
From: Gov PublicRecords <GovPublicRecords@la.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 2:38 PM
To: AO Records <records@americanoversight.org>
Cc: Gov PublicRecords <GovPublicRecords@la.gov>, Sherry Lassere <Sherry.Lassere@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Governor's Office PRR #s 276, 277, and 278

EXTERNAL SENDER

Mr. Evers,

Please see the link below to a dropbox containing documents responsive to your requests, PRRs 276, 277, and 278. With this, we are closing our file on these requests.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/eim5zn3nkivvr9y/AADiXq9lj159ebItJf9jBQjWa?dl=0>

Thanks, and have a great evening.

Public Records Requests
Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana
GovPublicRecords@la.gov

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 6:55 PM EST
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: [IMPORTANT UPDATE] FDA Issues New Policy to Help Expedite Availability of Diagnostics

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Partner –

Today, as part of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s ongoing and aggressive commitment to address the coronavirus outbreak, the agency [issued a new policy](#) for certain laboratories seeking to develop diagnostic tests for coronavirus in order to achieve more rapid testing capacity in the U.S.

The new policy is for certain laboratories that develop and begin to use validated COVID-19 diagnostics before the FDA has completed review of their [Emergency Use Authorization](#) (EUA) requests. The immediately in effect guidance issued today describes the circumstances where the FDA does not intend to object to the use of these tests for clinical testing while the laboratories are pursuing an EUA with the FDA. Importantly, this policy only applies to laboratories that are certified to perform high-complexity testing consistent with requirements under [Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments](#).

The FDA guidance provides recommendations for test developers, including information regarding test validation, FDA notification and interim confirmatory clinical testing. Following the completion of their test validation, laboratories should communicate with the FDA, via email, in order to notify the agency that the test has been validated. Laboratories should submit a completed EUA request within 15 business days of notification.

The link to the full press release is [here](#).

Related Information

- [Novel Coronavirus](#)
- [Policy for Diagnostics Testing in Laboratories Certified to Perform High Complexity Testing under CLIA prior to Emergency Use Authorization for Coronavirus Disease-2019 during the Public Health Emergency - Immediately in Effect Guidance for Clinical Laboratories and Food and Drug Administration Staff](#)

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 5:35 PM EST
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: [INVITATION] Call with HHS and DHS on COVID-19

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Governor –

The HHS Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs invites you to a 30 minute Governor-only call **TOMORROW**, February 20, 2020, with Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, Homeland Security Acting Deputy Secretary Ken Cuccinelli, CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield, NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci, and other HHS officials for an update on the Administration's COVID-19 response. Given the extensive number of recent actions, members of President's Coronavirus Task Force would like to update you on current initiatives and answer questions that you may have.

This invite is primarily for the Governor. We encourage that any Governor be joined by the respective Governor's State Health Officer, Homeland Security Advisor, and/or the State Emergency Manager.

We strongly encourage your Governor to try to participate. Only the individuals identified above are invited to join this call.

Please note: this invite is NOT transferrable. Any exception to the above policy is unlikely, and confirmation of a potential surrogate will be confirmed tomorrow after 11 am at the earliest, though not guaranteed.

See below for call-in details.

Date: Thursday, February 20, 2020
Time: 2:30 PM – 3:00 PM
Phone Line: 888-282-0368
Passcode: 3433934

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
202-853-0582

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 10:58 AM EST
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: [RELEASE] - HHS Awards \$117 Million to End the HIV Epidemic in the United States

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Partner –

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), [awarded approximately \\$117 million](#) to expand access to HIV care, treatment, medication, and prevention services. This investment is a critical component of the Administration's [Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America \(EHE\)](#) initiative, which aims to reduce the number of new HIV infections in the United States by 90 percent by 2030.

The EHE initiative and today's awards focus on 48 counties, Washington, D.C., and San Juan, Puerto Rico, [geographic areas](#) where more than 50 percent of new HIV diagnoses occurred in 2016 and 2017, as well as the seven states with a substantial rural HIV burden.

"HRSA is a leader in working to end the HIV epidemic in the U.S.," said HHS Secretary Alex Azar. "These investments will support partnerships between organizations that are on the front lines of preventing and reducing HIV transmission, as well as improving the overall health outcomes for people with HIV."

HRSA's Health Center Program awards will be used to identify at-risk individuals and engage in preventive services, test for HIV, and prescribe pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) when appropriate. Awards made to HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program recipients will be used to link people who are either newly diagnosed with HIV, or diagnosed but currently not in care, to essential HIV care, treatment, and support services, helping them reach viral suppression and reduce HIV transmission.

For further discussion on this announcement, we invite you to a stakeholder call **TODAY, February 26, 2020** with HRSA Administrator Tom Engels. Details can be found below:

Date: February 26, 2020
Time: 4:00 PM EST
Number: 888-790-3548
Passcode: 2511315

For a list of award recipients, visit:

- Health Center Program: <https://bphc.hrsa.gov/program-opportunities/primary-care-hiv-prevention/fy2020-awards>
- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program: <https://hab.hrsa.gov/about-ryan-white-hiv-aids-program/fy2020-ending-hiv-epidemic-awards>

For more information about HRSA's role in the Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative, visit: www.hrsa.gov/ending-hiv-epidemic.

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

From: [Casey Tingle](#)
To: [Christina Stephens](#); [Tina Vanichchagorn](#)
Cc: [James Waskom](#); [Stephen Russo](#)
Subject: FW: FW: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 8:25:41 AM

Should we send out the FAQ's to the Congressional offices or set up a quick call with them to brief out on what we are doing?

From: John Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 8:20 AM
To: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

Casey,

Leslie Quinn asked about a POC in GOHSEP and a POC for the COVID-19 Task Force.

Sincerely,
John L. Taylor Jr., MEM
Region 7 Coordinator
Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)
1525 Fairfield Ave, Ste. 228, Shreveport, LA 71101
Cell [REDACTED]



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From: Quinn, Leslie [<mailto:Leslie.Quinn@mail.house.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 3:08 PM
To: John Taylor <John.Taylor@la.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

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Good Afternoon John:

Could you tell me who is the point of contact within GOSHEP and/or the Governor's Task Force for public officials? I am trying to find a contact the Congressman and/or our office can go to directly to find out information about preparedness and action items for the virus for Louisiana. We anticipate we will have constituents asking us for help and Congressman Johnson needs to have the latest information.

Thanks so much!

Leslie

Leslie Quinn

Director of Constituent Services and Special Projects

U. S. Congressman Mike Johnson

2250 Hospital Drive, Suite 248

Bossier City, LA 71111

Tel: 318-840-0309

Fax: 318-584-7294

www.mikejohnson.house.gov

From: [Casey Tingle](#)
To: [Jimmy Guidry \(LDH\)](#); [Rosanne Prats](#); [Christopher Guilbeaux](#)
Cc: [Tina Vanichchagorn](#); [Christina Stephens](#)
Subject: FW: FW: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:21:09 AM

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Thoughts?

Thanks,
Casey

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To: [Tonya Joiner](#); [Alexander Billioux](#); [Rosanne Prats](#); [Casey Tingle](#); [Jimmy Guidry \(LDH\)](#); [Christopher Guilbeaux](#)
Cc: [Tina Vanichchagorn](#); [Aly Neel](#); [Stephen Russo](#)
Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:53:29 AM

From: Tonya Joiner

Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:49 AM

To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>

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Subject: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

I agree with Christina and maybe a quick prep call in advance. We will circle internally and have coordinate documents for dissemination.

Tonya Ozene Joiner

Chief of Staff

O: (225) 342-9001

C: [REDACTED]



From: Christina Stephens

Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:57 AM

To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>

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Subject: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

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I think we also need to be prepared to talk about the supplemental bill as well.

Thanks, Christina

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I can make myself available at 3 today or 8 tomorrow.

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Cc: [Tina Vanichchagorn](#); [Aly Neel](#); [Stephen Russo](#)
Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:49:30 AM

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C: [REDACTED]



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Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:04:37 AM

That works – if someone can send me the latest FAQ doc, I will attach it to the invite.

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Tel: 318-840-0309

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Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:56:22 AM

Great – if 3:00 today works for the group – I will reach out to the offices and send out an invite.

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Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:56:00 AM

I would recommend maybe doing tomorrow morning at 8 a.m. CST, just to give us time to get an agenda and any materials ready and also to give notice to CODEL members, but I would defer to LDH and GOHSEP on how long they think that would take. I know you have a lot of stuff put together already.

I think we also need to be prepared to talk about the supplemental bill as well.

Thanks, Christina

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Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:16:05 AM

Got it – will start working with task force leadership on the details and get back to the group. Will look at times late this afternoon or tomorrow.

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Cc: [Tina Vanichchagorn](#); [Aly Neel](#); [Stephen Russo](#)
Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:54:15 AM

Got it – let’s do a quick internal call at 3:00 today in prep for 8:00 AM CODEL call. Will send an invite shortly for 3:00 if that time works.

From: Tonya Joiner
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:49 AM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
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Subject: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

I agree with Christina and maybe a quick prep call in advance. We will circle internally and have coordinate documents for dissemination.

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: [REDACTED]



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Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)
1525 Fairfield Ave, Ste. 228, Shreveport, LA 71101
Cell 
<image001.jpg>

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Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 3:08 PM

To: John Taylor <John.Taylor@la.gov>

Subject: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

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Thanks so much!

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2250 Hospital Drive, Suite 248
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Tel: 318-840-0309
Fax: 318-584-7294
www.mikejohnson.house.gov

From: [Tina Vanichchagorn](#)
To: [Casey Tingle](#)
Cc: [Christina Stephens](#); [James Waskom](#); [Stephen Russo](#)
Subject: Re: Re: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 9:13:16 AM

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To: [Christina Stephens](#); [Tina Vanichchagorn](#)
Cc: [James Waskom](#); [Stephen Russo](#)
Subject: FW: FW: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 8:25:41 AM

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Cc: [Tina Vanichchagorn](#); [Christina Stephens](#)
Subject: FW: FW: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:21:09 AM

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Cc: [Tina Vanichchagorn](#); [Aly Neel](#); [Stephen Russo](#)
Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:53:29 AM

From: Tonya Joiner

Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:49 AM

To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>

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Subject: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

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Tonya Ozene Joiner

Chief of Staff

O: (225) 342-9001

C: [REDACTED]



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Cc: [Tina Vanichchagorn](#); [Aly Neel](#); [Stephen Russo](#)
Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
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C: [REDACTED]



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Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
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Cc: [Tina Vanichchagorn](#); [Christina Stephens](#); [Aly Neel](#); [Stephen Russo](#); [Tonya Joiner](#)
Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:56:22 AM

Great – if 3:00 today works for the group – I will reach out to the offices and send out an invite.

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To: Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
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Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:56:00 AM

I would recommend maybe doing tomorrow morning at 8 a.m. CST, just to give us time to get an agenda and any materials ready and also to give notice to CODEL members, but I would defer to LDH and GOHSEP on how long they think that would take. I know you have a lot of stuff put together already.

I think we also need to be prepared to talk about the supplemental bill as well.

Thanks, Christina

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Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:16:05 AM

Got it – will start working with task force leadership on the details and get back to the group. Will look at times late this afternoon or tomorrow.

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Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:54:15 AM

Got it – let’s do a quick internal call at 3:00 today in prep for 8:00 AM CODEL call. Will send an invite shortly for 3:00 if that time works.

From: Tonya Joiner
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:49 AM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
Cc: Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

I agree with Christina and maybe a quick prep call in advance. We will circle internally and have coordinate documents for dissemination.

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: [REDACTED]



From: Christina Stephens
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:57 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
Cc: Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

I would recommend maybe doing tomorrow morning at 8 a.m. CST, just to give us time to get an

agenda and any materials ready and also to give notice to CODEL members, but I would defer to LDH and GOHSEP on how long they think that would take. I know you have a lot of stuff put together already.

I think we also need to be prepared to talk about the supplemental bill as well.

Thanks, Christina

From: Alexander Billioux
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:38 AM
To: Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
Cc: Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

+Steve and Tonya

I can make myself available at 3 today or 8 tomorrow.

Alex

From: Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:28 AM
To: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

I'm looping in Dr. Billioux and Aly as well..

From: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:21 AM
To: Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
Cc: Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

Looking for a timeframe to hold an informational call with Congressional delegation. Would 3:00 today or 8:00 tomorrow work? I think we could pass along the latest FAQ document, provide them

the appropriate contact information in case they receive any calls, update on the task force and then open it up for questions.

Thoughts?

Thanks,
Casey

From: Tina Vanichchagorn
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 9:13 AM
To: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Cc: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

I think a call would be good

Tina M. Vanichchagorn
Special Counsel
Office of the Governor

On Mar 4, 2020, at 8:25 AM, Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@la.gov> wrote:

Should we send out the FAQ's to the Congressional offices or set up a quick call with them to brief out on what we are doing?

From: John Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 8:20 AM
To: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

Casey,

Leslie Quinn asked about a POC in GOHSEP and a POC for the COVID-19 Task Force.

Sincerely,
John L. Taylor Jr., MEM
Region 7 Coordinator
Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)
1525 Fairfield Ave, Ste. 228, Shreveport, LA 71101
Cell 
<[image001.jpg](#)>

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From: Quinn, Leslie [<mailto:Leslie.Quinn@mail.house.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 3:08 PM

To: John Taylor <John.Taylor@la.gov>

Subject: COVID-19 Taskforce and GOSHEP contact

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon John:

Could you tell me who is the point of contact within GOSHEP and/or the Governor's Task Force for public officials? I am trying to find a contact the Congressman and/or our office can go to directly to find out information about preparedness and action items for the virus for Louisiana. We anticipate we will have constituents asking us for help and Congressman Johnson needs to have the latest information.

Thanks so much!

Leslie
Leslie Quinn
Director of Constituent Services and Special Projects
U. S. Congressman Mike Johnson
2250 Hospital Drive, Suite 248
Bossier City, LA 71111
Tel: 318-840-0309
Fax: 318-584-7294
www.mikejohnson.house.gov

From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 2:24 PM EST

To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>

Subject: 3 PM EST TODAY- COVID-19 Press Briefing Livestream

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear State and Local Partners,

Today, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will host a press briefing to provide an update on the Administration's response to COVID-19.

You can join the briefing via livestream at <https://www.hhs.gov/live/live-1/index.html#11607>

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Darcie Johnston,

Director, Intergovernmental Affairs

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

(202) 853-0582

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2020 8:22 PM EDT
To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
Subject: Accepted: Accepted: Committee meeting prep COVID-19 preparedness and response

From: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2020 8:01 PM EDT

To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>

Subject: Accepted: Accepted: Committee meeting prep COVID-19 preparedness and response

From: Eiring, Hilary (CDC/DDID/OD) <vte0@cdc.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:19 PM EDT
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Subject: Automatic reply: Automatic reply: Call with Governor Bel Edwards

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Thank you for your email. I'm currently supporting the novel coronavirus response at CDC. For non response activities, I may be delayed in responding to your email.

If you have an urgent matter please call 404.433.6772.

Thank you,

Hilary Eiring
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Tel/Direct: (770) 488-3901 | Mobile: (404) 433-6772 | E-mail: vte0@cdc.gov

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 11:09 AM EDT

To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>

Subject: call re: coronavirus financing

Can you chat with us at some point today? I saw you cancelled our meeting...

Need to chat about the money piece to prep for those questions tomorrow.

Lauren Gilder Gleason, MPA

Director of Legislative & Governmental Relations

628 N. Fourth Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225.342.5274 (office)
225.964.1789 (cell)



From: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 9:02 PM EDT

To: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Gov-conference Rm 4 <Conf4@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Chancely Courson <Chancely.Courson@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Michelle Miley <Michelle.Miley@LA.GOV>

Subject: Canceled: Canceled: Committee meeting prep COVID-19 preparedness and response

Walk through/discussion of committee meetings taking place Wed March 11th regarding Coronavirus preparedness and response.

From: Hughes, Rep. Jason (Chamber Laptop) <jhughes@legis.la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 5:44 PM EST
To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>; Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
CC: Bagley, Rep. Larry (Chamber Laptop) <lbagley@legis.la.gov>; Bagley, Rep. Larry (District Office) <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>
Subject: Caronavirus

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Lauren and Adam,

I am starting to get a lot of communications from residents of my District regarding Caronavirus. Specifically, they are asking if Louisiana is prepared to handle. The last thing I want to see is widespread panic from the public, but naturally, they are right to be concerned. Can you please share any preparedness plans? Also, is there any proactive public relations campaign taking place advising residents how to potentially prevent spread of the virus? Any information you can share would be helpful.

Thanks,
Jason

Jason Hughes
State Representative, District 100
Louisiana House of Representatives

Committee Assignments: Ways and Means~Health and Welfare~Judiciary
~Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay~Select Committee on Homeland Security

From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 4:27 PM EST

To: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>; Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>

Subject: CMS Guidance on COVID-19

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear State and Intergovernmental Partners:

We want you to be aware of the latest COVID-19 guidance recently released by CMS. Please see links below that detail coverage options under Medicaid, Medicare and Individual and Small Group Market coverage:

CMS Develops Additional Code for Coronavirus Lab Tests: [Press Release](#)

Fact Sheet: Coverage and Benefits Related to COVID-19 [Medicaid and CHIP](#)

Fact Sheet: Coverage and Benefits Related to COVID-19 [Medicare](#)

Information Related to COVID-19 [Individual and Small Group Market Insurance Coverage](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us and we will address your concerns.

Best,

Darcie

Darcie Johnston, Director

Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

(202) 853-0582

From: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 5:03 PM EST

To: Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>

CC: Kimberly Humbles <Kimberly.Humbles@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Mark A Thomas <Mark.Thomas@LA.GOV>; Cindy Rives <Cindy.Rives@la.gov>

Subject: CONFIDENTIAL Coronavirus Draft Bill

Attachment(s): "FEDERAL CORONAVIRUS FUNDING BILL 1st run.docx"

Attached is a quick one pager I completed on my first quick run through of the draft bill. It appears it may be voted on in toto this week. I will monitor for changes.

Stephen R. Russo
Louisiana Department of Health
Interim Secretary

FEDERAL CORONAVIRUS FUNDING BILL

- Bill will be entitled “Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020”
- \$61 million to HHS, FDA to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Coronavirus, domestically or internationally
 - Includes development of necessary medical countermeasures and vaccines, advanced manufacturing of medical products, the monitoring of medical supply chains, and related administrative activities
- \$20 million to Small Business Administration
- \$2.2 billion to HHS, CDC to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the virus, domestically and internationally
 - At least \$950 million shall be for grants to or cooperative agreements with States, localities, tribes, etc.
 - § For surveillance, epidemiology, lab capacity, infection control, mitigation, communications, and other preparedness and response activities
 - § \$475 million of these funds shall be allocated within 30 days of enactment
 - § Special provisions apply to protect Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grants provided in FY2019
 - Not less than 90% of the grant level
 - If applicable, grantee shall submit CDC spending plan within 45 days of enactment
 - At least \$300 million is allocated for global disease detection and emergency response
 - \$300 million transferred to, and merged with, Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Reserve Fund
 - Funds under this heading may be used for construction, alteration, or renovation of non-federally owned facilities to improve preparedness and response capability at the State and local level
- \$836 million for “National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases” available until 9/30/2024
 - \$10 million of this amount goes to “National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences” for worker-based training (hospital employees, first responders, and other at-risk workers)
- \$3.1 billion for “Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund” available until 9/30/2024 for development of necessary countermeasures and vaccines, prioritizing platform-based technologies with U.S.-based manufacturing capabilities, and the purchase of vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, necessary medical supplies, medical surge capacity, and related
 - Secretary of HHS shall also use these funds to purchase vaccines developed using funds under this heading to respond to an outbreak or pandemic related to Coronavirus
 - § Products may be placed in the Strategic National Stockpile
 - These funds can also be used for construction, alteration, or renovation of non-Federally owned facilities to improve preparedness and response capability at the State and local level.
 - Funds may be used for construction, alteration, or renovation of non-federally owned facilities for the production of vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics

- where the Secretary determines necessary to secure sufficient amounts of such supplies.
 - \$100 million goes to “Health Resources and Services Administration – Primary Health Care” for coronavirus grants under section 330 of the Public Health Services Act
 - \$300 million into “Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund” available until 9/30/2024 for vaccines, therapeutics, etc, under certain conditions.
- Act includes provisions for reimbursement of expenditures by HHS prior to enactment date. Provisions for reimbursement to States to carry out things described in this Act that were incurred between January 20, 2020, and date of enactment.
- NOT LATER THAN 30 days after the enactment, Secretary Azar must provide a detailed spend plan of anticipated uses of funds made available to HHS, including estimated personnel and administrative costs. Requires updates every 60 days until 9/30/2024.
- \$2 million available to OIG for oversight
- \$264 million to Department of State, Foreign Affairs until 9/30/2022, for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to virus, including maintaining consular operations, evacuation expenses, and emergency preparedness
- \$1 million additional for OIG until 9/30/2022 for oversight of activities administered by US Agency for International Development
- \$450 million for “Global Health Programs” available until 9/30/2022 for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus to be administered by US Agency for International Development.
 - At least \$200 million shall be merged with Emergency Reserve Fund
- \$300 million for “International Disaster Assistance” until expended for necessary expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to virus.
- \$250 million for “Economic Support Fund” to remain available until September 30, 2022, for expenses to prevent, prepare for and respond to virus including related economic, security, and stabilization requirements.
- \$90 million increase in “Worldwide Security Protection”
- Unless specifically mentioned, the appropriations of The Act are for current fiscal year only.
- Act provided for some waivers related to Medicare Telehealth

From: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 10:54 AM EST

To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Cindy Rives <Cindy.Rives@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>

CC: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Kimberly Humbles <Kimberly.Humbles@LA.GOV>

Subject: CONFIDENTIAL COVID 19

Folks:

I want to insure we are all on the same page in regards to the budget, both at the federal and state level. For one, we have the federal “ask” that we put together numbers for a possible federal funding opportunity. In order to do this, I believe we should focus on what we currently have and the NGA letter (which includes transportation and lodging cost). Second, on the state level, I believe we should focus on what supplemental appropriation we would need for treatment, testing, lodging, transportation, etc. This would be included in an early supplemental bill.

