

**Dan Haney, UFCW Local 663 member at Swanson Meats, for the  
Frontline Worker Pay Working Group  
Minnesota Legislature  
Thursday, August 19, 2021**

Good afternoon Chair, and Commissioners. My name is Dan Haney and I live in Fridley.

I am here today to voice my support to this working group in favor of providing frontline worker pay for all frontline essential workers.

I'm a food processing worker and UFCW Local 663 member at Swanson Meats. I have worked there for 21 years and am a supervisor at work and a union steward.

Before COVID, a typical day consisted of showing up, setting up machinery, and working with staff to process food for delivery to restaurants, nursing homes, golf clubs, hotels, and donation sites. A typical shift lasted 8.5 hours.

Now, during COVID, the best day I can think of was March 17, 2020. That day, our employer signed a contract to make 40,000 lbs of ground beef a week for Cub stores. That very same day, the stay at home orders began. Everything closed down.

Well, we never closed. At all. We kept processing meat, and now 40,000 lbs more a week of it! Showing up at work was mandatory to keep the food supply chain going.

The 40,000 lbs a week to Cub Foods is proof of that! We were also issued cards that showed we were essential workers to stick in our windshields to be able to go to and from work.

I am deeply confused how everyone in our union family has been open and running the whole time, doing our best to help everyone out-- as well as all of the other frontline essential workers too, and to think we might not all be considered for the hazard pay from the federal funds.

I know that my coworkers and I have done our best to show we are essential. And I hope you consider that all essential workers should have a shot at some of the recognition we deserve by these funds.

Please provide frontline essential worker pay to all essential workers.  
Thank you for your time.