of health care coverage. However, the negotiator rejected any severance benefits and offered only health care coverage until Southwick's closure. Notably, employees at other closing facilities will, according to reports, receive severance.

While we recognize that the decision to close the Southwick worksite is due to financial challenges exacerbated by COVID-19, it would be an extraordinary betrayal of the company's loyal employees to deny *any* severance or extension of health care coverage. Indeed, some employees have produced garments at Southwick for decades – including, most recently, sewing masks to protect the public. We ask that you reconsider the decision to deny aid to those who helped build the company's brand.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this matter with you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



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Lori Trahan  
U.S. Representative



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Elizabeth Warren  
U.S. Senator



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Edward J. Markey  
U.S. Senator