Stephen R. Russo
Louisiana Department of Health
Interim Secretary

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2020 7:11 PM EST
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
CC: Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: CONFIRMATION (LA) -- Governor-Only Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET

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Note: This email and its content is not for sharing or distribution outside of a governor and governor's senior staff. Each governor is permitted only one dial-in per state (no exceptions). Please read this email carefully, and please confirm receipt of email and instructions.



Alicia,

Your Governor is **CONFIRMED** to participate in the **Governors-only Briefing Call with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 2, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19.

Briefing Call Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 2, 2020
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- **Expected Length:** 30 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence, HHS Secretary Azar, and additional Senior Administration Officials
- **Governors-Only Participation:** Participation in this call is for governors only. While we are allowing governors to be joined by their relevant cabinet members and key state officials (in the room with the governor – i.e. one call-in per state), only governors will be allowed to actively participate in the briefing.

Call-In Information – ONLY ONE DIAL-IN PER STATE (NO EXCEPTIONS)

Please read carefully and do NOT share or distribute the call-in information. The call line has limited lines and we are permitting only one call-in per state. All relevant cabinet members and key state officials must join their governor in the same room to ensure you are using the access code only once per state. **If your state dials-in using the same access code as the governor, you may prevent your governor from participating in the call as lines are limited.**

- **Phone Number for Governor Dial-In Only:** 888-600-5819 (Note: this phone number will not start working until 6:00 a.m. ET on March 2)
- **Access Code for Governor Only:** 986695#
- **Testing & Troubleshooting:** Governors' staff may contact the FEMA Operations Center (540-542-2171) to conduct a test at least one hour prior to connecting to the call.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: LaToya Cantrell <latoya@latoyacantrell.com>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 4:50 PM EDT
To: Governor's Press Office <govpress@la.gov>
Subject: coronavirus: Cantrell Administration calls for swift action

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

[View this email in your browser](#)

Dear John Bel,

Coronavirus is already affecting our city, but we are responding the way New Orleanians know how: we are strong, we are determined, and we will stick together.

During this time, we have to do our best to remain calm and [observe precautions](#) to limit the spread of the virus. Our seniors and folks with underlying chronic medical conditions are at a higher risk of serious complications from coronavirus. So, we need to be smart to protect our most vulnerable people.

I have been working with my team to get boots on the ground to get ahead of this thing. From working with the Louisiana Department of Health, to ensuring no one will lose water during this time, our city is preparing for the effects, mitigating other possible complications to the situation, and controlling the spread.

Find more information about how to limit the spread of coronavirus [here](#).

Text COVIDNOLA 888777 or visit ready.nola.gov for updates on COVID-19 in our New Orleans.



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LaToya Cantrell
400 Poydras St Ste 900
New Orleans, LA 70130-3738

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From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 9:33 AM EDT
To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
Subject: coronavirus PPT
Attachment(s): "COVID-19 PowerPoint_SHW 3'11'20.pptx"

FYI – the attached is what we are presenting at SHW at 10:00 am and then later at HHW at 1:00 pm.

Thanks

Lauren Gilder Gleason, MPA

Director of Legislative & Governmental Relations

628 N. Fourth Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225.342.5274 (office)
225.964.1789 (cell)



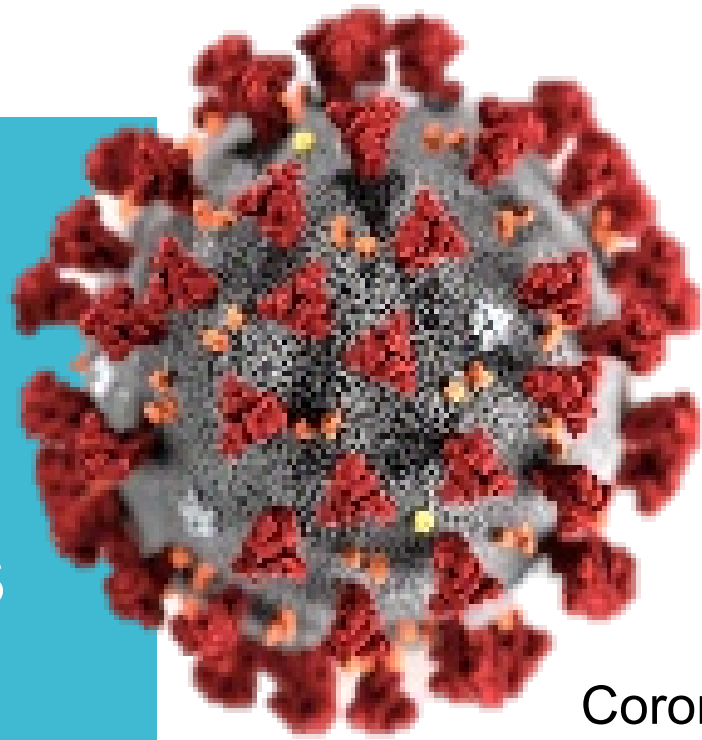


Update on COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Senate Committee on Health & Welfare

March 11, 2020

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)



Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people such as has been seen with recent outbreaks of MERS and SARS.

COVID-19

- While the CDC now expects community spread in some parts of the United States, **the immediate threat to the U.S. remains low**. We are not seeing the same level of spread other countries are seeing. That said, it is important to be prepared.
- Mirroring the federal approach, we are moving from a **containment** approach to a **mitigation** approach.
- **LDH remains in constant contact with the CDC** to ensure that we all have the latest data, are on the same page, and can adapt our plans as conditions change.

Cases in Louisiana

- As of 3/10/20, we have conducted **43 tests** of Persons Under Investigation (PUI) and, only **6 have been identified as presumptive positive** in Louisiana.
- The recent testing by the state laboratory run by LDH's Office of Public Health includes samples from people who went to their doctor or to a hospital and had symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- Because of patient privacy laws, LDH cannot provide any information that might identify these patients. This includes name, residence of patient, place of treatment, or any other potentially identifying patient information.

Disease Description

What are the symptoms?

For confirmed coronavirus infections, reported illnesses have ranged from infected people with little to no symptoms (similar to the common cold) to people being severely ill and dying. Symptoms can include:

- ⇒ Fever
- ⇒ Cough
- ⇒ Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing

Is there a vaccine or cure?

No.

- ⇒ There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for this infection at this time.
- ⇒ People infected with COVID-19 receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms.

Disease Description

How does novel coronavirus spread?

Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person to others through:

- ⇒ Respiratory droplets produced when coughing and sneezing
- ⇒ Close personal contact
- ⇒ Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

What you can do?

Anyone who recently traveled to **China, Iran, Italy, or South Korea**, who experiences fever, cough, or other acute illness should contact a health care provider as soon as possible and mention your recent travel. Please call ahead and inform the health care provider about your travel history.

Take steps to avoid spreading germs from any respiratory diseases by:

- ⇒ Covering your cough
- ⇒ Staying home if you are sick
- ⇒ Washing your hands

Key Terms

⇒ **Close contact** is defined as:

a) being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time; close contact can occur while caring for, living with, visiting, or sharing a healthcare waiting area or room with a COVID-19 case

– or –

b) having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., being coughed on)

⇒ **Self-monitoring** means people should monitor themselves for fever by taking their temperatures twice a day and remain alert for cough or difficulty breathing. If they feel feverish or develop measured fever, cough or difficulty breathing during the self-monitoring period, they should self-isolate, limit contact with others and seek advice by telephone from a healthcare provider or their local health department to determine whether medical evaluation is needed.

Key Terms

- **Quarantine** in general means the separation of a person or group of people reasonably believed to have been *exposed to a communicable disease but not yet symptomatic*, from others who have not been so exposed, to prevent the possible spread of the communicable disease.
- **Isolation** means the separation of a person or group of people known or reasonably believed to be *infected with a communicable disease and potentially infectious* from those who are not infected to prevent spread of the communicable disease. Isolation for public health purposes may be voluntary or compelled by federal, state or local public health order.

What The Public Should Do

What You Should Do:

- ⇒ **Avoid close contact with people who are sick.**
- ⇒ Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ⇒ **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- ⇒ Limit contact with others as much as possible.
- ⇒ **Stay home when you are sick.**
- ⇒ Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth to prevent spreading germs.
- ⇒ Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated.

What You Should Not Do:

- ⇒ Do not travel to China, Italy, South Korea, or Iran.
- ⇒ Do not use facemasks.
 - ⇒ CDC does not recommend the use of facemasks for the general public to prevent the spread of COVID-19
- ⇒ Do not show prejudice to people of Asian descent, because of fear of this new virus. Do not assume that someone of Asian descent is more likely to have COVID-19.

State Response Activities

- ⇒ Staying in contact with the CDC, as well as other local and national partners to share information.
- ⇒ Sending information to health care providers around the state with current recommendations for screening and testing for COVID-19, as well as to EMS providers regarding proper protection procedures.
- ⇒ Holding frequent calls with staff to remain apprised of the latest updates.
- ⇒ Sharing messaging with partners and the public as it becomes available.
- ⇒ **This is an evolving situation, so information and recommendations are likely to change. We will continue to learn and share new information as it is available.**

State Response Activities

- February 28th – Coronavirus Task Force formed
- March 2nd – Governor held UCG
- Guidance
 - ☁️ Long term care facilities
 - ☁️ Hospitals
 - ☁️ Businesses
 - ☁️ Schools
 - ☁️ Faith based & other community groups

Risk Level	Geographic (Travel-associated) Exposures*	Exposures Identified through Contact Investigation
<p>High</p>	<p>Travel from Hubei Province, China</p>	<p>Living in the same household as, being an intimate partner of, or providing care in a non-healthcare setting (such as a home) for a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection <i>without using recommended precautions</i> for <u>home care</u> and <u>home isolation</u></p>
<p>Medium (assumes no exposures in the high-risk category)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel from mainland China outside Hubei Province or Iran • Travel from a country with widespread sustained transmission, other than China or Iran • Travel from a country with sustained community transmission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊗ Close contact with a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 ⊗ On an aircraft, being seated within 6 feet (two meters) of a traveler with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection; this distance correlates approximately with 2 seats in each direction ⊗ Living in the same household as, an intimate partner of, or caring for a person in a nonhealthcare setting (such as a home) to a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection <i>while consistently using recommended precautions</i> for <u>home care</u> and <u>home isolation</u>
<p>Low (assumes no exposures in the high-risk category)</p>	<p>Travel from any other country</p>	<p>Being in the same indoor environment (e.g., a classroom, a hospital waiting room) as a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time but not meeting the definition of close contact</p>
<p>No identifiable risk</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Interactions with a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection that do not meet any of the high-, medium- or low-risk conditions above, such as walking by the person or being briefly in the same room.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000103</p>

Testing

Who should be tested?

- ⇒ If you develop a fever and symptoms of respiratory illness, such as cough or shortness of breath, within 14 days after travel from China, Italy, Iran, South Korea, and Japan.
- ⇒ If you exhibit symptoms and care for someone with respiratory illness who tests negative for flu or other illnesses.
- ⇒ Call ahead to your healthcare provider and mention your recent travel or close contact.
- ⇒ As of March 10, 2020, we have completed 43 tests, 6 of which have turned out positive.
- ⇒ We are awaiting testing from the CDC to confirm each result.
- ⇒ CDC does not recommend testing, symptom monitoring, or special management for people exposed to *asymptomatic people with potential exposures* to SARS-CoV-2 (such as in a household), i.e., “contacts of contacts;” **these people are not considered exposed.**

Coronavirus Resources

OPH Coronavirus Hotline:

1-855-523-2652

The number is open 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday - Friday

Louisiana Department of Health:

<http://ldh.la.gov/coronavirus>

CDC Coronavirus Website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 4:27 PM EDT
To: Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
CC: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Subject: COVID - HIGH PRIORITY - LDH Provider Notice - Restrictions on Visitation
Attachment(s): "Scanned from a Xerox Multifunction Printer.pdf"

Hi all:

Please see the attached Notice on Restrictions on Visitation for all Facilities that receive visitors.

1. Health Standards, will blast fax to all licensed providers, beginning in about 15 minutes unless you advise otherwise
2. BMAC will post on our website and send out news release (forthcoming for comms team approval)
3. We will notify LNHA, LHA, and other relevant associations

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886



A.2. However, this prohibition on non-essential visitors is subject to the following exception:

(a) A Visitor who does not meet the definition of a Restricted Person [see definition in Paragraph A.3 below] may be allowed to enter the facility as a non-essential visitor, subject to the facility's approval, in situations involving a resident/client/patient who is on end-of-life care.

A.3. A Restricted Person is defined as a person who meets any one or more of the following criteria:

(a) Has signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat (as assessed by the facility);

(b) In the last 14 days, has had contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, or is under investigation for COVID-19, or has been or is currently ill with respiratory illness;

(c) Has been on international travel within the last 14 days to countries with sustained community transmission. For updated information on affected countries, please see: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

(d) Is residing in a community where community-based spread of COVID-19 is occurring.

A.4. A facility shall immediately implement a policy and procedure to offer alternative means of communication for residents/clients/patients and their families and friends. Alternative means of communication may include virtual visitations and communications (telephone access, Skype, Face Time, other video-communications, etc.). Facility should consider assigning staff as primary contact for families for inbound calls, and should consider conducting regular outbound calls to keep families up to date.

A.5. A Facility shall immediately notify responsible parties and family members of prohibitions on visitation and the alternative means of communication for residents/clients.

B. ELECTIVE PROCEDURES

B.1 The Department recommends that all facilities consider limiting and restricting all elective or voluntary medical procedures in their facilities, for thirty (30) days from the date of this Notice.

End of Memo

From: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 12:47 PM EST

To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Syer, Vaughan (OS/IEA) (CTR) <Vaughan.Syer@hhs.gov>

Subject: COVID-19 CALL with Secretary Azar

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Governor –

The HHS Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs invites you to a 30 minute Governor-only call **TODAY**, February 20, 2020, with Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, Homeland Security Acting Deputy Secretary Ken Cuccinelli, CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield, NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci, and other HHS officials for an update on the Administration’s COVID-19 response. Given the extensive number of recent actions, members of President’s Coronavirus Task Force would like to update you on current initiatives and answer questions that you may have.

This invite is primarily for the Governor. We encourage that any Governor be joined by the respective Governor’s State Health Officer, Homeland Security Advisor, and/or the State Emergency Manager.

We strongly encourage your Governor to try to participate. Only the individuals identified above are invited to join this call.

Please note: this invite is NOT transferrable. Any exception to the above policy is unlikely, and confirmation of a potential surrogate will be confirmed tomorrow after 1 pm at the earliest, though not guaranteed.

See below for call-in details.

Date: Thursday, February 20, 2020

Time: 2:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Phone Line: 888-282-0368

Passcode: 3433934

Please don’t hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
202-853-0582

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 8:22 AM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Recent Actions & Resources

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State Leader and Staff,

Below you will find a summary of recent Federal actions, updated resources, and readout of recent briefing calls. As a reminder, the best resource for up-to-date information and guidance is www.coronavirus.gov.

Ø **Helpful Guidance for Your State Health Officer & State Health Lab:** FAQs on Diagnostic Testing (more [here](#))



Presidential Proclamation to Protect the Homeland from Travel-Related Coronavirus Spread

On Thursday, March 12, President Donald J. Trump signed a [Presidential Proclamation](#), which suspends the entry of most foreign nationals who have been in certain European countries at any point during the 14 days prior to their scheduled arrival to the United States. These countries, known as the Schengen Area, include: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. *This does not apply to legal permanent residents, (generally) immediate family members of U.S. citizens, and other individuals who are identified in the proclamation.*

- DHS Acting Secretary Wolf's Statement on Presidential Proclamation to Protect the Homeland from Travel-Related Coronavirus Spread ([more here](#))
- Fact Sheet – President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond to the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans ([more here](#))

Framework Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts.

- A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission ([more here](#); 10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)
- CDC mitigation strategies for [Santa Clara](#) (CA), [Seattle](#) (WA), and [New Rochelle](#) (NY)

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)

- The Department of Health and Human Services is committed to providing as much information as possible to prepare communities for response to COVID-19. The Department, through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and other agencies, continuously provide guidance to healthcare providers, laboratories, communities, and state and local officials for dealing with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. The most up-to-date information can be found at www.coronavirus.gov.
- Wednesday, March 12, CDC **announced** the imminent release of almost \$600 million to support state and local authorities respond to the COVID-19 outbreak. Full funding amounts are [here](#).
- CDC released their “[Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#).” This is a guide for communities describing possible coronavirus transmission. Community mitigation strategies are often the most available interventions to help slow the transmission of COVID-19 in communities.
- The CDC has been actively working to address the need for testing across the country. You can find more information about testing [here](#). We encourage review of the [Updated Guidance on Evaluating and Testing Persons for Coronavirus Disease 2019](#), as well as the recently updated the [FAQ website for laboratories](#) to determine best practices for testing.
- The U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps has deployed hundreds of officers to help with this response. As America’s Health Responders, the Commissioned Corps is currently very involved in assisting the CDC with airport screenings, deploying staff to support hospitals, among other important missions. Find out more about Commissioned Corps activities [here](#).
- Part of preparedness includes a robust blood supply. The current situation around COVID-19 heightens the need for a ready blood supply, please encourage your health community members to keep their appointments to donate blood.
- CDC released updated [guidance](#) on infection prevention and control recommendations for healthcare workers. Healthcare workers are fighting this outbreak on the front lines, and this guidance is intended to provide assistance to healthcare settings that are handling suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. This guidance is applicable to all U.S. healthcare settings.

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

- The Small Business Administration will work directly with state Governors to provide targeted, low-interest loans to small businesses and non-profits that have been severely impacted by the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan program provides small businesses with working capital loans of up to \$2 million that can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing.
- The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental expanded the disaster definition for the Small Business Administration’s Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) to include COVID-19. Economic Injury Disaster Loans are SBA loans that are available to eligible Small Businesses, Small agricultural cooperatives, and most non-profits that have experienced substantial economic injury as a result of a disaster.
 - EIDLs are available in areas that are declared a disaster area by the SBA.
 - There has to be an SBA Disaster Declaration in an area for EIDL loans to be made available, which originates from a request made by the Governor.
 - To assist in the efforts, the SBA engages with States’ Emergency Response Teams to help them comply with the requirements before a request is made.
- EIDL Loan Details
 - Entities that can apply for EIDL loans are eligible Small Businesses, Small agricultural cooperatives, and most private nonprofit organizations.
 - EIDL Loans are up to \$2million and have terms as long as 30 years.
- State and local officials who have been contacted by Small Businesses that may have been affected should share that information with their Governor or the State’s Emergency Response Officials. More information on SBA’s disaster loans, including eligibility and how to apply for loans, can be found here: www.SBA.gov/disaster

U.S. Department of Education (DoED)

- The Department of Education has established a dedicated Coronavirus [webpage](#), which includes resources for institutions of higher education and for K-12.
 - The website includes [guidance](#) for students at institutions of higher education, and covers Coronavirus-related scenarios that could impact students who are enrolled in study abroad programs, students who meet full-time requirements but fall below 12 credit hours, students who are quarantined and miss class, campuses that have temporarily stopped offering ground-based classes to prevent the spread of Coronavirus, and foreign schools that serve Americans who receive Federal financial aid. Also see a [letter from the Office for Civil Rights](#) that addresses potential discrimination associated with coronavirus.
- The Department is working on additional information for families and communities including:
 - Information regarding certain flexibilities under the Every Student Succeeds Act, or “ESSA;”
 - Information regarding services to children with disabilities;
 - A fact sheet from our Office for Civil Rights on the risk of Coronavirus in schools while protecting the civil rights of students; and
 - Information on the Family Education Records Privacy Act, or “FERPA,” as it pertains to K-12 and higher education students.
- The Department will continue to update its website, ed.gov/coronavirus. Please direct education related questions to COVID-19@ed.gov.

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

- The U.S. Department of Transportation, in its important supporting role, has and will continue to coordinate with transportation stakeholders, foreign counterparts and other federal agencies to manage the risk in the United States.
- DOT continues to ensure: an active air bridge remains in place for the safe return of Americans from affected areas; airlines are funneling passenger flights to one of the eleven designated U.S. airports equipped to health-screen Americans returning from affected areas; continued air and sea cargo traffic between the US and China; health protocols are established to protect

the crews of aircraft continuing to fly between the US and foreign locations; and, dissemination of health messages about the virus, for airlines to use to inform their passengers.

- The U.S. government's travel restrictions and advisories have been a remarkably effective 'first layer' of containment. These travel requirements delayed the arrival of the virus to the United States, giving the nation precious time to prepare further measures, and plan for mitigation. This achievement took the cooperation of nearly 200 commercial airlines, a like number of overseas airports, and the Civil Aviation Authority of China.
- External Stakeholder outreach is being actively conducted throughout the modes of transportation in DOT. DOT has already hosted calls with stakeholders for the Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Transit Authority, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and others. Additional calls are scheduled for outreach to additional stakeholders in all surface transportation, maritime, and labor.

