Businesses Acting in Good Faith Need Liability Protections

Neil Bradley, Executive Vice President and Chief Policy Officer at the U.S. Chamber, was interviewed on the <u>Axios Re:Cap podcast</u> on the need for Congress to pass COVID-19 liability protections for businesses acting in good faith.

On the number of pandemic-related lawsuits, Bradley said, "The numbers are climbing, as you would expect. It may have plateaued a little bit because of the second wave of shutdowns. But as businesses reopen from the new shutdowns, we expect them to pick right back up again."

Why it matters: It's creating uncertainty for businesses. "We're tracking some employers who are being sued for enforcing face covering mandates, and at the same time being sued for not effectively enforcing face covering mandates," he added.

On Senate legislation: "If you look at the legislation that the Senate Republicans put forward, it's not a blanket immunity," said Bradley. "In fact, you only receive a liability protection or a safe harbor if you follow certain public health guidelines."

What's next: Look for a relief bill with liability protections on President Trump's desk before Congress leaves for August recess. "I don't think it's possible for Members of Congress to go home leaving this issue unresolved," said Bradley.

Listen to the interview here.