U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) developed COVID-19 [planning guidance](#) for employers to implement engineering, administrative, and work practice controls and personal protective equipment (PPE). The guidance is intended for planning purposes – employers and workers should use the planning guidance to help identify risk levels in workplace settings and to determine any appropriate control measures to implement.
- The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), an independent agency that serves as the chief human resources agency and personnel policy manager for the Federal Government, issued [guidance](#) for Federal Agencies regarding COVID-19 and human resources policies.
- DOL announced new guidance outlining flexibilities that States have in administering their unemployment (UI) programs to assist Americans affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Under the guidance, federal law.

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)

- The health and well-being of our country's most vulnerable citizens is Secretary Ben Carson's highest priority. At the direction of Secretary Carson senior HUD, officials have developed an Infectious Disease Toolkit for Continuum of Care homeless shelters (CoC). This includes specific documents addressing preparedness in shelters and encampment settings. More [here](#).
- HUD has sent communication to CoC and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) grantees, highlighting the importance of infectious disease preparedness and linking to CDC and Healthcare for the Homeless resources: [Infectious Disease Preparedness Among Homeless Assistance Providers](#)
- HUD is coordinating with the CDC, Healthcare for the Homeless, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) on messaging and cross-promoting resource materials. This will continue on an ongoing basis. Also, the Department is reaching out to Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for future coordination.
- HUD has plenty of resources for your communities including:
 - Communities can use their unspent Emergency Solutions Grants and Continuum of Care Program funds to help address needs related to coronavirus. Additionally, a portion of CDBG funds are also available for public services, including health care.
 - Technical Assistance is available for ESG and CoC Program recipients if requested. Additionally, communities that want to amend their CDBG plans, can reach out to their CPD representative if they need assistance.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue [announced proactive flexibilities](#) to allow meal service during school closures to minimize potential exposure to the coronavirus. During an unexpected school closure, schools can leverage their participation in one of USDA's summer meal programs to provide meals at no cost to students. Under normal circumstances, those meals must be served in a group setting. However, in a public health emergency, the law allows USDA the authority to waive the group setting meal requirement, which is vital during a social distancing situation.
- USDA intends to use all available program flexibilities and contingencies to serve program participants across our 15 nutrition programs. USDA has already begun to issue waivers to ease program operations and protect the health of participants. USDA is receiving requests for waivers on an ongoing basis. As of today, USDA has been asked to waive congregate feeding requirements in Washington, California, Maryland, Alaska, Utah, Pennsylvania, Wyoming, Maine, Kansas, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Virginia and USDA has granted those requests.
- For more information about the coronavirus response across USDA, please visit : www.usda.gov/coronavirus.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- While the overall risk to the American public remains low, actions by DHS and the administration are decreasing the strain on public health officials by screening incoming travelers, expediting the processing of U.S. citizens returning from China, and ensuring resources are focused on the health and safety of the American people. It is important to recognize, that while there is a significant focus on containing and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, all departments and agencies of DHS are continuing to perform their regular duties with no impact on their mission.
- DHS is working to recognize, detect, and assist individuals attempting to enter the U.S. through our, airports, land ports, or waterways who may be carrying the virus: Cruise Lines International Association, CDC, USCG, and CBP. DHS is working with the Department of State, HHS, and the senior public health leadership with the Government of Mexico to prepare for any COVID-19 cases identified along the South West Border. This effort includes coordination with state, and local Public Health Officials to develop reporting and response courses of action.
- FEMA has rostered 56 four-person Incident Management Assistance Teams.
- The Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, which contains the National Biosurveillance Integration Center and the Chief Medical Officer, has maintained close coordination with our Components and U.S. Government partners regarding the status of the outbreak and associated U.S. Government response actions.

Recent Announcements

On Thursday, March 12, SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza issued the following statement: “The President took bold, decisive action to make our 30 million small businesses more resilient to Coronavirus-related economic disruptions. Small businesses are vital economic engines in every community and state, and they have helped make our economy the strongest in the world. Our Agency will work directly with state Governors to provide targeted, low-interest disaster recovery loans to small businesses that have been severely impacted by the situation. Additionally, the SBA continues to assist small businesses with counseling and navigating their own preparedness plans through our network of 68 District Offices and numerous Resource Partners located around the country. The SBA will continue to provide every small business with the most effective and customer-focused response possible during these times of uncertainty.” SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loans offer up to \$2 million in assistance for a small business. These loans can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing. More information can be found [here](#).

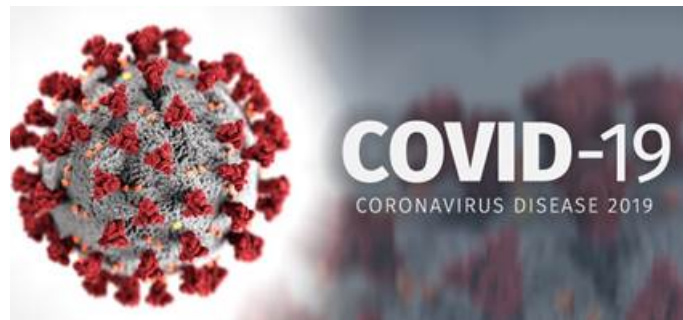
CDC to Award Over \$560 Million to State & Local Jurisdictions in Support of COVID-19 Response

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing another upcoming action by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide resources to state and local jurisdictions in support of our nation's response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The \$8.3 billion dollar Supplemental passed by Congress included [statutory language](#) which prescribed the exact formula for disbursing the money: states will receive 90% of their [2019 CDC PHEP grants](#). This marks the first tranche of funding to states from the \$8.3 billion supplemental. Your state health officers are receiving a letter today from CDC outlining what is needed to receive the funding, essentially they need to submit a spend plan and they will receive guidance on what that spend plan should contain. More [here](#).

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Nursing Home Guidance

As you know, nursing homes and their residents are vulnerable populations for COVID-19. This week, CMS released updated guidance for infection control and prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes which can be found [here](#) (3/9). The Press Release can be found [here](#) and all CMS guidance related to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information



Background

Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Since the beginning of the outbreak, President Trump has taken unprecedented steps – including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy – to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response ([President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond To the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans](#)). The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk to the average American remains low. All agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information

- The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website ([here](#))
- HHS/CDC Community Framework for Mitigation ([here](#))
- Guidance for families, businesses, schools and others ([here](#)).
- The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live ([here](#))
- You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

What You Need To Know

- What You Should Know - How COVID-19 Spreads, Symptoms, etc. ([here](#))
- Situation Summary ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information

Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))
- U.S. Food & Drug Administration ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- U.S. Election Assistance Commission ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips

- Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.
- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Proactively sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information such as HHS/CDC [guidance for families, businesses, and schools](#).
- Reviewing Federal guidance such as the HHS/CDC [Community Mitigation Framework](#).
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

Recent Task Force Actions

Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- Remarks by President Trump in Address to the Nation (March 11) ([transcript/video](#))
- Remarks by President Trump and Vice President Pence at a Coronavirus Briefing with Health Insurers (March 10) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness (March 9) ([readout](#))
- Remarks by Vice President Pence in a Coronavirus Briefing with Cruise Line Executives and Port Directors (March 7) ([transcript](#))
- Remarks by President Trump After Tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (March 5) ([transcript](#))
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 8:22 AM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Recent Actions & Resources

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State Leader and Staff,

Below you will find a summary of recent Federal actions, updated resources, and readout of recent briefing calls. As a reminder, the best resource for up-to-date information and guidance is www.coronavirus.gov.

Ø **Helpful Guidance for Your State Health Officer & State Health Lab:** FAQs on Diagnostic Testing (more [here](#))



Presidential Proclamation to Protect the Homeland from Travel-Related Coronavirus Spread

On Thursday, March 12, President Donald J. Trump signed a [Presidential Proclamation](#), which suspends the entry of most foreign nationals who have been in certain European countries at any point during the 14 days prior to their scheduled arrival to the United States. These countries, known as the Schengen Area, include: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. *This does not apply to legal permanent residents, (generally) immediate family members of U.S. citizens, and other individuals who are identified in the proclamation.*

- DHS Acting Secretary Wolf's Statement on Presidential Proclamation to Protect the Homeland from Travel-Related Coronavirus Spread ([more here](#))
- Fact Sheet – President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond to the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans ([more here](#))

Framework Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts.

- A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission ([more here](#); 10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)
- CDC mitigation strategies for [Santa Clara](#) (CA), [Seattle](#) (WA), and [New Rochelle](#) (NY)

Thanks,
Nic

--
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U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)

- The Department of Health and Human Services is committed to providing as much information as possible to prepare communities for response to COVID-19. The Department, through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and other agencies, continuously provide guidance to healthcare providers, laboratories, communities, and state and local officials for dealing with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. The most up-to-date information can be found at www.coronavirus.gov.
- Wednesday, March 12, CDC **announced** the imminent release of almost \$600 million to support state and local authorities respond to the COVID-19 outbreak. Full funding amounts are [here](#).
- CDC released their “[Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#).” This is a guide for communities describing possible coronavirus transmission. Community mitigation strategies are often the most available interventions to help slow the transmission of COVID-19 in communities.
- The CDC has been actively working to address the need for testing across the country. You can find more information about testing [here](#). We encourage review of the [Updated Guidance on Evaluating and Testing Persons for Coronavirus Disease 2019](#), as well as the recently updated the [FAQ website for laboratories](#) to determine best practices for testing.
- The U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps has deployed hundreds of officers to help with this response. As America’s Health Responders, the Commissioned Corps is currently very involved in assisting the CDC with airport screenings, deploying staff to support hospitals, among other important missions. Find out more about Commissioned Corps activities [here](#).
- Part of preparedness includes a robust blood supply. The current situation around COVID-19 heightens the need for a ready blood supply, please encourage your health community members to keep their appointments to donate blood.
- CDC released updated [guidance](#) on infection prevention and control recommendations for healthcare workers. Healthcare workers are fighting this outbreak on the front lines, and this guidance is intended to provide assistance to healthcare settings that are handling suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. This guidance is applicable to all U.S. healthcare settings.

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

- The Small Business Administration will work directly with state Governors to provide targeted, low-interest loans to small businesses and non-profits that have been severely impacted by the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan program provides small businesses with working capital loans of up to \$2 million that can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing.
- The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental expanded the disaster definition for the Small Business Administration’s Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) to include COVID-19. Economic Injury Disaster Loans are SBA loans that are available to eligible Small Businesses, Small agricultural cooperatives, and most non-profits that have experienced substantial economic injury as a result of a disaster.
 - EIDLs are available in areas that are declared a disaster area by the SBA.
 - There has to be an SBA Disaster Declaration in an area for EIDL loans to be made available, which originates from a request made by the Governor.
 - To assist in the efforts, the SBA engages with States’ Emergency Response Teams to help them comply with the requirements before a request is made.
- EIDL Loan Details
 - Entities that can apply for EIDL loans are eligible Small Businesses, Small agricultural cooperatives, and most private nonprofit organizations.
 - EIDL Loans are up to \$2million and have terms as long as 30 years.
- State and local officials who have been contacted by Small Businesses that may have been affected should share that information with their Governor or the State’s Emergency Response Officials. More information on SBA’s disaster loans, including eligibility and how to apply for loans, can be found here: www.SBA.gov/disaster

U.S. Department of Education (DoED)

- The Department of Education has established a dedicated Coronavirus [webpage](#), which includes resources for institutions of higher education and for K-12.
 - The website includes [guidance](#) for students at institutions of higher education, and covers Coronavirus-related scenarios that could impact students who are enrolled in study abroad programs, students who meet full-time requirements but fall below 12 credit hours, students who are quarantined and miss class, campuses that have temporarily stopped offering ground-based classes to prevent the spread of Coronavirus, and foreign schools that serve Americans who receive Federal financial aid. Also see a [letter from the Office for Civil Rights](#) that addresses potential discrimination associated with coronavirus.
- The Department is working on additional information for families and communities including:
 - Information regarding certain flexibilities under the Every Student Succeeds Act, or “ESSA;”
 - Information regarding services to children with disabilities;
 - A fact sheet from our Office for Civil Rights on the risk of Coronavirus in schools while protecting the civil rights of students; and
 - Information on the Family Education Records Privacy Act, or “FERPA,” as it pertains to K-12 and higher education students.
- The Department will continue to update its website, ed.gov/coronavirus. Please direct education related questions to COVID-19@ed.gov.

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

- The U.S. Department of Transportation, in its important supporting role, has and will continue to coordinate with transportation stakeholders, foreign counterparts and other federal agencies to manage the risk in the United States.
- DOT continues to ensure: an active air bridge remains in place for the safe return of Americans from affected areas; airlines are funneling passenger flights to one of the eleven designated U.S. airports equipped to health-screen Americans returning from affected areas; continued air and sea cargo traffic between the US and China; health protocols are established to protect

the crews of aircraft continuing to fly between the US and foreign locations; and, dissemination of health messages about the virus, for airlines to use to inform their passengers.

- The U.S. government's travel restrictions and advisories have been a remarkably effective 'first layer' of containment. These travel requirements delayed the arrival of the virus to the United States, giving the nation precious time to prepare further measures, and plan for mitigation. This achievement took the cooperation of nearly 200 commercial airlines, a like number of overseas airports, and the Civil Aviation Authority of China.
- External Stakeholder outreach is being actively conducted throughout the modes of transportation in DOT. DOT has already hosted calls with stakeholders for the Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Transit Authority, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and others. Additional calls are scheduled for outreach to additional stakeholders in all surface transportation, maritime, and labor.

U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) developed COVID-19 [planning guidance](#) for employers to implement engineering, administrative, and work practice controls and personal protective equipment (PPE). The guidance is intended for planning purposes – employers and workers should use the planning guidance to help identify risk levels in workplace settings and to determine any appropriate control measures to implement.
- The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), an independent agency that serves as the chief human resources agency and personnel policy manager for the Federal Government, issued [guidance](#) for Federal Agencies regarding COVID-19 and human resources policies.
- DOL announced new guidance outlining flexibilities that States have in administering their unemployment (UI) programs to assist Americans affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Under the guidance, federal law.

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)

- The health and well-being of our country's most vulnerable citizens is Secretary Ben Carson's highest priority. At the direction of Secretary Carson senior HUD, officials have developed an Infectious Disease Toolkit for Continuum of Care homeless shelters (CoC). This includes specific documents addressing preparedness in shelters and encampment settings. More [here](#).
- HUD has sent communication to CoC and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) grantees, highlighting the importance of infectious disease preparedness and linking to CDC and Healthcare for the Homeless resources: [Infectious Disease Preparedness Among Homeless Assistance Providers](#)
- HUD is coordinating with the CDC, Healthcare for the Homeless, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) on messaging and cross-promoting resource materials. This will continue on an ongoing basis. Also, the Department is reaching out to Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for future coordination.
- HUD has plenty of resources for your communities including:
 - Communities can use their unspent Emergency Solutions Grants and Continuum of Care Program funds to help address needs related to coronavirus. Additionally, a portion of CDBG funds are also available for public services, including health care.
 - Technical Assistance is available for ESG and CoC Program recipients if requested. Additionally, communities that want to amend their CDBG plans, can reach out to their CPD representative if they need assistance.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue [announced proactive flexibilities](#) to allow meal service during school closures to minimize potential exposure to the coronavirus. During an unexpected school closure, schools can leverage their participation in one of USDA's summer meal programs to provide meals at no cost to students. Under normal circumstances, those meals must be served in a group setting. However, in a public health emergency, the law allows USDA the authority to waive the group setting meal requirement, which is vital during a social distancing situation.
- USDA intends to use all available program flexibilities and contingencies to serve program participants across our 15 nutrition programs. USDA has already begun to issue waivers to ease program operations and protect the health of participants. USDA is receiving requests for waivers on an ongoing basis. As of today, USDA has been asked to waive congregate feeding requirements in Washington, California, Maryland, Alaska, Utah, Pennsylvania, Wyoming, Maine, Kansas, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Virginia and USDA has granted those requests.
- For more information about the coronavirus response across USDA, please visit : www.usda.gov/coronavirus.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- While the overall risk to the American public remains low, actions by DHS and the administration are decreasing the strain on public health officials by screening incoming travelers, expediting the processing of U.S. citizens returning from China, and ensuring resources are focused on the health and safety of the American people. It is important to recognize, that while there is a significant focus on containing and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, all departments and agencies of DHS are continuing to perform their regular duties with no impact on their mission.
- DHS is working to recognize, detect, and assist individuals attempting to enter the U.S. through our, airports, land ports, or waterways who may be carrying the virus: Cruise Lines International Association, CDC, USCG, and CBP. DHS is working with the Department of State, HHS, and the senior public health leadership with the Government of Mexico to prepare for any COVID-19 cases identified along the South West Border. This effort includes coordination with state, and local Public Health Officials to develop reporting and response courses of action.
- FEMA has rostered 56 four-person Incident Management Assistance Teams.
- The Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, which contains the National Biosurveillance Integration Center and the Chief Medical Officer, has maintained close coordination with our Components and U.S. Government partners regarding the status of the outbreak and associated U.S. Government response actions.

Recent Announcements

On Thursday, March 12, SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza issued the following statement: “The President took bold, decisive action to make our 30 million small businesses more resilient to Coronavirus-related economic disruptions. Small businesses are vital economic engines in every community and state, and they have helped make our economy the strongest in the world. Our Agency will work directly with state Governors to provide targeted, low-interest disaster recovery loans to small businesses that have been severely impacted by the situation. Additionally, the SBA continues to assist small businesses with counseling and navigating their own preparedness plans through our network of 68 District Offices and numerous Resource Partners located around the country. The SBA will continue to provide every small business with the most effective and customer-focused response possible during these times of uncertainty.” SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loans offer up to \$2 million in assistance for a small business. These loans can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing. More information can be found [here](#).

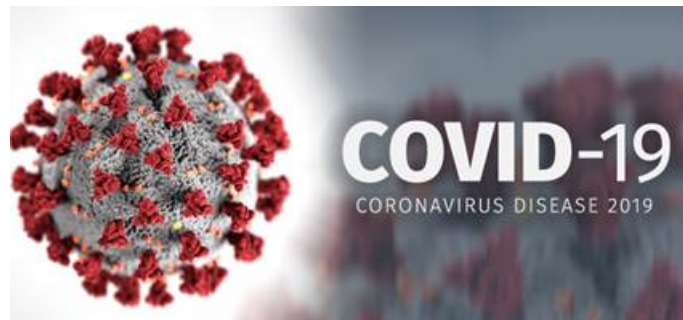
CDC to Award Over \$560 Million to State & Local Jurisdictions in Support of COVID-19 Response

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing another upcoming action by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide resources to state and local jurisdictions in support of our nation's response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The \$8.3 billion dollar Supplemental passed by Congress included [statutory language](#) which prescribed the exact formula for disbursing the money: states will receive 90% of their [2019 CDC PHEP grants](#). This marks the first tranche of funding to states from the \$8.3 billion supplemental. Your state health officers are receiving a letter today from CDC outlining what is needed to receive the funding, essentially they need to submit a spend plan and they will receive guidance on what that spend plan should contain. More [here](#).

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Nursing Home Guidance

As you know, nursing homes and their residents are vulnerable populations for COVID-19. This week, CMS released updated guidance for infection control and prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes which can be found [here](#) (3/9). The Press Release can be found [here](#) and all CMS guidance related to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information



Background

Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Since the beginning of the outbreak, President Trump has taken unprecedented steps – including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy – to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response ([President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond To the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans](#)). The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk to the average American remains low. All agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information

- The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website ([here](#))
- HHS/CDC Community Framework for Mitigation ([here](#))
- Guidance for families, businesses, schools and others ([here](#)).
- The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live ([here](#))
- You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

What You Need To Know

- What You Should Know - How COVID-19 Spreads, Symptoms, etc. ([here](#))
- Situation Summary ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information

Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))
- U.S. Food & Drug Administration ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- U.S. Election Assistance Commission ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittany@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips

- Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.
- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Proactively sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information such as HHS/CDC [guidance for families, businesses, and schools](#).
- Reviewing Federal guidance such as the HHS/CDC [Community Mitigation Framework](#).
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

Recent Task Force Actions

Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- Remarks by President Trump in Address to the Nation (March 11) ([transcript/video](#))
- Remarks by President Trump and Vice President Pence at a Coronavirus Briefing with Health Insurers (March 10) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness (March 9) ([readout](#))
- Remarks by Vice President Pence in a Coronavirus Briefing with Cruise Line Executives and Port Directors (March 7) ([transcript](#))
- Remarks by President Trump After Tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (March 5) ([transcript](#))
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2020 5:07 PM EDT
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CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Recent Actions & Resources

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State and Local Leaders,

President Donald J. Trump is leveraging the full power of the Federal Government to protect the health and safety of the American people. The President's emergency declaration will give healthcare providers on the front lines of this pandemic the flexibility they need to respond. The Trump Administration is working to rapidly expand coronavirus testing across the nation and make sure Americans who need them have access. Below you will find additional information. You can find the latest information on COVID-19 [HERE](#).

Recent Actions & Updates

President Donald J. Trump Directs FEMA Support Under Emergency Declaration for COVID-19

- [Presidential Proclamation Here](#)
- [Letter from President Donald J. Trump on Emergency Determination Under the Stafford Act](#) to U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Department of Treasury, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, and Federal Emergency Management Agency. The letter includes specific recommendation to governors including:
 - “In order to meet the challenges caused by this emergency pandemic, **I have encouraged all State and local governments to activate their Emergency Operations Centers and to review their emergency preparedness plans.** In the meantime, I expect FEMA to continue to review all ways in which it can provide assistance to States consistent with the authorities provided to it by this letter and by statute.”
 - “**I encourage all governors and tribal leaders to consider requesting Federal assistance under this provision of the Stafford Act, pursuant to the statutory criteria.** I stand ready to expeditiously consider any such request.”
- [President Donald J. Trump Has Mobilized the Full Resources of the Federal Government to Respond to the Coronavirus](#)
- [FEMA Fact Sheet](#)

Memorandum on Expanding State-Approved Diagnostic Tests

- [Full Memorandum Here](#)
- [Secretary Azar Designates Admiral Giroir to Coordinate COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing Efforts](#)
- The FDA is working to help significantly speed up testing and expand accessibility for Americans. The FDA [issued](#) emergency approval for a new commercial coronavirus test by Roche that will help greatly expand testing nationwide. FDA: “The FDA authorized the Roche cobas SARS-CoV-2 Test, the third Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) granted for a diagnostic test during the COVID-19 outbreak. Laboratories can immediately run tests on Roche's high-volume platform, which will greatly increase national testing capacity.”
- [FDA gives flexibility to New York State Department of Health, FDA issues Emergency Use Authorization Diagnostic](#)

Framework Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and

death, while minimizing social and economic impacts.

- A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission ([more here](#); 10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities).
- CDC mitigation strategies for [Santa Clara](#) (CA), [Seattle](#) (WA), [New Rochelle](#) (NY), [Florida](#), and [Massachusetts](#).

Other Actions & Updates

- [HHS Funds Development of COVID-19 Diagnostic Tests](#)

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced critical new measures designed to keep America's nursing home residents safe from COVID-19 taking the form of a [memorandum](#) and is based on the [newest recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#).

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) - Emergency Declaration- Hours of Service Relief:

FMCSA has issued an Emergency Declaration covering all 50 states and the District of Columbia to provide hours of service relief to drivers transporting emergency relief. Specifically, the declaration provides for regulatory relief for commercial motor vehicle operations providing direct assistance supporting emergency relief efforts, and will cover the shipment of: medical supplies and equipment related to the testing, diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19; supplies and equipment, including masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, soap and disinfectants, necessary for healthcare worker, patient and community safety, sanitation, and prevention of COVID-19 spread in communities; food for emergency restocking of stores; equipment, supplies and persons necessary for establishment and management of temporary housing and quarantine facilities related to COVID-19; persons designated by Federal, State or local authorities for transport for medical, isolation or quarantine purposes; and personnel to provide medical or other emergency services. The declaration does not cover routine commercial deliveries, or transportation of mixed loads of essential supplies and/or persons and goods or persons not related to emergency needs. Effective immediately, the declaration will remain in effect for the duration of the emergency or until 11:59 P.M. (ET), April 11, 2020, whichever occurs sooner.

[U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development \(HUD\) Quick Guide to CDBG Eligible Activities to Support Infectious Disease Response](#)



Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Nic

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Nicholas D. Pottebaum

Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director

White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000121

Fact Sheet on H.R. 6021 – Families First Coronavirus Response Act

Following extensive negotiations with Congress, President Trump announced his support for legislation to help American workers and families impacted by the coronavirus.

- The President is committed to ensuring American workers and families have the support they need, and this legislation follows through on that.
- The Administration engaged in extensive discussions with Congress to secure key provisions and changes in language.
- As a result of the Administration's efforts, substantial improvements were made from the initial bill.

This delivers on President Trump's plan to help American workers and their families who have been harmed by the coronavirus outbreak.

- The legislation establishes tax credits to provide paid sick and family medical leave for employment interruptions related to coronavirus.
 - This will provide support for employees with coronavirus, under quarantine, caring for someone affected, or with children whose school has closed.
- Eligible employers will receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for any paid leave they provide under this program.
- Importantly, employees will be able to receive the paid leave directly from their employer, rather than an inefficient government run program.
 - We are partnering with businesses, not imposing an unfunded mandate on them.
- The legislation also incentivizes states to ease access to unemployment benefits, assisting Americans who may be unemployed due to the impact of the virus.
- In order to help families and the most vulnerable, the bill provides funding and flexibility for emergency nutritional aid for senior citizens, women, children, and low-income families.

To protect the health of our citizens, the legislation provides free coronavirus testing for all Americans who need it.

- This includes free testing through commercial insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, Indian Health Service, and TRI-CARE.
- Every American who needs a test, should be able to get a test regardless of their financial circumstances.

Fact Sheet – President Donald J. Trump Has Mobilized the Full Resources of the Federal Government to Respond to the Coronavirus

MOBILIZING ALL FEDERAL RESOURCES: President Donald J. Trump is leveraging the full power of the Federal Government to protect the health and safety of the American people.

- President Trump is exercising statutory authorities to declare a national emergency in response to the coronavirus.
- The unprecedented action the President is taking invites States, territories, and tribes to access over \$42 billion in existing funding to combat the coronavirus.
 - The Administration has taken decisive action to ensure State, local, and tribal leaders have the resources they need to provide protective measures for their communities.
 - The Small Business Administration also has authority and available funding to make over \$7 billion in loans to qualifying small businesses to assist economic recovery.
- President Trump is directing further actions across his Administration in response to the coronavirus.
 - The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has announced guidance to limit medically unnecessary visits to nursing homes to protect vulnerable elderly Americans
 - The Secretary of the Education will be waiving interest on all student loans held by the Federal Government.
 - The President is directing the Department of Energy to purchase large quantities of crude oil for the strategic reserve.
- The President is urging every State to set up emergency operational centers and is asking every hospital to activate its emergency preparedness plan.

EMPOWERING HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS: The President's emergency declaration will give healthcare providers on the front lines of this pandemic the flexibility they need to respond.

- President Trump continues to cut through every piece of unnecessary red tape that may hinder our response efforts and make every Federal resource available.
- The President will empower the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to waive provisions of certain laws and regulations and give maximum flexibility to healthcare providers to care for their patients.
- The declaration will provide HHS with critical authorities to waive:
 - Certain laws to enable telehealth, remote doctors' visits, and hospital check-ins
 - Licensing requirements so doctors from other states can provide services in areas with the greatest need.
 - Critical Access Hospital requirements to allow those hospitals to have more beds and longer lengths of stay
 - The requirement of a 3-day hospital stay prior to admission to a nursing home.
 - Rules hindering hospitals' ability to bring additional physicians on board or obtain needed office space.
 - Restrictions on where hospitals can care for patients.
- The Administration will be working to eliminate every obstacle possible to ensure healthcare providers can deliver Americans the care they need.

RAPIDLY EXPANDING TESTING: The Trump Administration is working to rapidly expand coronavirus testing across the nation and make sure Americans who need them have access.

- President Trump is mobilizing resources across the Federal Government to accelerate testing and expand access for more Americans.
 - The President wants to make sure that those who need a test can get a test safely, quickly, and conveniently.
- The Administration is working with the private sector to open up drive-through testing collection sites in critical areas impacted by the coronavirus.
- The Administration is working with Google to develop a website Americans can go to determine whether a test is needed and, if so, facilitate testing at a nearby location.
- The Food and Drug Administration is issuing emergency authorization for new commercial coronavirus tests that will help significantly expand testing across the country.
 - One new test produced by Roche has already been authorized and authorization is coming for another test very shortly.
 - Up to 2 million additional tests are expected to be available next week thanks to these efforts.
- President Trump and his Administration are working to provide maximum flexibility for States to approve labs for coronavirus testing.
- HHS recently announced it is providing funding to help accelerate the development of two rapid diagnostic tests.
- The Administration has designated Assistant Secretary for Health Brett Giroir to take the lead in coordinating testing efforts to ensure seamless access for patients, doctors, and hospitals.
- The Administration continues to cut red tape that restricted who qualifies for testing.

Updated - Background & Additional Information for State & Local Officials

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)

- The Department of Health and Human Services is committed to providing as much information as possible to prepare communities for response to COVID-19. The Department, through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and other agencies, continuously provide guidance to healthcare providers, laboratories, communities, and state and local officials for dealing with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. The most up-to-date information can be found at www.coronavirus.gov.
- Wednesday, March 12, CDC [announced](#) the imminent release of almost \$600 million to support state and local authorities respond to the COVID-19 outbreak. Full funding amounts are [here](#).
- Framework Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission: Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts.
 - A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission (*more [here](#); 10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities*).
 - CDC mitigation strategies for [Santa Clara](#) (CA), [Seattle](#) (WA), [New Rochelle](#) (NY), [Florida](#), and [Massachusetts](#).
- The CDC has been actively working to address the need for testing across the country. You can find more information about testing [here](#). We encourage review of the [Updated Guidance on Evaluating and Testing Persons for Coronavirus Disease 2019](#), as well as the recently updated the [FAQ website for laboratories](#) to determine best practices for testing.
- The U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps has deployed hundreds of officers to help with this response. As America's Health Responders, the Commissioned Corps is currently very involved in assisting the CDC with airport

screenings, deploying staff to support hospitals, among other important missions. Find out more about Commissioned Corps activities [here](#).

- Part of preparedness includes a robust blood supply. The current situation around COVID-19 heightens the need for a ready blood supply, please encourage your health community members to keep their appointments to donate blood.
- CDC released updated [guidance](#) on infection prevention and control recommendations for healthcare workers. Healthcare workers are fighting this outbreak on the front lines, and this guidance is intended to provide assistance to healthcare settings that are handling suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. This guidance is applicable to all U.S. healthcare settings.
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
 - *Flexibility and Relief for State Medicaid Agencies*: The national emergency declaration also enables CMS to grant state and territorial Medicaid agencies a wider range of flexibilities under section 1135 waivers. States and territories are now encouraged to assess their needs and request these available flexibilities, which are outlined in the Medicaid and CHIP Disaster Response Toolkit. Examples of flexibilities available to states under section 1135 waivers include the ability to permit out-of-state providers to render services, temporarily suspend certain provider enrollment and revalidation requirements to promote access to care, allow providers to provide care in alternative settings, waive prior authorization requirements, and temporarily suspend certain pre-admission and annual screenings for nursing home residents. For more information and to access the toolkit, visit [here](#).
 - *Waivers and Flexibilities for Hospitals and other Healthcare Facilities* : CMS will temporarily waive or modify certain Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP requirements. CMS will also issue several blanket waivers, listed on the website below, and the CMS Regional Offices will review other provider-specific requests. These waivers provide continued access to care for beneficiaries. For more information on the waivers CMS has granted, visit [here](#).
 - *Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Nursing Home Guidance* : As you know, nursing homes and their residents are vulnerable populations for COVID-19. This week, CMS released updated guidance for infection control and prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes which can be found [here](#) (3/9). The Press Release can be found [here](#) and all CMS guidance related to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

- The Small Business Administration will work directly with state Governors to provide targeted, low-interest loans to small businesses and non-profits that have been severely impacted by the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program provides small businesses with working capital loans of up to \$2 million that can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing. More [here](#).
- The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental expanded the disaster definition for the Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) to include COVID-19. Economic Injury Disaster Loans are SBA loans that are available to eligible Small Businesses, Small agricultural cooperatives, and most non-profits that have experienced substantial economic injury as a result of a disaster.
 - EIDLs are available in areas that are declared a disaster area by the SBA.
 - There has to be an SBA Disaster Declaration in an area for EIDL loans to be made available, which originates from a request made by the Governor.
 - To assist in the efforts, the SBA engages with States' Emergency Response Teams to help them comply with the requirements before a request is made.
- EIDL Loan Details
 - Entities that can apply for EIDL loans are eligible Small Businesses, Small agricultural cooperatives, and most private nonprofit organizations.
 - EIDL Loans are up to \$2million and have terms as long as 30 years.
- State and local officials who have been contacted by Small Businesses that may have been affected should share that information with their Governor or the State's Emergency Response Officials. More information on SBA's disaster loans, including eligibility and how to apply for loans, can be found here: www.SBA.gov/disaster.

U.S. Department of Education (DoED)

- The Department of Education has established a dedicated Coronavirus [webpage](#), which includes resources for institutions of higher education and for K-12.
 - The website includes [guidance](#) for students at institutions of higher education, and covers Coronavirus-related scenarios that could impact students who are enrolled in study abroad programs, students who meet full-time requirements but fall below 12 credit hours, students who are quarantined and miss class, campuses that have temporarily stopped offering ground-based classes to prevent the spread of Coronavirus, and foreign schools that serve Americans who receive Federal financial aid. Also see a [letter from the Office for Civil Rights](#) that addresses potential discrimination associated with coronavirus.
- The Department is working on additional information for families and communities including:
 - Information regarding certain flexibilities under the Every Student Succeeds Act, or "ESSA;"
 - Information regarding services to children with disabilities;
 - A fact sheet from our Office for Civil Rights on the risk of Coronavirus in schools while protecting the civil rights of students; and
 - Information on the Family Education Records Privacy Act, or "FERPA," as it pertains to K-12 and higher education students.
- The Department will continue to update its website, ed.gov/coronavirus. Please direct education related questions to COVID-19@ed.gov.

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

- The U.S. Department of Transportation, in its important supporting role, has and will continue to coordinate with transportation stakeholders, foreign counterparts and other federal agencies to manage the risk in the United States.
- DOT continues to ensure: an active air bridge remains in place for the safe return of Americans from affected areas; airlines are funneling passenger flights to one of the eleven designated U.S. airports equipped to health-screen Americans returning

from affected areas; continued air and sea cargo traffic between the US and China; health protocols are established to protect the crews of aircraft continuing to fly between the US and foreign locations; and, dissemination of health messages about the virus, for airlines to use to inform their passengers.

- The U.S. government's travel restrictions and advisories have been a remarkably effective 'first layer' of containment. These travel requirements delayed the arrival of the virus to the United States, giving the nation precious time to prepare further measures, and plan for mitigation. This achievement took the cooperation of nearly 200 commercial airlines, a like number of overseas airports, and the Civil Aviation Authority of China.
- External Stakeholder outreach is being actively conducted throughout the modes of transportation in DOT. DOT has already hosted calls with stakeholders for the Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Transit Authority, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and others. Additional calls are scheduled for outreach to additional stakeholders in all surface transportation, maritime, and labor.

U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) developed COVID-19 [planning guidance](#) for employers to implement engineering, administrative, and work practice controls and personal protective equipment (PPE). The guidance is intended for planning purposes – employers and workers should use the planning guidance to help identify risk levels in workplace settings and to determine any appropriate control measures to implement.
- The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), an independent agency that serves as the chief human resources agency and personnel policy manager for the Federal Government, issued [guidance](#) for Federal Agencies regarding COVID-19 and human resources policies.
- DOL announced new guidance outlining flexibilities that States have in administering their unemployment (UI) programs to assist Americans affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Under the guidance, federal law.

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)

- The health and well-being of our country's most vulnerable citizens is Secretary Ben Carson's highest priority. At the direction of Secretary Carson senior HUD, officials have developed an Infectious Disease Toolkit for Continuum of Care homeless shelters (CoC). This includes specific documents addressing preparedness in shelters and encampment settings. More [here](#).
- HUD has sent communication to CoC and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) grantees, highlighting the importance of infectious disease preparedness and linking to CDC and Healthcare for the Homeless resources: [Infectious Disease Preparedness Among Homeless Assistance Providers](#)
- HUD is coordinating with the CDC, Healthcare for the Homeless, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) on messaging and cross-promoting resource materials. This will continue on an ongoing basis. Also, the Department is reaching out to Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for future coordination.
- HUD has plenty of resources for your communities including:
 - Communities can use their unspent Emergency Solutions Grants and Continuum of Care Program funds to help address needs related to coronavirus. Additionally, a portion of CDBG funds are also available for public services, including health care.
 - Technical Assistance is available for ESG and CoC Program recipients if requested. Additionally, communities that want to amend their CDBG plans, can reach out to their CPD representative if they need assistance.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue [announced proactive flexibilities](#) to allow meal service during school closures to minimize potential exposure to the coronavirus. During an unexpected school closure, schools can leverage their participation in one of USDA's summer meal programs to provide meals at no cost to students. Under normal circumstances, those meals must be served in a group setting. However, in a public health emergency, the law allows USDA the authority to waive the group setting meal requirement, which is vital during a social distancing situation.
- USDA intends to use all available program flexibilities and contingencies to serve program participants across our 15 nutrition programs. USDA has already begun to issue waivers to ease program operations and protect the health of participants. USDA is receiving requests for waivers on an ongoing basis. As of today, USDA has been asked to waive congregate feeding requirements in Washington, California, Maryland, Alaska, Utah, Pennsylvania, Wyoming, Maine, Kansas, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Virginia and USDA has granted those requests.
- For more information about the coronavirus response across USDA, please visit : www.usda.gov/coronavirus.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- While the overall risk to the American public remains low, actions by DHS and the administration are decreasing the strain on public health officials by screening incoming travelers, expediting the processing of U.S. citizens returning from China, and ensuring resources are focused on the health and safety of the American people. It is important to recognize, that while there is a significant focus on containing and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, all departments and agencies of DHS are continuing to perform their regular duties with no impact on their mission.
- DHS is working to recognize, detect, and assist individuals attempting to enter the U.S. through our airports, land ports, or waterways who may be carrying the virus: Cruise Lines International Association, CDC, USCG, and CBP. DHS is working with the Department of State, HHS, and the senior public health leadership with the Government of Mexico to prepare for any COVID-19 cases identified along the South West Border. This effort includes coordination with state, and local Public Health Officials to develop reporting and response courses of action.
- FEMA has rostered 56 four-person Incident Management Assistance Teams.
- The Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, which contains the National Biosurveillance Integration Center and the Chief Medical Officer, has maintained close coordination with our Components and U.S. Government partners regarding the status of the outbreak and associated U.S. Government response actions.
- *Presidential Proclamation to Protect the Homeland from Travel-Related Coronavirus Spread:* On Thursday, March 12, President Donald J. Trump signed a [Presidential Proclamation](#), which suspends the entry of most foreign nationals who have been in certain European countries at any point during the 14 days prior to their scheduled arrival to the United States.

These countries, known as the Schengen Area, include: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. *This does not apply to legal permanent residents, (generally) immediate family members of U.S. citizens, and other individuals who are identified in the proclamation.*

- DHS Acting Secretary Wolf's Statement on Presidential Proclamation to Protect the Homeland from Travel-Related Coronavirus Spread (more [here](#))
- Fact Sheet – President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond to the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans (more [here](#))
- Press Release – Department of Homeland Security Outlines New Process for Americans Returning from Certain European Countries, China, and Iran (more [here](#))

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information



Background

Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Since the beginning of the outbreak, President Trump has taken unprecedented steps – including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy – to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response ([President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond To the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans](#)). The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk to the average American remains low. All agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information

- The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website ([here](#))
- HHS/CDC Community Framework for Mitigation ([here](#))
- Guidance for families, businesses, schools and others ([here](#)).
- The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live ([here](#))
- You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

What You Need To Know

- What You Should Know - How COVID-19 Spreads, Symptoms, etc. ([here](#))
- Situation Summary ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information

Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))
- U.S. Food & Drug Administration ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Election Assistance Commission ([here](#))

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- Small Business Administration ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittansys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips

- Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.
- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Proactively sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information such as HHS/CDC [guidance for families, businesses, and schools](#).
- Reviewing Federal guidance such as the HHS/CDC [Community Mitigation Framework](#).
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

Recent Task Force Actions

Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- Remarks by President Trump, Vice President Pence, and Members of the Coronavirus Task Force in Press Conference (March 13) ([transcript/video](#))
- Remarks by President Trump in Address to the Nation (March 11) ([transcript/video](#))
- Remarks by President Trump and Vice President Pence at a Coronavirus Briefing with Health Insurers (March 10) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness (March 9) ([readout](#))
- Remarks by Vice President Pence in a Coronavirus Briefing with Cruise Line Executives and Port Directors (March 7) ([transcript](#))
- Remarks by President Trump After Tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (March 5) ([transcript](#))
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 10:55 AM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Good Morning,

The White House Task Force on Coronavirus and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention have released two helpful documents for State, local, tribal, and community leaders.

- [Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)
- [A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

You can find additional information about both documents and resources below.

[Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)

- Keeping the workplace safe
- Keeping the school safe
- Keeping the home safe
- Keeping commercial establishments safe

[A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts. Framework includes:

- Local Factors to Consider for Determining Mitigation Strategies
- Community mitigation strategies by setting and by level of community transmission or impact of COVID-19
- Potential mitigation strategies for public health functions

Recent Actions

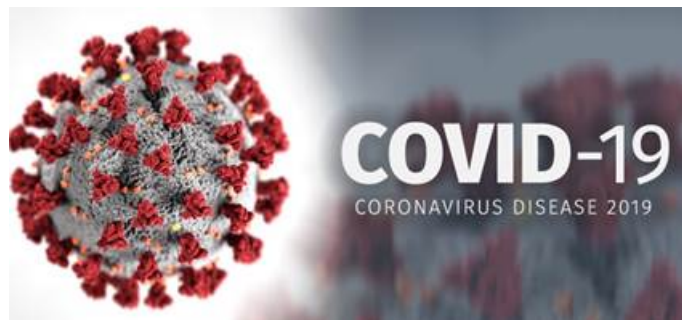
- HHS Supports Development of First High-Throughput COVID-19 Diagnostic Test ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Key Protective Mask Guidance for Healthcare Workers ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Clear, Actionable Guidance to Providers about COVID-19 Virus ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Call to Action for Hospital Emergency Departments to Screen Patients for Coronavirus ([click here](#))
- Telehealth Benefits in Medicare are a Lifeline for Patients During Coronavirus Outbreak ([click here](#))

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000128

Background & Additional Information (*Updated*)



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

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- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
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- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ([here](#))

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- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Responses locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities (a complete list of State & Territorial Health Department Websites can be found [here](#))
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
- Establishing the White House task force to combat the coronavirus spread. The Task Force is coordinating and marshalling the full resources and capabilities of the Federal government to respond to the coronavirus.
- Forging relationships and collaboration between the public and private sectors.
- Remained in close contact with our Nation's governors and other key stakeholders.
- *The Washington Times*: [Thanks to Trump Administration, the United States has a Coronavirus Plan of Action.](#)
- *Dr. Marc Siegel*: [Coronavirus Public Health Response Has Been Handled Well](#)

[Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)

- [A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

While the overall threat to the American public remains low, the President has directed the White House Task Force to take all steps to ensure the health and well-being of the American people and we are well-prepared.

- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.
- There are good tried and true hygiene practices which can be very effective to reduce the chance of getting sick.
- Travelers are encouraged to always exercise healthy travel habits when traveling and to follow appropriate guidance (see [here](#)). At this time, there are no domestic travel restrictions in the United States.
- We are working rapidly on therapeutics and vaccines and have launched the first U.S. clinical trial for an investigational antiviral.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. Between

March 2nd and 5th, more than 900,000 tests were distributed across the country.

- The United States has the finest public health system in the world and knows the playbook to respond to infectious disease outbreaks.

Local, State, tribal, & Federal coordinated preparedness & response efforts.

- Federal officials have been working diligently to communicate with State, local, and tribal officials on the Federal government's efforts to prepare and respond to COVID-19.
- Our Nation's Governors have participated in-person and on conference call briefings with Federal partners on January 30, February 9, February 20, March 2, and March 9. These communications remain ongoing.
- White House, OMB, HHS, DHS, DOT, and State Department Officials met with over 40 State, county, and city health officials from over 30 States and territories to thank them for their leadership and to continue discussions on the Federal-State-Local partnership to prepare and respond to COVID-19 (February 25).
- HHS, CDC, DHS, and Federal partners have held numerous national briefing calls with State, local, tribal, private-sector, and community leaders.
- The Trump Administration is partnering with State, local, and tribal elected and appointed leaders' associations.

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- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
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- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 10:55 AM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Good Morning,

The White House Task Force on Coronavirus and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention have released two helpful documents for State, local, tribal, and community leaders.

- [Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)
- [A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

You can find additional information about both documents and resources below.

[Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)

- Keeping the workplace safe
- Keeping the school safe
- Keeping the home safe
- Keeping commercial establishments safe

[A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts. Framework includes:

- Local Factors to Consider for Determining Mitigation Strategies
- Community mitigation strategies by setting and by level of community transmission or impact of COVID-19
- Potential mitigation strategies for public health functions

Recent Actions

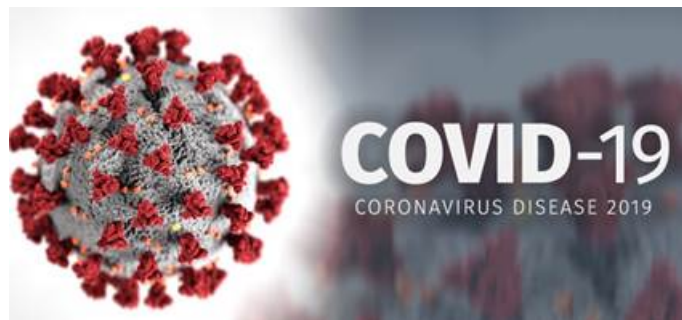
- HHS Supports Development of First High-Throughput COVID-19 Diagnostic Test ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Key Protective Mask Guidance for Healthcare Workers ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Clear, Actionable Guidance to Providers about COVID-19 Virus ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Call to Action for Hospital Emergency Departments to Screen Patients for Coronavirus ([click here](#))
- Telehealth Benefits in Medicare are a Lifeline for Patients During Coronavirus Outbreak ([click here](#))

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000132

Background & Additional Information (*Updated*)



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: **The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#). The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live: [HERE](#). You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.**

- What You Should Know ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information: Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittany@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Responses locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities (a complete list of State & Territorial Health Department Websites can be found [here](#))
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
- Establishing the White House task force to combat the coronavirus spread. The Task Force is coordinating and marshalling the full resources and capabilities of the Federal government to respond to the coronavirus.
- Forging relationships and collaboration between the public and private sectors.
- Remained in close contact with our Nation's governors and other key stakeholders.
- *The Washington Times*: [Thanks to Trump Administration, the United States has a Coronavirus Plan of Action.](#)
- *Dr. Marc Siegel*: [Coronavirus Public Health Response Has Been Handled Well](#)

[Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)

- [A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

While the overall threat to the American public remains low, the President has directed the White House Task Force to take all steps to ensure the health and well-being of the American people and we are well-prepared.

- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.
- There are good tried and true hygiene practices which can be very effective to reduce the chance of getting sick.
- Travelers are encouraged to always exercise healthy travel habits when traveling and to follow appropriate guidance (see [here](#)). At this time, there are no domestic travel restrictions in the United States.
- We are working rapidly on therapeutics and vaccines and have launched the first U.S. clinical trial for an investigational antiviral.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. Between

March 2nd and 5th, more than 900,000 tests were distributed across the country.

- The United States has the finest public health system in the world and knows the playbook to respond to infectious disease outbreaks.

Local, State, tribal, & Federal coordinated preparedness & response efforts.

- Federal officials have been working diligently to communicate with State, local, and tribal officials on the Federal government's efforts to prepare and respond to COVID-19.
- Our Nation's Governors have participated in-person and on conference call briefings with Federal partners on January 30, February 9, February 20, March 2, and March 9. These communications remain ongoing.
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- The Trump Administration is partnering with State, local, and tribal elected and appointed leaders' associations.

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From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 4:28 PM EST

To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>

Subject: COVID-19 Updates- February 24, 2020

Attachment(s): "CDC_COVID-19_Daily Key Points__2_24_2020 FINAL (003).pdf"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear State and Local Partners,

In an effort to keep you informed of federal response efforts related to COVID-19, we would like to share an update on CDC actions as of February 24th (see full update attached). Please visit www.cdc.gov/COVID19 for the most up to date information. Current interim guidance issued by the CDC regarding COVID-19 is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/index.html>

CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and preparing for the potential of community spread in the United States.

- Preparing first responders, healthcare providers, and health systems:
 - Establishing visibility across healthcare systems to understand healthcare use, particularly surges in demand for medical care and associated resources.
 - Conducting extensive outreach to clinical and hospital professional organizations to ensure health system preparedness.
 - Producing more than 23 guidance documents on infection control, hospital preparedness assessments, personal protective equipment (PPE) supply planning, and clinical evaluation and management (as of February 22, 2020).
 - Working closely with healthcare facilities and providers to reinforce infection control principles that recognize PPE is one component of a larger set of practices that help to limit the spread of disease.
 - Developing a range of respirator conservation strategies, including strategies to make supplies last longer (such as using alternative products like reusable respirators) and extending the use of disposable respirators.
 - Leveraging existing telehealth tools to direct people to the right level of healthcare for their medical needs.
 - Working with supply chain partners to understand supply usage, what products are available, and when more aggressive measures may need to be taken to ensure that healthcare workers at highest risk have access to PPE.
 - Sharing information with stakeholders to help them recognize when to shift the strategies they are using.

Reinforcing state, territorial, and local public health readiness:

- Assessing state and local readiness to implement community mitigation measures like home containment, including housing and transportation needs.
- Coordinating with states to identify and mitigate gaps in readiness that will help reduce the spread of disease in the community while protecting workers, infrastructure, and institutions.
- Linking public health agencies and healthcare systems to identify and mitigate stressors to the health system
- Tracking stockpiles of PPE across jurisdictions.
- Working with state and local public health to use existing Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) funding to support COVID-19 preparedness and response activities.
- Leveraging funding mechanisms to help states accelerate preparedness activities.
- Providing technical assistance and guidance to states to improve their ability to respond to the outbreak.

Supporting communities, businesses, and schools:

- Creating business guidance to help the public and private sectors ensure they are able to operate with adaptations like telework and flexible sick leave policies, as well as how to respond if an employee gets sick.
- Developing guidance for childcare programs, K-12 schools, and colleges/universities to help them plan and prepare for COVID-19 and respond if there is a local outbreak in their community.
- Providing planning guides for COVID-19 that households, community- and faith-based organizations, event planners of mass gatherings, and public health communicators can use.
- Educating communities about nonpharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) that help slow the spread of illness, like COVID-19.

For more information, please visit the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Outbreak Page at: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

Darcie Johnston, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
(202) 853-0582

CDC Daily Key Points
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) Outbreak
February 24, 2020

All content updated since February 21 is shown in colored text.

MAIN KEY POINTS

- There is an expanding [global](#) outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus.
- This virus has been named “SARS-CoV-2;” the disease it causes has been named COVID-19.
 - Due to potential for confusion with SARS-CoV, where possible, public communications will use “the virus that causes COVID-19.”
- While most COVID-19 cases outside of China have been associated with travel to or from China, [community spread is being detected in a growing number of countries](#).
- Destinations with apparent community spread of COVID-19 include Hong Kong, [Iran, Italy, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand](#).
- [The fact that COVID-19 has caused illness, including illness resulting in death, and sustained person-to-person spread is concerning. These factors meet two of the criteria of a pandemic.](#)
- [As community spread is detected in more and more countries, the world moves closer toward meeting the third criteria, worldwide spread of the new virus.](#)
- [The potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 is high, both globally and to the United States.](#)
- [But individual risk is dependent on exposure.](#)
- [For the general American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus at this time, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is low.](#)
- [Under current circumstances, certain people will have an increased risk of infection. For example, healthcare workers caring for patients with COVID-19 and other close contacts of persons with COVID-19. CDC has developed guidance to help in the risk assessment and management of people with potential exposures to COVID-19.](#)
- [However, it’s important to note that current global circumstances suggest it is likely that this virus will cause a pandemic. In that case, risk assessment would be different.](#)
- [Global efforts at this time are focused concurrently on containing spread of this virus and mitigating the impact of this virus.](#)
- [The federal government is working closely with state, local, tribal, and territorial partners, as well as public health partners, to respond to this public health threat.](#)
- [The public health response is multi-layered, with the goal of detecting and minimizing introductions of this virus in the United States so as to reduce the spread and the impact of this virus.](#)
- [CDC is operationalizing all of its pandemic preparedness and response plans, working on multiple fronts to meet these goals, including specific measures to prepare communities to respond local transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19.](#)
- [Pandemic guidance developed in anticipation of an influenza pandemic is being repurposed and adapted for a COVID-19 pandemic.](#)
- [Public health partners are encouraged to review their pandemic preparedness plans at this time.](#)

- At this time, there is no vaccine to protect against COVID-19 and no medications approved to treat it.
- [Nonpharmaceutical interventions](#) would be the most important response strategy.
- CDC launched a new weekly email newsletter with updates on the agency's COVID-19 outbreak response. [Sign up for the newsletter.](#)

SITUATION UPDATE

- To date, [35](#) international locations (including the U.S.) have reported confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- More than 77,000 cases have been confirmed on mainland China, with more than 2,500 deaths.
- On February 22, 2020, CDC issued a Level 2 Travel Notice (Practice Enhanced Precautions) for [Japan](#) and [South Korea](#).
- On February 23, 2020 CDC issued Level 1 Travel Alert Notices (Practice Usual Precautions) for [Iran](#) and [Italy](#).
- CDC also recommends that all travelers reconsider cruise ship voyages into or within Asia at this time.
- This is consistent with [guidance by the U.S. State Department](#).
- For the latest travel guidance, visit [COVID-19 Information for Travel](#).
- This is a rapidly evolving situation. CDC is constantly reviewing and updating its guidance as needed.
- CDC is reporting confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States in two categories:
 1. Cases detected through our domestic public health systems, and
 2. Cases among people who were repatriated via U.S. State Department flights from Wuhan, China and from the Diamond Princess cruise ship (Japan).
- [Fourteen](#) cases of COVID-19 have been detected in California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Washington, and Wisconsin through U.S. public health surveillance.
- Two of these cases occurred through person-to-person spread. The remaining cases all were in persons who had travel to China.
- [39 cases of COVID-19 have been detected among the 1,100+ people repatriated from Hubei Province, China and the Diamond Princess. \(That includes 3 people repatriated from Wuhan and 36 people who were repatriated from the Diamond Princes.\)](#)
- Almost all of the people from the Wuhan flights who were quarantined have finished their 14-day quarantine period.
- Because the passengers on the Diamond Princess were in a close setting where there was significant spread of COVID-19, they are considered at high-risk for infection. CDC expects to see additional confirmed cases of among those passengers.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- While the immediate risk of this new virus to the American public is believed to be low at this time, everyone can do their part to help us respond to this emerging public health threat:
 - It's currently flu and respiratory disease season and CDC recommends getting a flu vaccine, taking everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of germs, and taking flu antivirals if prescribed.

- If you are a healthcare provider, be on the look-out for people with who recently traveled from China and fever and respiratory symptoms.
- If you are a healthcare provider caring for a COVID-19 patient or a public health responder, please take care of yourself and follow recommended infection control procedures.
- If you have been in China or have been exposed to someone sick with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, you will face some limitations on your movement and activity. Please follow instructions during this time. Your cooperation is integral to the ongoing public health response to try to slow spread of this virus. If you develop COVID-19 symptoms, contact your healthcare provider, and tell them about your symptoms and your travel or exposure to a COVID-19 patient.
- For people who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 who develop symptoms, contact your healthcare provider, and tell them about your symptoms and your exposure to a COVID-19 patient.
- For people who are ill with COVID-19, please follow CDC guidance on how to reduce the risk of spreading your illness to others. This guidance in on the CDC website.

TESTING

- All testing for COVID-19 continues to be performed at CDC. At this time, all positive results from testing conducted in non-CDC, U.S. laboratories must be confirmed at CDC.
- CDC is remanufacturing test kits, which will be distributed following rigorous quality control processes.

REPATRIATED FLIGHTS & QUARANTINE ORDERS

- CDC has supported the Department of State in the safe and expedient ordered departure of U.S. citizens and residents affected by outbreaks of COVID-19.
 - Five chartered flights returned passengers from Wuhan City, China.
 - Most recently, passengers from a cruise ship docked in Japan were repatriated. (See section: *Diamond Princess*)
- The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Secretary, under statutory authority, issued federal quarantine orders to all such passengers entering the United States.
- Almost all of the people from the Wuhan flights who were quarantined fulfilled their 14-day quarantine period and been released.
 - On February 12, 195 people from the first chartered flight were discharged from quarantine.
 - On February 18, 347 people who were under federal quarantine were released.
 - On February 20, 263 people who were under federal quarantine were released.
- People released from quarantine pose no health risk to their communities.

DIAMOND PRINCESS

- On February 16, 329 American citizens returned by flights chartered by the State Department.
- [Persons who are not sick are being kept in quarantine.](#)
- [Persons who are sick with COVID-19 are in isolation and receiving medical care as needed.](#)

- All American passengers have disembarked from the *Diamond Princess* cruise ship. These people have been placed under travel restrictions, as have the ship's other passengers and crew.
- Some American crew members of the *Diamond Princess* remain aboard the ship.
- More than 60 Americans who were on board the *Diamond Princess* remain in Japan, hospitalized with COVID-2, including some who are reportedly severely ill.
- The U.S. Government is taking measures to protect the health of the people under quarantine, their loved ones, and their communities, as well as the communities where they are being temporarily housed.
- Based on what is known about this virus and other coronaviruses, CDC believes the risk to the communities temporarily housing these people is low.

WESTERDAM

- No testing of passengers from the *Westerdam* Cruise Ship for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, has been done at CDC.
- CDC is aware that an American passenger on the *Westerdam* tested positive for infection with SARS-CoV-2 in Malaysia and that two subsequent and sequential tests on samples from that same person were negative.
- CDC is aware that follow-up testing among more than 1,500 passengers from the *Westerdam* has all been negative.
- CDC considers passengers from the *Westerdam* to be at "low risk" of SARS-CoV-2 infection during the 14 days after their last exposure per the agency's [Risk Assessment guidance](#).
- Given this level of risk, testing of *Westerdam* passengers for SARS-CoV-2 is not recommended unless additional exposures are identified to warrant testing.

CDC ACTIONS

- CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and preparing for the potential of community spread in the United States.
- **Preparing first responders, healthcare providers, and health systems:**
 - Establishing **visibility across healthcare systems** to understand healthcare use, particularly surges in demand for medical care and associated resources.
 - Conducting **extensive outreach to clinical and hospital professional organizations** to ensure health system **preparedness**.
 - Producing more than **23 guidance documents** on infection control, hospital preparedness assessments, personal protective equipment (PPE) supply planning, and clinical evaluation and management (as of February 22, 2020).
 - Working closely with healthcare facilities and providers to **reinforce infection control principles** that recognize PPE is one component of a larger set of practices that help to limit the spread of disease.
 - **Developing a range of respirator conservation strategies**, including strategies to make supplies last longer (such as using alternative products like reusable respirators) and extending the use of disposable respirators.
 - Leveraging existing **telehealth tools** to direct people to the right level of healthcare for their medical needs.

- **Working with supply chain partners** to understand supply usage, what products are available, and when more aggressive measures may need to be taken to ensure that healthcare workers at highest risk have access to PPE.
- **Sharing information with stakeholders** to help them recognize when to shift the strategies they are using.
- **Reinforcing state, territorial, and local public health readiness:**
 - **Assessing state and local readiness** to implement community mitigation measures like home containment, including housing and transportation needs.
 - Coordinating with states to **identify and mitigate gaps in readiness** that will help reduce the spread of disease in the community while protecting workers, infrastructure, and institutions.
 - Linking public health agencies and healthcare systems to **identify and mitigate stressors to the health system**
 - **Tracking stockpiles of PPE** across jurisdictions.
 - Working with state and local public health to **use existing Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) funding** to support COVID-19 preparedness and response activities.
 - Leveraging funding mechanisms to help states **accelerate preparedness activities**.
 - Providing **technical assistance and guidance** to states to improve their ability to respond to the outbreak.
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 - **Creating business guidance** to help the public and private sectors ensure they are able to operate with adaptations like telework and flexible sick leave policies, as well as how to respond if an employee gets sick.
 - **Developing guidance for childcare programs, K-12 schools, and colleges/universities** to help them plan and prepare for COVID-19 and respond if there is a local outbreak in their community.
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From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 9:14 PM EDT
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Updates for Friday, March 13, 2020

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear State and Local Partners:

Every day brings new information and developments on COVID-19, many of which impact your efforts to address the Coronavirus. We value our strong partnership with you all as we continue to work on the COVID-19 response. We aim to ensure that you have access to the resources and information that you need for your communities.

Here are key highlights:

National Emergency Declaration: Today, President Trump signed a [National Emergency Declaration](#) in response to COVID-19. The Emergency Declaration will allow HHS to provide emergency funding to state and local entities (up to \$50 billion) and specifically will enable HHS to waive provisions of certain laws and regulations to provide increased flexibility to healthcare providers. Additional flexibilities will be able to be exercised around the use of telehealth, state licensing requirements for providers to practice in areas of greatest need, increasing the supply of providers, loosening restrictions on where hospitals can care for patients within a hospital, and flexibilities on the number of beds and lengths of stay for Critical Access Hospitals.

Increasing Capacity for Testing: The Administration designated Assistant Secretary for Health, ADM Brett Giroir, M.D., to take the lead in coordinating testing efforts to ensure seamless access for patients, doctors, and hospitals. HHS is working to help expedite the availability of tests by utilizing the private sector and allowing states to offer and develop their own tests. Yesterday, the FDA authorized a diagnostic test developed by Roche, to rapidly expand the capacity and timeliness of testing for COVID-19 diagnostics. The FDA also approved the New York State Department of Health to directly authorize labs to begin patient testing. More information about these actions can be found [here](#). For technical information on diagnostic testing, FDA posted [frequently asked questions](#) related to the development and performance of diagnostic testing.

With help from public-health and private-sector lab capabilities, HHS has also enabled states and healthcare providers to implement sample collection for pre-screened patients, similar to what is being done at the Mayo Clinic and Minnesota Department of Health, by the Colorado Health Department and by the University of Washington. CMS has also published the Medicare reimbursement amounts to providers for COVID-19 testing, which can be found [here](#).

Lab Test Questions – As public and private testing labs continue to gear up capabilities and review the new options being created through the FDA, they may have questions. To help answer those questions that are technical in nature, the FDA has stood up a 24/7 hotline for things related to COVID-19: 1-888-INFO-FDA or 1-888-463-6332.

Essential Health Benefit Coverage of COVID-19: The FAQs released today, March 13, detail existing federal rules governing health coverage provided through the individual and small group insurance markets that apply to the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19. The FAQs clarify which COVID-related services, including testing, isolation/quarantine, and vaccination, are generally currently covered as EHBs in these markets. The purpose of the FAQs is to provide guidance to Americans enrolled in individual or small group market health plans, including HealthCare.gov consumers. As questions and issues continue to come to CMS, they will be addressed and added to these FAQs. The document can be found [here](#).

Community Response: All communities can take measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC has released updated information on [Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Communities](#) as well as issuing [considerations for school closures](#).

Surgical Masks and Gowns: The FDA sent a [letter to healthcare providers](#) on conservation strategies for personal protective equipment. The recommendations include strategies for conventional, contingency and crisis level of supplies.

Cruise Advisory: CDC and the State Department recommend travelers, particularly those with underlying health issues, defer all cruise ship travel worldwide. At this point, all passengers from the Grand Princess cruise have disembarked from the ship.

If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

From: Shauna Sanford
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 6:51 PM EST
To: Ashley Rodrigue <Ashley.Rodrigue@LA.GOV>
CC: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Subject: COVID-19
Attachment(s): "COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update.msg"

Hi Ashley,

Attached is information that has been given to all members of the legislature, which Butch can also share. Of course information will evolve as the situation evolves. The best thing that Butch can do is direct everyone to go to ldh.la.gov for the very latest and most accurate information on COVID-19.

Thanks,
Shauna~

Shauna Sanford

Communications Director



225.219.9313 office

225.428.6533 cell

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gov.louisiana.gov

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 2:33 PM EST
To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
CC: Bethany Blackson <Bethany.Blackson@la.gov>; Anita Dupuy <Anita.Dupuy@LA.GOV>; Latonya Johnson <Latonya.Johnson2@la.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update
Attachment(s): "COVID Leg. Brief 3'2'20.pdf","Covid-19 FAQs 3'2'20.pdf"

Good afternoon members –

Please see the attached brief and FAQ document regarding the novel coronavirus, COVID-19.

This morning, the Governor held a meeting of the Unified Command Group (UCG) with state agency heads to make sure that every agency is preparing and coordinating with local, state, and federal partners. The Governor is being briefed regularly by LDH and GOHSEP regarding the virus and our preparations. It is important to note that currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Louisiana. The nearest case is in Texas, and this person remains in isolation. While the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) now expects there to be “community spread” in certain regions of the United States, the immediate threat to the United States and Louisiana remains low.

Additionally, LDH has put together online resources for the public at ldh.louisiana.gov/Coronavirus. Members of the public with questions about coronavirus, should contact the Coronavirus General Information Line at 1-855-523-2652 from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Please encourage your constituents and others to use official sources, like LDH or the CDC, for actual information about the illness. If you hear troubling rumors, please pass them along so we can work with our team to make sure we are communicating effectively and dispelling any mistruths.

The bigger threat to Louisiana remains the flu; we still are experiencing very high levels of that virus. It is not too late to get a flu shot. There are actions we all can take as individuals to be prepared for COVID-19. They are the same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu - cover your cough, wash your hands often and well, and stay home when you're sick.

Please let me know if you have any more questions or if there are any additional resources we can provide.

Best,
Lauren

Lauren Gilder Gleason, MPA
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COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

No confirmed cases in Louisiana

Situation

- As of 03/02/20, there are no confirmed cases of Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Louisiana.
- The nearest case is in Texas, and this person remains in isolation.
- There are 15 confirmed cases in the United States; another 47 individuals with COVID-19 have been repatriated.
- While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) now expects there to be “community spread” in certain regions of the United States, the immediate threat to the United States and Louisiana remains low. We are not yet seeing the same spread other countries are seeing.
- The Louisiana Department of Health remains in close contact with the CDC and has been proactively preparing for the introduction of this virus since it was first identified in China earlier this year.
- COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The CDC are recommending using Pandemic Influenza Preparedness as our model for response, with the key focus being on Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPI).
 - NPIs are actions, apart from getting vaccinated and taking *medicine* that people and communities can take to help slow the spread of illnesses like pandemic influenza (flu). NPIs are also known as community mitigation strategies.
- Louisiana has been working on Pandemic Preparedness for the last 15 years. We have a comprehensive State Pandemic Plan. We have also encouraged Pandemic Planning throughout the State, both in the governmental sector as well as the private sector.
- **At this time, what poses a greater risk to Louisiana residents is the flu. It’s not too late to get your flu shot – which is available at no cost at your parish public health unit.**

Number of cases globally	83,000+
Number of countries reporting cases	50
Number of deaths	2,700+
Number of cases in the United States	62 (12 travelers, 3 person-to-person, 47 repatriated)
Number of cases in Louisiana	0
Persons Under Investigation/Suspected cases in Louisiana	0
Nearest case	Texas (San Antonio) via Diamond Princess Cruise

About Coronavirus

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people, like has been seen with recent outbreaks of MERS and SARS.

General Public Questions

If you have questions about the Coronavirus, please contact the Coronavirus general information line at 1-855-523-2652 from 8 am – 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

Immediate Threat to the Public is Low

Currently, the immediate threat to the general public in the U.S. remains low. People with recent travel to China, South Korea, Iran, Italy, or Japan (or those who have come in contact with someone who has recently traveled to one of these countries and is ill with COVID-19) have a greater risk for becoming ill. Reported cases have ranged from mild illness (similar to a common cold) to severe pneumonia that requires hospitalization. So far, deaths have been reported mainly in older adults who had other health conditions. To minimize the risk of spread, Louisiana health officials are working with health care providers to promptly identify and evaluate any suspected cases.

Symptoms

For confirmed COVID-19 infections, reported illnesses have ranged from infected people with little to no symptoms (similar to the common cold) to people being severely ill and dying. Symptoms can include fever, cough, and shortness of breath/difficulty breathing.

The CDC believe at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 after exposure. There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for COVID-19 infection. People infected with COVID-19 should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms.

How is the virus spread

Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person to others through:

- Respiratory droplets produced when coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

What can you do

Anyone who recently traveled to China, South Korea, Iran, Italy, or Japan within the previous 14 days, who experiences fever, cough, or other acute illness should contact a health care provider as soon as possible and mention your recent travel. Please call ahead and inform the health care provider about your travel history.

It is currently flu and respiratory disease season, and flu activity is still high and expected to continue for a number of weeks. Take steps to avoid spreading germs from any respiratory diseases by:

- Getting a flu vaccine and taking flu antivirals if prescribed
- Covering your cough
- Staying home if you are sick
- Washing your hands

State Response

- Louisiana has been working on Pandemic Preparedness for the last 15 years. We have a comprehensive State Pandemic Plan; additionally, we have also encouraged Pandemic Planning throughout the State, both in the government and private sectors.
- Louisiana has also put together a COVID-19 Task Force to build upon our pandemic plan in order to respond to the COVID-19 threat more specifically. Members will include essential subject matter experts from public health, hospital preparedness, human resources, emergency preparedness, and other government agencies.
- The Louisiana Department of Health is now able to test for the virus in the state public health lab.

COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Are there any confirmed cases in Louisiana?

A: As of 3/2/20, there are no confirmed cases in Louisiana.

Q: What is our message to the public?

A: While the CDC now expects community spread in some parts of the U.S., the immediate threat to the U.S. remains low. We are not seeing the same level of spread other countries are seeing. That said, it is important to be prepared, which is what we have been doing since the outbreak in mainland China.

There are actions we all can take as individuals to be prepared for COVID-19. The same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu put you in a good position for any respiratory illness - cover your cough, wash your hands often and well, and stay home when you're sick.

Q: What is the protocol in place for responding to a pandemic like Coronavirus/COVID-19?

A: COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The CDC are recommending using the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness plan as our model for the response because COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The Louisiana Department of Health has been working on our Pandemic Preparedness Plan for the last 15 years, and we have been preparing for COVID-19 since it was first reported in China in December 2019. The Governor directed the formation of a COVID-19 Task Force with representation from state agencies and federal partners key to preparing for a COVID-19 outbreak to guide updating pandemic flu and continuity of operations planning documents and advise the Unified Command Group.

Q: What have you been doing as far as monitoring people who may have been exposed?

A: Our first priority was to ensure we were monitoring any travelers who returned to Louisiana from visiting China, where many of the cases have occurred, and especially Wuhan, the city that experienced the largest outbreak. We touch base with those travelers each day and ask about their symptoms during a 14-day period of observation. We are also ensuring that travelers know the destinations where non-essential travel should be avoided.

Q: Do we have the capability to test?

A: We do have the capability to test for COVID-19 in-state. Providers should contact the Office of Public Health Division's Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program (IDEpi).

Q: What's the next major step in the Department's plan for responding to an outbreak?

A: Mirroring the federal government's response, we are moving from a 'containment' approach in which we focused on restricting travel from the outbreak area in Wuhan city and Hubei province in China and monitoring returning travelers from other parts of China, to a 'mitigation' approach in which we anticipate and plan for person-to-person transmission in the community somewhere in the United States and ensure state and local governments, health care providers, schools, businesses, and community members are adequately prepared to take action to reduce the spread of COVID-19. We don't want people to be alarmed, but we do want them to be prepared. We also want businesses and health care facilities to be prepared to make sure people are safe and protected so we can avoid an unnecessary spread, including planning now for actions that can be taken to avoid the spread of infections such as mandatory teleworking and canceling unnecessary large gatherings.

Q: Why are you using the state’s pandemic plan that was developed for an influenza outbreak like H1N1?

A: COVID-19 behaves very much like the flu, and all of the drills we’ve done around responding to an influenza outbreak apply extremely well to dealing with a COVID-19 outbreak.

Q: Do plans for the future include quarantining?

A: Although we don’t expect to do quarantines for this particular infection, we have extensive plans stemming from our H1N1 and Ebola planning which had us exercise the legal authority to quarantine.

Q: What are you doing to make sure hospitals are prepared?

A: LDH has been working with Louisiana Hospital Association (LHA) and the ESF8 Network to prepare hospitals for an outbreak and ensure they have the proper supplies needed as well as protocols are in place for anyone treated who tests positive. We haven’t had any indication that hospitals don’t have what they need on the supply side.

Q: Have you seen any indication that the consumer market is having problems keeping up with demand for supplies, such as face masks?

A: So far, everyone has been able to acquire what they need, but we understand that just as when a big storm is predicted and grocery stores run low on supplies because of high demand, that may happen in this case. We are anticipating that an outbreak could produce bottlenecks in the future. We’re focused on ensuring patients who rely on personal protective equipment, such as face masks, even without an outbreak, will be first in line for any new stock.

Q: Is the Louisiana Department of Health concerned about shipping channels such as the Port of New Orleans being affected by COVID-19?

A: Department officials met with the Coast Guard to discuss potential issues with the COVID-19 virus once it became more clear that the virus was spreading globally last week. We don’t think there will be potential for spreading the virus through shipping channels, as anyone on board a vessel is likely to have already gone through the virus’ cycle while on board the ship. Chinese goods in particular have a two-week shipping time from China, which is the period of observation for individuals potentially exposed to SARS-CoV-2 to develop COVID-19. There’s been no indication that Chinese-made goods on their own would play a role in spreading COVID-19.

Q: So is it safe to receive a package from any area where COVID-19 has been reported?

A: Yes. The likelihood of an infected person contaminating commercial goods is low and the risk of catching the virus that causes COVID-19 from a package that has been moved, traveled, and exposed to different conditions and temperature is also low.

Q: What federal resources have been made available to Louisiana to aid in the response?

A: We receive a number of federal resources for emergency preparedness that we are awarded yearly, including for hurricane preparation. Our federal partners have given us flexibility to shift some of that existing funding into COVID-19 preparation. If the U.S. Congress approves the \$2.5 billion for COVID-19 that’s now being discussed, we expect we would use some of that funding to expand our Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program.

Q: Are you in regular contact with the federal government?

A: Yes. We are in very regular contact with the CDC and HHS; we're currently averaging several calls per week just with the CDC. In addition, we have standing calls across state health departments and a standing call internally in Louisiana. This is all very important so that we all have the latest data, are on the same page, and can adapt our plans as conditions change.

Q: Should families have a plan if an outbreak occurs?

A: The best preparation families can do is practice good seasonal flu/cold hygiene: cover your cough, wash your hands (especially after being in public spaces, shaking hands), stay home if you are sick, and get your flu shot! Families should also monitor the CDC COVID-19 website for updated travel advisories before making plans to travel internationally.

Q: Are you screening travelers from any of the other countries where there have been outbreaks?

A: Currently no, but the situation is changing quickly, and we are in close communication with the CDC.

From: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 4:12 PM EDT

To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

CC: Sean Ellis <Sean.Ellis@la.gov>

Subject: DRAFT - visitor restriction news release

Attachment(s): "State health department orders healthcare facilities to restrict visitors.docx","LDH MEMO to All Providers with Visitors 3.12.20.doc"

See attached DRAFT news release about visitors along with DRAFT memo to providers.

Thanks,

Kelly



State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health

HEALTHCARE FACILITY NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: All Licensed Health Care Facilities in Louisiana

FROM: LDH Office of Public Health
Jimmy Guidry, State Health Officer

LDH Health Standards
Cecile Castello, Deputy Assistant Secretary

RE: Visitor Restriction

DATE: March 12, 2020

The State of Louisiana, Department of Health ("LDH"), is committed to taking critical steps to ensure public health and safety; to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in healthcare facilities, the State of Louisiana, Department of Health, is **DIRECTING AND REQUIRING** that all licensed healthcare facilities in Louisiana that receive visitors, adhere to the following provisions, restrictions, and limitations, **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**:

A. VISITOR RESTRICTION

A.1. Any licensed healthcare facility in Louisiana that receives visitors shall **IMMEDIATELY PROHIBIT** all non-essential visitors for thirty (30) days; this 30 day mandatory prohibition of visitors shall commence on March 12, 2020, and shall end on April 10, 2020, unless otherwise extended by written notice from the Department.

(a) Visitors deemed essential, vital, or necessary to the patient's/client's/resident's care and well-being, as determined by the individual healthcare facility after consultation with the family/responsible party, may be allowed into the facility pursuant to policies/procedures adopted by the healthcare facility, provided that such visitor does not meet the definition of Restricted Person [see definition in Paragraph A.3 below].

A.2. However, this prohibition on non-essential visitors is subject to the following exception:

(a) A Visitor who does not meet the definition of a Restricted Person [see definition in Paragraph A.3 below] may be allowed to enter the facility as a non-essential visitor, subject to the facility's approval, in situations involving a resident/client/patient who is on end-of-life care.

A.3. A Restricted Person is defined as a person who meets any one or more of the following criteria:

(a) Has signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat (as assessed by the facility);

(b) In the last 14 days, has had contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, or is under investigation for COVID-19, or has been or is currently ill with respiratory illness;

(c) Has been on international travel within the last 14 days to countries with sustained community transmission. For updated information on affected countries, please see: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

(d) Is residing in a community where community-based spread of COVID-19 is occurring.

A.4. A facility shall immediately implement a policy and procedure to offer alternative means of communication for residents/clients/patients and their families and friends. Alternative means of communication may include virtual visitations and communications (telephone access, Skype, Face Time, other video-communications, etc.). Facility should consider assigning staff as primary contact for families for inbound calls, and should consider conducting regular outbound calls to keep families up to date.

A.5. A Facility shall immediately notify responsible parties and family members of prohibitions on visitation and the alternative means of communication for residents/clients.

B. ELECTIVE PROCEDURES

B.1 The Department recommends that all facilities consider limiting and restricting all elective or voluntary medical procedures in their facilities, for thirty (30) days from the date of this Notice.

End of Memo

State health department orders healthcare facilities to restrict visitors

Effective today, the Louisiana Department of Health is requiring all licensed healthcare facilities in the state to restrict visitors to those deemed essential, vital or necessary to the care and well-being of patients, clients and residents. This action is being taken to limit the spread of COVID-19, commonly referred to as coronavirus, among the populations most vulnerable to the virus.

This prohibition will last for the next 30 days, ending on April 10, 2020 unless otherwise extended by the Department.

Visitors who will be allowed into each facility will be determined by those facilities after consultation with families and responsible parties. This does not extend to non-essential visitors in situations involving end of life care, as approved by the facility.

However, any visitor that meets the definition of a restricted person cannot enter a facility.

A restricted person is defined as someone who:

- Has signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath or sore throat as assessed by the facility;
- In the last 14 days, has had contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, or is under investigation for COVID-19 or has been or is currently ill with respiratory illness;
- Has been on international travel within the last 14 days to countries with sustained community transmission of COVID-19; or
- Is residing in a community where community-based spread of COVID-19 is occurring.

Facilities are required to provide alternative means of communication, including virtual visitations, and should consider assigning staff as primary contact for families and regular calls to keep families up to date.

The Department also recommends that all facilities considering limiting or restricting all elective or voluntary medical procedures for the next 30 days.

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 6:18 PM EST
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: Follow-up items from today's call on COVID-19

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Partner –

Thank you to all that joined us on today's call on COVID-19 with Secretary Azar, HHS, and DHS officials. While the immediate risk to the American public is still currently low, that has the potential to change rapidly. We strive to continue to provide updates to you, our valuable state partners, so that you have the best information available when developing and executing your preparedness plans.

As mentioned on the call, we wanted to provide you with some further information about available resources and to share again some prompts for consideration when planning state actions.

First, please find below links to CDC and select partner organization sites that focus on state and local readiness. Some of these link to the latest COVID-19 information, while others link to sites focused on resources for any response. As has been noted, pandemic influenza plans often provide some overlap for other infectious disease outbreak plans, so some link to CDC or external partner influenza preparedness guides.

CDC Resources

- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 homepage](#)
- [State and Local Readiness homepage](#)
- [State and Local Government Planning for Influenza](#)
- [Public Health Emergency Preparedness \(PHEP\) Cooperative Agreement](#)
- [Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases \(ELC\)](#)

Related Links

- [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials \(ASTHO\): Pandemic Influenza](#)
- [National Association of County and City Health Officials Local Health Department Pandemic Influenza Guide](#)

In addition to the above links, we wanted to share with you some questions that can inform preparedness plans. These will be particularly important if the U.S. response has to move from aggressive containment to a mitigation response. We encourage you to use these to reflect on these as you explore possible necessary response actions. In a response focused on mitigation rather than containment, state and local officials will be responsible for three key pieces of a state's response:

- Transportation;
- Housing for individuals under observation or quarantine; and
- Communication and Coordination with local and private sector partners.

We encourage you to confer and collaborate with your Attorneys General and legislature leaders to confirm and identify what authorities that you have and any that you may need to be granted.

Authorities & Responsibilities for Prudent State and Local Planning:

- Have you reviewed the scope of your emergency authorities as Governor to respond to a public health crisis in your state?
 - When have you last exercised these authorities?
 - Do you have plans to in the future?
- What are your quarantine and isolation authorities, roles, and responsibilities?
- Do you have plans for canceling large events and community gatherings?
- Do you have a mechanism to encourage or compel school closures, if necessary? If so, what is its scope? (public v. private, secondary v. university, time limited, etc.)?
- What are your policies for limiting or discouraging mass transit?
- Coordination and Communication with Local Governments – what authorities do local governments have in your state? What is your coordination plan between state, local, and tribal governments?
- What public health and human resource resources do you have for local governments, the private sector, and non-profits on hygiene or social distancing?
- What are your critical infrastructure, key resources, and essential services that might face personnel shortages?
- Do you have policies and plans in place for state and local government workers?

Finally, the U.S. State Department has posted guidance for cruise ship passengers in the event of planned travel to or within East Asia and the Asia-Pacific Region . That guidance can be found [here](#).

Please don't hesitate to follow up with the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs if there are any questions!

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000154

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 6:29 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Follow-Up Vice President's Discussion with Our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Our Nations' Governors,

Thank you for joining today's discussion between the **Vice President and Our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness**. Below you will find a readout of the briefing along with additional resources.

Vice President Mike Pence today participated in a discussion with more than 50 of our Nation's governors to provide an update on the work of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, to continue coordination with governors and state and local officials to respond to and prepare for the coronavirus, and to thank governors and state and local leaders—particularly state and local health officials—for their leadership.



The Vice President first introduced Ambassador Debbie Birx, M.D. as the White House Coronavirus Coordinator. Dr. Birx is a world renowned expert in handling the HIV/AIDS epidemic who will play a critical role in the Administration's efforts and understands the importance of a whole-of-government approach alongside governors, state and local leaders.

Next, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar, and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) Principal Deputy Director Dr. Anne Schuchat provided a status update on the Coronavirus, outlined ongoing Federal efforts, and discussed State and local actions with the governors.

Governor Larry Hogan, Chair of the National Governors Association, joined the Vice President in person, and other governors joined via video teleconference or phone.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people, thus the Vice President pledged to convene the governors for a teleconference on a weekly basis, assuring that Federal leaders will continue its close coordinate with our Nation's governors and other State and local leaders on a Whole-of Government Approach to the developing situation.

Moving forward, the Vice President asks that you keep the following resources close at hand.

Helpful Agency Contact Information: Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the Federal family.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Darcie Johnston (Office – 202-853-0582 / Cell – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000156

- U.S. Department of Homeland Security – Cherie Short (Office – 202-441-3101 / Cell – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State – Bill Killion (Office – 202-647-7595 / Cell – 202-294-2605 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation – Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)

The Office of the Vice President and White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Office of the Vice President		
Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov

White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs		
Name	Cell Phone	Email
Doug Hoelscher	202-881-8950	Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov
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Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Up-To-Date Information: Additional helpful resources and up-to-date information can be found on the below websites and social media channels.

For background and the most up-to-date information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- Twitter ([here](#))
- Facebook ([here](#))

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Twitter ([here](#))
- Facebook ([here](#))

From: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>

Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 11:15 PM EDT

To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

CC: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Sean Ellis <Sean.Ellis@la.gov>

Subject: FOR YOUR REVIEW: Updated case count

Attachment(s): "NEWS RELEASE-COVID-19 testing UPDATE.docx"

Team: Please see attached our press release from earlier today, updated with the developments. Please review and let me know if you have any flags.

We will circulate ASAP and share on social.

Thank you,
Aly

NEWS RELEASE
March 10, 2020

UPDATE: Health officials on Tuesday confirm six total presumptive positive COVID-19 cases in Louisiana as state increases testing for the virus

BATON ROUGE, La. – The Louisiana Department of Health reported on Tuesday evening three new presumptive positive cases of COVID-19, commonly referred to as coronavirus, all three residents of Orleans Parish Two are hospitalized in Orleans Parish; the third is hospitalized in St. Tammany Parish.

Gov. John Bel Edwards said, “Currently, we have a total of six presumptive positive cases of coronavirus in Louisiana. While we investigate these cases, we cannot disclose any additional information about these patients at this time.”

The presumptive positive tests will be sent to the CDC for final confirmation of COVID-19. Louisiana will move forward as if the tests are actual positives and take actions to contain the illness and assess the risk of spread.

Additional tests will be administered to determine if more people have been infected after the Department’s epidemiology team performs an investigation of close contacts.

At this time, there are a total of six known cases of the illness in the state. Gov. Edwards announced the state’s first presumptive positive case, a Jefferson Parish resident, on Monday, March 9, and two additional presumptive positive cases on Tuesday afternoon, both in Orleans Parish.

“At this point in our investigation we believe the first presumptive positive announced yesterday [Monday] is not travel-related and was community acquired,” said Dr. Alex Billioux, Assistant Secretary of the Office of Public Health.

Louisiana ramps up testing

This comes as the state has increased testing for the virus.

In the five days since receiving more test kits from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, LDH has tested more than seven times as many people for the virus.

With 43 tests of Persons Under Investigation (PUI) now completed, only six have been confirmed presumptive positive in Louisiana. This compares to five completed tests as of Friday, March 6.

Health officials expected that increased testing for COVID-19 would lead to confirmation of additional cases in the state.

LDH is following the CDC’s guidance and testing three groups of people – those who have traveled to certain areas and have symptoms, those who have had close contact with someone confirmed to have COVID-19 and have symptoms, and people with an unexplained acute respiratory illness.

The recent testing by the state laboratory run by LDH’s Office of Public Health includes samples from people who went to their doctor or to a hospital and had symptoms consistent with COVID-

19, cough, headache, or lower respiratory illness. Some patients had recently traveled to a geographic area with known COVID-19 activity, while others did not have such a travel history.

In other instances, OPH is using the tests for surveillance purposes. This is done using existing disease surveillance infrastructure that includes several hospitals and clinics throughout Louisiana. For COVID-19 surveillance, when patients are treated for respiratory illnesses, but are not diagnosed with influenza, swabbed samples are sent to the State public health lab where the COVID-19 test is done. Following CDC guidance, a sampling of cases from each site are sent the lab. This is a proven and effective system for the early detection of diseases, allowing health officials to take the appropriate next steps.

For all people who have symptoms and who are being tested, they and their healthcare provider are being advised on precautions to take to prevent spreading the illness to others. Precautions include self-isolation at home or in an isolation room at the hospital.

Some commercial labs are now equipped to conduct COVID-19 testing. With these private labs ready to test, healthcare providers will start sending their samples to those labs. LDH will be notified of any positive results coming from a commercial lab.

Appropriate treatment and precautions will immediately be put in place for any positive commercial test before that test is confirmed by the State lab, and the public will be notified.

Advice for the public

State officials encourage Louisianans to take the following proactive steps to protect the health of themselves and those around them:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Cover your cough.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, or with a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid close contact (within six feet) with those who are sick.

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. CDC believes at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

Additional information on COVID-19 can be found on LDH's website:
www.ldh.la.gov/coronavirus.

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 6:27 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: [INVITATION] Call with HHS and DHS on COVID-19

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) [mailto:Michael.Baker@hhs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 4:36 PM
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: [INVITATION] Call with HHS and DHS on COVID-19
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Governor –

The HHS Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs invites you to a 30 minute Governor-only call **TOMORROW**, February 20, 2020, with Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, Homeland Security Acting Deputy Secretary Ken Cuccinelli, CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield, NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci, and other HHS officials for an update on the Administration’s COVID-19 response. Given the extensive number of recent actions, members of President’s Coronavirus Task Force would like to update you on current initiatives and answer questions that you may have.

This invite is primarily for the Governor. We encourage that any Governor be joined by the respective Governor’s State Health Officer, Homeland Security Advisor, and/or the State Emergency Manager.

We strongly encourage your Governor to try to participate. Only the individuals identified above are invited to join this call.

Please note: this invite is NOT transferrable. Any exception to the above policy is unlikely, and confirmation of a potential surrogate will be confirmed tomorrow after 11 am at the earliest, though not guaranteed.

See below for call-in details.

Date: Thursday, February 20, 2020
Time: 2:30 PM – 3:00 PM
Phone Line: 888-282-0368
Passcode: 3433934

Please don’t hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
202-853-0582

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 2:54 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: 3 PM EST TODAY- COVID-19 Press Briefing Livestream

FYI

From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) [mailto:Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 1:25 PM
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Subject: 3 PM EST TODAY- COVID-19 Press Briefing Livestream

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear State and Local Partners,

Today, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will host a press briefing to provide an update on the Administration's response to COVID-19.

You can join the briefing via livestream at <https://www.hhs.gov/live/live-1/index.html#11607>

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Darcie Johnston,
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
(202) 853-0582

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 10:43 AM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: Coronavirus NGA Action Update

From: Scarbin, Courtney [mailto:cscarbin@nga.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 8:17 AM
To: Scarbin, Courtney <cscarbin@nga.org>
Cc: Perez Quinn, Susie <SPQuinn@nga.org>
Subject: FW: Coronavirus NGA Action Update

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good morning,

See below for an email from Bill McBride to governors' Chiefs of Staff regarding Coronavirus.

Best,
Courtney

Courtney Scarbin | Project Coordinator, Government Relations



National Governors Association
444 North Capitol Street, NW
Suite 267
Washington, DC 20001

202.719.2874
cscarbin@nga.org
www.nga.org

From: McBride, Bill <BMcBride@nga.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 8:44 AM
To: Solt, Ryan <rsolt@nga.org>
Subject: Coronavirus NGA Action Update

Good Morning,

In response to the latest developments on the Coronavirus (COVID-19), I am sharing recent activity by the National Governors Association to help states respond.

Yesterday, NGA held a call with 140 key governors' advisors and Washington Representatives/State-Federal Contacts and experts on the COVID-19 as part of an NGA State Coronavirus Action Network (SCAN). This call featured state public health and legal considerations, including federal-state coordination, and health information sharing. Our government relations team also provided an update regarding emergency supplemental funding. During this call, states identified the need for additional federal resources and for coordination in state preparedness and response efforts.

To help with the coordination and alignment of state efforts, NGA launched [a website](#) regarding COVID-19 as a resource for you and state officials. This website provides current information on the status of COVID-19 in the United States and abroad, what actions states/territories have taken to address it, and the latest efforts by the federal government.

SCAN will be holding bi-weekly calls to support state officials regarding COVID-19 planning and response. These calls are designed to allow states to share best practices, speak with subject-matter experts, and receive technical assistance from the National Governors Association.

In addition to chiefs, call information will be sent out on a regular basis to: governors' Washington Representatives/State-Federal Contacts, policy advisors, health policy advisors, and homeland security and public safety advisors.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with questions. Additionally, if you would like technical assistance or more information from NGA, contact [Maribel Ramos](#) (NGA Government Relations), [Lauren Stienstra](#) (Homeland Security and Public Safety Division) or [Melinda Becker](#) (Health Division).

Respectfully,

Bill

Bill McBride | Executive Director



National Governors Association
444 North Capitol Street NW
Suite 267
Washington, DC 20001

p/202-624-5320
c/703-370-2298
bmcbride@nga.org
www.nga.org

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000163

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From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2020 5:30 PM EDT
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
CC: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: Coronavirus Testing

Please see the below correspondence between the Governor and Brett Giroir, requesting additional testing capacity.

From: JBE
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2020 4:29 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Coronavirus Testing

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Giroir, Brett (HHS/OASH)" <Brett.Giroir@hhs.gov>
Date: March 14, 2020 at 4:20:15 PM CDT
To: JBE <jbe@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Coronavirus Testing

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

We are on it Sir.
I am ready for some gumbo after this

Brett P. Giroir, MD
ADM, US Public Health Service
Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH)
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201
Office Phone: 202-690-7694

From: JBE <jbe@la.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2020 5:11 PM
To: Giroir, Brett (HHS/OASH) <Brett.Giroir@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Coronavirus Testing

Dr. Giroir:

Thank you for your work on this pandemic emergency.

There are now 77 presumptive positive cases in Louisiana, with the vast majority being in Orleans and Jefferson Parish. An hour ago we announced the first death — a 58 year old gentleman from New Orleans with chronic health conditions.

On a per capita basis, I believe Louisiana has the third most cases in the country.

We have imposed significant mitigation measures to slow the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), but I am afraid the testing is nowhere near as robust as necessary to identify more positive cases that can then be isolated/quarantined so that we can in a significant way slow the spread, flatten the curve, and better ensure that our medical/hospital capacity is not overwhelmed.

Please make every effort to significantly increase our testing capacity and testing through put as soon as possible.

Feel free to respond to me or to have someone on your team contact Dr. Alex Billioux, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Public Health.

Thank you.

John Bel

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 14, 2020, at 8:50 AM, JBE <jbe@la.gov> wrote:

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000165

Thanks. We will take you up on your offer. My public health folks will contact your team shortly.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 13, 2020, at 7:34 PM, Giroir, Brett (HHS/OASH) <Brett.Giroir@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Sir,

We had your health team on the line this evening. White House is offering to assist with setting up drive through testing sites at hot spots. And NOLA and Jefferson Parrish are on our list. Totally your call but this could be helpful to you. We are waiting to hear back from your team.

V/r

BG

Brett P. Giroir, MD
ADM, US Public Health Service
Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH)
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201
Office Phone: 202-690-7694

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 2:38 PM EST
To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
CC: Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>
Subject: FW: FW: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update
Attachment(s): "COVID Leg. Brief 3'2'20.pdf", "Covid-19 FAQs 3'2'20.pdf"

FYA –

Adam, I copied most of the email you sent to Rep. Hughes so thanks.J

Will let y'all know if we get any considerable feedback/questions.

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 1:33 PM
To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Cc: Bethany Blackson <Bethany.Blackson@la.gov>; Anita Dupuy <Anita.Dupuy@LA.GOV>; Latonya Johnson <Latonya.Johnson2@la.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Good afternoon members –

Please see the attached brief and FAQ document regarding the novel coronavirus, COVID-19.

This morning, the Governor held a meeting of the Unified Command Group (UCG) with state agency heads to make sure that every agency is preparing and coordinating with local, state, and federal partners. The Governor is being briefed regularly by LDH and GOHSEP regarding the virus and our preparations. It is important to note that currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Louisiana. The nearest case is in Texas, and this person remains in isolation. While the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) now expects there to be “community spread” in certain regions of the United States, the immediate threat to the United States and Louisiana remains low.

Additionally, LDH has put together online resources for the public at ldh.louisiana.gov/Coronavirus. Members of the public with questions about coronavirus, should contact the Coronavirus General Information Line at 1-855-523-2652 from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Please encourage your constituents and others to use official sources, like LDH or the CDC, for actual information about the illness. If you hear troubling rumors, please pass them along so we can work with our team to make sure we are communicating effectively and dispelling any mistruths.

The bigger threat to Louisiana remains the flu; we still are experiencing very high levels of that virus. It is not too late to get a flu shot. There are actions we all can take as individuals to be prepared for COVID-19. They are the same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu - cover your cough, wash your hands often and well, and stay home when you're sick.

Please let me know if you have any more questions or if there are any additional resources we can provide.

Best,
Lauren

Lauren Gilder Gleason, MPA
Director of Legislative & Governmental Relations
628 N. Fourth Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225.342.5274 (office)
225.964.1789 (cell)



COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

No confirmed cases in Louisiana

Situation

- As of 03/02/20, there are no confirmed cases of Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Louisiana.
- The nearest case is in Texas, and this person remains in isolation.
- There are 15 confirmed cases in the United States; another 47 individuals with COVID-19 have been repatriated.
- While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) now expects there to be “community spread” in certain regions of the United States, the immediate threat to the United States and Louisiana remains low. We are not yet seeing the same spread other countries are seeing.
- The Louisiana Department of Health remains in close contact with the CDC and has been proactively preparing for the introduction of this virus since it was first identified in China earlier this year.
- COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The CDC are recommending using Pandemic Influenza Preparedness as our model for response, with the key focus being on Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPI).
 - NPIs are actions, apart from getting vaccinated and taking *medicine* that people and communities can take to help slow the spread of illnesses like pandemic influenza (flu). NPIs are also known as community mitigation strategies.
- Louisiana has been working on Pandemic Preparedness for the last 15 years. We have a comprehensive State Pandemic Plan. We have also encouraged Pandemic Planning throughout the State, both in the governmental sector as well as the private sector.
- **At this time, what poses a greater risk to Louisiana residents is the flu. It’s not too late to get your flu shot – which is available at no cost at your parish public health unit.**

Number of cases globally	83,000+
Number of countries reporting cases	50
Number of deaths	2,700+
Number of cases in the United States	62 (12 travelers, 3 person-to-person, 47 repatriated)
Number of cases in Louisiana	0
Persons Under Investigation/Suspected cases in Louisiana	0
Nearest case	Texas (San Antonio) via Diamond Princess Cruise

About Coronavirus

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people, like has been seen with recent outbreaks of MERS and SARS.

General Public Questions

If you have questions about the Coronavirus, please contact the Coronavirus general information line at 1-855-523-2652 from 8 am – 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

Immediate Threat to the Public is Low

Currently, the immediate threat to the general public in the U.S. remains low. People with recent travel to China, South Korea, Iran, Italy, or Japan (or those who have come in contact with someone who has recently traveled to one of these countries and is ill with COVID-19) have a greater risk for becoming ill. Reported cases have ranged from mild illness (similar to a common cold) to severe pneumonia that requires hospitalization. So far, deaths have been reported mainly in older adults who had other health conditions. To minimize the risk of spread, Louisiana health officials are working with health care providers to promptly identify and evaluate any suspected cases.

Symptoms

For confirmed COVID-19 infections, reported illnesses have ranged from infected people with little to no symptoms (similar to the common cold) to people being severely ill and dying. Symptoms can include fever, cough, and shortness of breath/difficulty breathing.

The CDC believe at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 after exposure. There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for COVID-19 infection. People infected with COVID-19 should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms.

How is the virus spread

Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person to others through:

- Respiratory droplets produced when coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

What can you do

Anyone who recently traveled to China, South Korea, Iran, Italy, or Japan within the previous 14 days, who experiences fever, cough, or other acute illness should contact a health care provider as soon as possible and mention your recent travel. Please call ahead and inform the health care provider about your travel history.

It is currently flu and respiratory disease season, and flu activity is still high and expected to continue for a number of weeks. Take steps to avoid spreading germs from any respiratory diseases by:

- Getting a flu vaccine and taking flu antivirals if prescribed
- Covering your cough
- Staying home if you are sick
- Washing your hands

State Response

- Louisiana has been working on Pandemic Preparedness for the last 15 years. We have a comprehensive State Pandemic Plan; additionally, we have also encouraged Pandemic Planning throughout the State, both in the government and private sectors.
- Louisiana has also put together a COVID-19 Task Force to build upon our pandemic plan in order to respond to the COVID-19 threat more specifically. Members will include essential subject matter experts from public health, hospital preparedness, human resources, emergency preparedness, and other government agencies.
- The Louisiana Department of Health is now able to test for the virus in the state public health lab.

COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Are there any confirmed cases in Louisiana?

A: As of 3/2/20, there are no confirmed cases in Louisiana.

Q: What is our message to the public?

A: While the CDC now expects community spread in some parts of the U.S., the immediate threat to the U.S. remains low. We are not seeing the same level of spread other countries are seeing. That said, it is important to be prepared, which is what we have been doing since the outbreak in mainland China.

There are actions we all can take as individuals to be prepared for COVID-19. The same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu put you in a good position for any respiratory illness - cover your cough, wash your hands often and well, and stay home when you're sick.

Q: What is the protocol in place for responding to a pandemic like Coronavirus/COVID-19?

A: COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The CDC are recommending using the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness plan as our model for the response because COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The Louisiana Department of Health has been working on our Pandemic Preparedness Plan for the last 15 years, and we have been preparing for COVID-19 since it was first reported in China in December 2019. The Governor directed the formation of a COVID-19 Task Force with representation from state agencies and federal partners key to preparing for a COVID-19 outbreak to guide updating pandemic flu and continuity of operations planning documents and advise the Unified Command Group.

Q: What have you been doing as far as monitoring people who may have been exposed?

A: Our first priority was to ensure we were monitoring any travelers who returned to Louisiana from visiting China, where many of the cases have occurred, and especially Wuhan, the city that experienced the largest outbreak. We touch base with those travelers each day and ask about their symptoms during a 14-day period of observation. We are also ensuring that travelers know the destinations where non-essential travel should be avoided.

Q: Do we have the capability to test?

A: We do have the capability to test for COVID-19 in-state. Providers should contact the Office of Public Health Division's Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program (IDEpi).

Q: What's the next major step in the Department's plan for responding to an outbreak?

A: Mirroring the federal government's response, we are moving from a 'containment' approach in which we focused on restricting travel from the outbreak area in Wuhan city and Hubei province in China and monitoring returning travelers from other parts of China, to a 'mitigation' approach in which we anticipate and plan for person-to-person transmission in the community somewhere in the United States and ensure state and local governments, health care providers, schools, businesses, and community members are adequately prepared to take action to reduce the spread of COVID-19. We don't want people to be alarmed, but we do want them to be prepared. We also want businesses and health care facilities to be prepared to make sure people are safe and protected so we can avoid an unnecessary spread, including planning now for actions that can be taken to avoid the spread of infections such as mandatory teleworking and canceling unnecessary large gatherings.

Q: Why are you using the state’s pandemic plan that was developed for an influenza outbreak like H1N1?

A: COVID-19 behaves very much like the flu, and all of the drills we’ve done around responding to an influenza outbreak apply extremely well to dealing with a COVID-19 outbreak.

Q: Do plans for the future include quarantining?

A: Although we don’t expect to do quarantines for this particular infection, we have extensive plans stemming from our H1N1 and Ebola planning which had us exercise the legal authority to quarantine.

Q: What are you doing to make sure hospitals are prepared?

A: LDH has been working with Louisiana Hospital Association (LHA) and the ESF8 Network to prepare hospitals for an outbreak and ensure they have the proper supplies needed as well as protocols are in place for anyone treated who tests positive. We haven’t had any indication that hospitals don’t have what they need on the supply side.

Q: Have you seen any indication that the consumer market is having problems keeping up with demand for supplies, such as face masks?

A: So far, everyone has been able to acquire what they need, but we understand that just as when a big storm is predicted and grocery stores run low on supplies because of high demand, that may happen in this case. We are anticipating that an outbreak could produce bottlenecks in the future. We’re focused on ensuring patients who rely on personal protective equipment, such as face masks, even without an outbreak, will be first in line for any new stock.

Q: Is the Louisiana Department of Health concerned about shipping channels such as the Port of New Orleans being affected by COVID-19?

A: Department officials met with the Coast Guard to discuss potential issues with the COVID-19 virus once it became more clear that the virus was spreading globally last week. We don’t think there will be potential for spreading the virus through shipping channels, as anyone on board a vessel is likely to have already gone through the virus’ cycle while on board the ship. Chinese goods in particular have a two-week shipping time from China, which is the period of observation for individuals potentially exposed to SARS-CoV-2 to develop COVID-19. There’s been no indication that Chinese-made goods on their own would play a role in spreading COVID-19.

Q: So is it safe to receive a package from any area where COVID-19 has been reported?

A: Yes. The likelihood of an infected person contaminating commercial goods is low and the risk of catching the virus that causes COVID-19 from a package that has been moved, traveled, and exposed to different conditions and temperature is also low.

Q: What federal resources have been made available to Louisiana to aid in the response?

A: We receive a number of federal resources for emergency preparedness that we are awarded yearly, including for hurricane preparation. Our federal partners have given us flexibility to shift some of that existing funding into COVID-19 preparation. If the U.S. Congress approves the \$2.5 billion for COVID-19 that’s now being discussed, we expect we would use some of that funding to expand our Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program.

Q: Are you in regular contact with the federal government?

A: Yes. We are in very regular contact with the CDC and HHS; we're currently averaging several calls per week just with the CDC. In addition, we have standing calls across state health departments and a standing call internally in Louisiana. This is all very important so that we all have the latest data, are on the same page, and can adapt our plans as conditions change.

Q: Should families have a plan if an outbreak occurs?

A: The best preparation families can do is practice good seasonal flu/cold hygiene: cover your cough, wash your hands (especially after being in public spaces, shaking hands), stay home if you are sick, and get your flu shot! Families should also monitor the CDC COVID-19 website for updated travel advisories before making plans to travel internationally.

Q: Are you screening travelers from any of the other countries where there have been outbreaks?

A: Currently no, but the situation is changing quickly, and we are in close communication with the CDC.

From: Shauna Sanford
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 6:02 PM EST
To: Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>
CC: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: COVID-19/Coronavirus Concerns at LA Public Schools
Attachment(s): "COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update.msg", "Covid-19 FAQs 03022020 3.12PM.docx"

Attached is the COVID-19 information we're told LDH sent to all lawmakers.

Shauna

Shauna Sanford

Communications Director



225.219.9313 office

225.428.6533 cell

shauna.sanford@la.gov

gov.louisiana.gov

From: Aly Neel
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 5:00 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fw: COVID-19/Coronavirus Concerns at LA Public Schools

Hi all, this is what we sent out right after press club. It went to all members.

I'm also reattaching the tighter FAQs (set of 10 we discussed). Both versions will do, but this latest one is even more ready for distribution.

Thanks,
Aly

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 2:33 PM EST
To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
CC: Bethany Blackson <Bethany.Blackson@la.gov>; Anita Dupuy <Anita.Dupuy@LA.GOV>; Latonya Johnson <Latonya.Johnson2@la.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update
Attachment(s): "COVID Leg. Brief 3'2'20.pdf","Covid-19 FAQs 3'2'20.pdf"

Good afternoon members –

Please see the attached brief and FAQ document regarding the novel coronavirus, COVID-19.

This morning, the Governor held a meeting of the Unified Command Group (UCG) with state agency heads to make sure that every agency is preparing and coordinating with local, state, and federal partners. The Governor is being briefed regularly by LDH and GOHSEP regarding the virus and our preparations. It is important to note that currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Louisiana. The nearest case is in Texas, and this person remains in isolation. While the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) now expects there to be “community spread” in certain regions of the United States, the immediate threat to the United States and Louisiana remains low.

Additionally, LDH has put together online resources for the public at ldh.louisiana.gov/Coronavirus. Members of the public with questions about coronavirus, should contact the Coronavirus General Information Line at 1-855-523-2652 from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Please encourage your constituents and others to use official sources, like LDH or the CDC, for actual information about the illness. If you hear troubling rumors, please pass them along so we can work with our team to make sure we are communicating effectively and dispelling any mistruths.

The bigger threat to Louisiana remains the flu; we still are experiencing very high levels of that virus. It is not too late to get a flu shot. There are actions we all can take as individuals to be prepared for COVID-19. They are the same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu - cover your cough, wash your hands often and well, and stay home when you're sick.

Please let me know if you have any more questions or if there are any additional resources we can provide.

Best,
Lauren

Lauren Gilder Gleason, MPA
Director of Legislative & Governmental Relations
628 N. Fourth Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225.342.5274 (office)
225.964.1789 (cell)



COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

No confirmed cases in Louisiana

Situation

- As of 03/02/20, there are no confirmed cases of Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Louisiana.
- The nearest case is in Texas, and this person remains in isolation.
- There are 15 confirmed cases in the United States; another 47 individuals with COVID-19 have been repatriated.
- While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) now expects there to be “community spread” in certain regions of the United States, the immediate threat to the United States and Louisiana remains low. We are not yet seeing the same spread other countries are seeing.
- The Louisiana Department of Health remains in close contact with the CDC and has been proactively preparing for the introduction of this virus since it was first identified in China earlier this year.
- COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The CDC are recommending using Pandemic Influenza Preparedness as our model for response, with the key focus being on Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPI).
 - NPIs are actions, apart from getting vaccinated and taking *medicine* that people and communities can take to help slow the spread of illnesses like pandemic influenza (flu). NPIs are also known as community mitigation strategies.
- Louisiana has been working on Pandemic Preparedness for the last 15 years. We have a comprehensive State Pandemic Plan. We have also encouraged Pandemic Planning throughout the State, both in the governmental sector as well as the private sector.
- **At this time, what poses a greater risk to Louisiana residents is the flu. It’s not too late to get your flu shot – which is available at no cost at your parish public health unit.**

Number of cases globally	83,000+
Number of countries reporting cases	50
Number of deaths	2,700+
Number of cases in the United States	62 (12 travelers, 3 person-to-person, 47 repatriated)
Number of cases in Louisiana	0
Persons Under Investigation/Suspected cases in Louisiana	0
Nearest case	Texas (San Antonio) via Diamond Princess Cruise

About Coronavirus

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people, like has been seen with recent outbreaks of MERS and SARS.

General Public Questions

If you have questions about the Coronavirus, please contact the Coronavirus general information line at 1-855-523-2652 from 8 am – 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

Immediate Threat to the Public is Low

Currently, the immediate threat to the general public in the U.S. remains low. People with recent travel to China, South Korea, Iran, Italy, or Japan (or those who have come in contact with someone who has recently traveled to one of these countries and is ill with COVID-19) have a greater risk for becoming ill. Reported cases have ranged from mild illness (similar to a common cold) to severe pneumonia that requires hospitalization. So far, deaths have been reported mainly in older adults who had other health conditions. To minimize the risk of spread, Louisiana health officials are working with health care providers to promptly identify and evaluate any suspected cases.

Symptoms

For confirmed COVID-19 infections, reported illnesses have ranged from infected people with little to no symptoms (similar to the common cold) to people being severely ill and dying. Symptoms can include fever, cough, and shortness of breath/difficulty breathing.

The CDC believe at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 after exposure. There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for COVID-19 infection. People infected with COVID-19 should receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms.

How is the virus spread

Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person to others through:

- Respiratory droplets produced when coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

What can you do

Anyone who recently traveled to China, South Korea, Iran, Italy, or Japan within the previous 14 days, who experiences fever, cough, or other acute illness should contact a health care provider as soon as possible and mention your recent travel. Please call ahead and inform the health care provider about your travel history.

It is currently flu and respiratory disease season, and flu activity is still high and expected to continue for a number of weeks. Take steps to avoid spreading germs from any respiratory diseases by:

- Getting a flu vaccine and taking flu antivirals if prescribed
- Covering your cough
- Staying home if you are sick
- Washing your hands

State Response

- Louisiana has been working on Pandemic Preparedness for the last 15 years. We have a comprehensive State Pandemic Plan; additionally, we have also encouraged Pandemic Planning throughout the State, both in the government and private sectors.
- Louisiana has also put together a COVID-19 Task Force to build upon our pandemic plan in order to respond to the COVID-19 threat more specifically. Members will include essential subject matter experts from public health, hospital preparedness, human resources, emergency preparedness, and other government agencies.
- The Louisiana Department of Health is now able to test for the virus in the state public health lab.

COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Are there any confirmed cases in Louisiana?

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Q: What is our message to the public?

A: While the CDC now expects community spread in some parts of the U.S., the immediate threat to the U.S. remains low. We are not seeing the same level of spread other countries are seeing. That said, it is important to be prepared, which is what we have been doing since the outbreak in mainland China.

There are actions we all can take as individuals to be prepared for COVID-19. The same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu put you in a good position for any respiratory illness - cover your cough, wash your hands often and well, and stay home when you're sick.

Q: What is the protocol in place for responding to a pandemic like Coronavirus/COVID-19?

A: COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The CDC are recommending using the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness plan as our model for the response because COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The Louisiana Department of Health has been working on our Pandemic Preparedness Plan for the last 15 years, and we have been preparing for COVID-19 since it was first reported in China in December 2019. The Governor directed the formation of a COVID-19 Task Force with representation from state agencies and federal partners key to preparing for a COVID-19 outbreak to guide updating pandemic flu and continuity of operations planning documents and advise the Unified Command Group.

Q: What have you been doing as far as monitoring people who may have been exposed?

A: Our first priority was to ensure we were monitoring any travelers who returned to Louisiana from visiting China, where many of the cases have occurred, and especially Wuhan, the city that experienced the largest outbreak. We touch base with those travelers each day and ask about their symptoms during a 14-day period of observation. We are also ensuring that travelers know the destinations where non-essential travel should be avoided.

Q: Do we have the capability to test?

A: We do have the capability to test for COVID-19 in-state. Providers should contact the Office of Public Health Division's Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program (IDEpi).

Q: What's the next major step in the Department's plan for responding to an outbreak?

A: Mirroring the federal government's response, we are moving from a 'containment' approach in which we focused on restricting travel from the outbreak area in Wuhan city and Hubei province in China and monitoring returning travelers from other parts of China, to a 'mitigation' approach in which we anticipate and plan for person-to-person transmission in the community somewhere in the United States and ensure state and local governments, health care providers, schools, businesses, and community members are adequately prepared to take action to reduce the spread of COVID-19. We don't want people to be alarmed, but we do want them to be prepared. We also want businesses and health care facilities to be prepared to make sure people are safe and protected so we can avoid an unnecessary spread, including planning now for actions that can be taken to avoid the spread of infections such as mandatory teleworking and canceling unnecessary large gatherings.

Q: Why are you using the state’s pandemic plan that was developed for an influenza outbreak like H1N1?

A: COVID-19 behaves very much like the flu, and all of the drills we’ve done around responding to an influenza outbreak apply extremely well to dealing with a COVID-19 outbreak.

Q: Do plans for the future include quarantining?

A: Although we don’t expect to do quarantines for this particular infection, we have extensive plans stemming from our H1N1 and Ebola planning which had us exercise the legal authority to quarantine.

Q: What are you doing to make sure hospitals are prepared?

A: LDH has been working with Louisiana Hospital Association (LHA) and the ESF8 Network to prepare hospitals for an outbreak and ensure they have the proper supplies needed as well as protocols are in place for anyone treated who tests positive. We haven’t had any indication that hospitals don’t have what they need on the supply side.

Q: Have you seen any indication that the consumer market is having problems keeping up with demand for supplies, such as face masks?

A: So far, everyone has been able to acquire what they need, but we understand that just as when a big storm is predicted and grocery stores run low on supplies because of high demand, that may happen in this case. We are anticipating that an outbreak could produce bottlenecks in the future. We’re focused on ensuring patients who rely on personal protective equipment, such as face masks, even without an outbreak, will be first in line for any new stock.

Q: Is the Louisiana Department of Health concerned about shipping channels such as the Port of New Orleans being affected by COVID-19?

A: Department officials met with the Coast Guard to discuss potential issues with the COVID-19 virus once it became more clear that the virus was spreading globally last week. We don’t think there will be potential for spreading the virus through shipping channels, as anyone on board a vessel is likely to have already gone through the virus’ cycle while on board the ship. Chinese goods in particular have a two-week shipping time from China, which is the period of observation for individuals potentially exposed to SARS-CoV-2 to develop COVID-19. There’s been no indication that Chinese-made goods on their own would play a role in spreading COVID-19.

Q: So is it safe to receive a package from any area where COVID-19 has been reported?

A: Yes. The likelihood of an infected person contaminating commercial goods is low and the risk of catching the virus that causes COVID-19 from a package that has been moved, traveled, and exposed to different conditions and temperature is also low.

Q: What federal resources have been made available to Louisiana to aid in the response?

A: We receive a number of federal resources for emergency preparedness that we are awarded yearly, including for hurricane preparation. Our federal partners have given us flexibility to shift some of that existing funding into COVID-19 preparation. If the U.S. Congress approves the \$2.5 billion for COVID-19 that’s now being discussed, we expect we would use some of that funding to expand our Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program.

Q: Are you in regular contact with the federal government?

A: Yes. We are in very regular contact with the CDC and HHS; we're currently averaging several calls per week just with the CDC. In addition, we have standing calls across state health departments and a standing call internally in Louisiana. This is all very important so that we all have the latest data, are on the same page, and can adapt our plans as conditions change.

Q: Should families have a plan if an outbreak occurs?

A: The best preparation families can do is practice good seasonal flu/cold hygiene: cover your cough, wash your hands (especially after being in public spaces, shaking hands), stay home if you are sick, and get your flu shot! Families should also monitor the CDC COVID-19 website for updated travel advisories before making plans to travel internationally.

Q: Are you screening travelers from any of the other countries where there have been outbreaks?

A: Currently no, but the situation is changing quickly, and we are in close communication with the CDC.

10 Frequently Asked Questions About Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Because the situation continues to evolve, this document will be regularly updated. The information below reflects the situation as of 03/02/2020.

Q: Are there any confirmed cases in Louisiana?

A: As of 03/02/20, there are no confirmed cases in Louisiana.

Q: What is the current situation?

A: While the CDC now expect community spread in some parts of the U.S., the immediate threat to the U.S. remains low. We are not seeing the same level of spread other countries are seeing. That said, it is important to be prepared, which is what we have been doing since the outbreak in mainland China.

Q: What is the protocol in place for responding to a pandemic like COVID-19?

A: COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The CDC recommends using the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness plan as our model for the response because COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The Louisiana Department of Health has been working on our Pandemic Preparedness Plan for the last 15 years, and we have been preparing for COVID-19 since early January 2020. The Governor directed the formation of a COVID-19 Task Force with representation from state agencies and federal partners key to preparing for a COVID-19 outbreak to guide updating pandemic flu and continuity of operations planning documents and advise the Unified Command Group.

Q: What have you been doing as far as monitoring people who may have been exposed?

A: Our first priority was to ensure we were monitoring any travelers who returned to Louisiana from visiting China, where many of the cases have occurred, and especially Wuhan, the city that experienced the largest outbreak. We touch base with those travelers each day and ask about their symptoms during a 14-day period of observation. We are also ensuring that travelers know the destinations where non-essential travel should be avoided.

Q: Do we have the capability to test?

A: We do have the capability to test for COVID-19 in-state. Providers should contact the Office of Public Health Division's Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program (IDepi). Testing is prioritized for individuals that meet clinical and risk criteria.

Q: What's the next major step in the Department's plan for responding to an outbreak?

A: Mirroring the federal government's response, we are moving from a 'containment' approach in which we focused on restricting travel from the outbreak area in Wuhan city and Hubei province in China and monitoring returning travelers from other parts of China, to a 'mitigation' approach in which we anticipate and plan for person-to-person transmission in the community somewhere in the United States and ensure state and local governments, health care providers, schools, businesses, and community members are adequately prepared to take action to reduce the spread of COVID-19. We don't want people to be alarmed, but we do want them to be prepared. We also want businesses and health care facilities to be prepared to make sure people are safe and protected so we can avoid an unnecessary spread, including planning now for actions that can be taken to avoid the spread of infections such as mandatory teleworking and canceling unnecessary large gatherings.

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From: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 5:59 PM EST

To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>

Subject: Fw: Fw: COVID-19/Coronavirus Concerns at LA Public Schools

Attachment(s): "COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update.msg", "Covid-19 FAQs 03022020 3.12PM.docx"

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A: Department officials met with the Coast Guard to discuss potential issues with the COVID-19 virus once it became more clear that the virus was spreading globally last week. We don't think there will be potential for spreading the virus through shipping channels, as anyone on board a vessel is likely to have already gone through the virus' cycle while on board the ship. Chinese goods in particular have a two-week shipping time from China, which is the period of observation for individuals potentially exposed to SARS-CoV-2 to develop COVID-19. There's been no indication that Chinese-made goods on their own would play a role in spreading COVID-19.

Q: So is it safe to receive a package from any area where COVID-19 has been reported?

A: Yes. The likelihood of an infected person contaminating commercial goods is low and the risk of catching the virus that causes COVID-19 from a package that has been moved, traveled, and exposed to different conditions and temperature is also low.

Q: What federal resources have been made available to Louisiana to aid in the response?

A: We receive a number of federal resources for emergency preparedness that we are awarded yearly, including for hurricane preparation. Our federal partners have given us flexibility to shift some of that existing funding into COVID-19 preparation. If the U.S. Congress approves the \$2.5 billion for COVID-19 that's now being discussed, we expect we would use some of that funding to expand our Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program.

Q: Are you in regular contact with the federal government?

A: Yes. We are in very regular contact with the CDC and HHS; we're currently averaging several calls per week just with the CDC. In addition, we have standing calls across state health departments and a standing call internally in Louisiana. This is all very important so that we all have the latest data, are on the same page, and can adapt our plans as conditions change.

Q: Should families have a plan if an outbreak occurs?

A: The best preparation families can do is practice good seasonal flu/cold hygiene: cover your cough, wash your hands (especially after being in public spaces, shaking hands), stay home if you are sick, and get your flu shot! Families should also monitor the CDC COVID-19 website for updated travel advisories before making plans to travel internationally.

Q: Are you screening travelers from any of the other countries where there have been outbreaks?

A: Currently no, but the situation is changing quickly, and we are in close communication with the CDC.

10 Frequently Asked Questions About Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Because the situation continues to evolve, this document will be regularly updated. The information below reflects the situation as of 03/02/2020.

Q: Are there any confirmed cases in Louisiana?

A: As of 03/02/20, there are no confirmed cases in Louisiana.

Q: What is the current situation?

A: While the CDC now expect community spread in some parts of the U.S., the immediate threat to the U.S. remains low. We are not seeing the same level of spread other countries are seeing. That said, it is important to be prepared, which is what we have been doing since the outbreak in mainland China.

Q: What is the protocol in place for responding to a pandemic like COVID-19?

A: COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The CDC recommends using the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness plan as our model for the response because COVID-19 in many ways behaves similarly to influenza. The Louisiana Department of Health has been working on our Pandemic Preparedness Plan for the last 15 years, and we have been preparing for COVID-19 since early January 2020. The Governor directed the formation of a COVID-19 Task Force with representation from state agencies and federal partners key to preparing for a COVID-19 outbreak to guide updating pandemic flu and continuity of operations planning documents and advise the Unified Command Group.

Q: What have you been doing as far as monitoring people who may have been exposed?

A: Our first priority was to ensure we were monitoring any travelers who returned to Louisiana from visiting China, where many of the cases have occurred, and especially Wuhan, the city that experienced the largest outbreak. We touch base with those travelers each day and ask about their symptoms during a 14-day period of observation. We are also ensuring that travelers know the destinations where non-essential travel should be avoided.

Q: Do we have the capability to test?

A: We do have the capability to test for COVID-19 in-state. Providers should contact the Office of Public Health Division's Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program (IDepi). Testing is prioritized for individuals that meet clinical and risk criteria.

Q: What's the next major step in the Department's plan for responding to an outbreak?

A: Mirroring the federal government's response, we are moving from a 'containment' approach in which we focused on restricting travel from the outbreak area in Wuhan city and Hubei province in China and monitoring returning travelers from other parts of China, to a 'mitigation' approach in which we anticipate and plan for person-to-person transmission in the community somewhere in the United States and ensure state and local governments, health care providers, schools, businesses, and community members are adequately prepared to take action to reduce the spread of COVID-19. We don't want people to be alarmed, but we do want them to be prepared. We also want businesses and health care facilities to be prepared to make sure people are safe and protected so we can avoid an unnecessary spread, including planning now for actions that can be taken to avoid the spread of infections such as mandatory teleworking and canceling unnecessary large gatherings.

Q: What are you doing to make sure hospitals are prepared?

A: LDH has been working with Louisiana Hospital Association (LHA) and the ESF8 Network to prepare hospitals for an outbreak and ensure they have the proper supplies needed as well as protocols are in place for anyone treated who tests positive. We haven't had any indication that hospitals don't have what they need on the supply side.

Q: Is it safe to receive a package from any area where COVID-19 has been reported?

A: Yes. The likelihood of an infected person contaminating commercial goods is low and the risk of catching the virus that causes COVID-19 from a package that has been moved, traveled, and exposed to different conditions and temperature is also low.

Q: Are you in regular contact with the federal government?

A: Yes. We are in very regular contact with the CDC and HHS; we're currently averaging several calls per week just with the CDC. In addition we have standing calls across state health departments and a standing call internally in Louisiana. This is all very important so that we all have the latest data, are on the same page, and can adapt our plans as conditions change.

Q: Should individuals and families have a plan if an outbreak occurs?

There are actions we all can take as individuals to be prepared for COVID-19. The same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu put you in a good position for any respiratory illness - cover your cough, wash your hands (especially after being in public spaces, shaking hands), stay home if you are sick, and get your flu shot! Individuals and families should also monitor the CDC COVID-19 website for updated travel advisories before making plans to travel internationally.

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 8:32 AM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
CC: Joseph Hollins <Joseph.Hollins@la.gov>
Subject: FW: FW: COVID-19 Update: Recent Actions & Resources

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 7:23 AM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Recent Actions & Resources

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State Leader and Staff,

Below you will find a summary of recent Federal actions, updated resources, and readout of recent briefing calls. As a reminder, the best resource for up-to-date information and guidance is www.coronavirus.gov.

Ø **Helpful Guidance for Your State Health Officer & State Health Lab:** FAQs on Diagnostic Testing (more [here](#))



Presidential Proclamation to Protect the Homeland from Travel-Related Coronavirus Spread

On Thursday, March 12, President Donald J. Trump signed a [Presidential Proclamation](#), which suspends the entry of most foreign nationals who have been in certain European countries at any point during the 14 days prior to their scheduled arrival to the United States. These countries, known as the Schengen Area, include: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. *This does not apply to legal permanent residents, (generally) immediate family members of U.S. citizens, and other individuals who are identified in the proclamation.*

- DHS Acting Secretary Wolf's Statement on Presidential Proclamation to Protect the Homeland from Travel-Related Coronavirus Spread (more [here](#))
- Fact Sheet – President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond to the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans (more [here](#))

Framework Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts.

- A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission (more [here](#); 10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)
- CDC mitigation strategies for [Santa Clara](#) (CA), [Seattle](#) (WA), and [New Rochelle](#) (NY)

Thanks,

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000191

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White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
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Background & Additional Information for State & Local Officials

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)

- The Department of Health and Human Services is committed to providing as much information as possible to prepare communities for response to COVID-19. The Department, through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, and other agencies, continuously provide guidance to healthcare providers, laboratories, communities, and state and local officials for dealing with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. The most up-to-date information can be found at www.coronavirus.gov.
- Wednesday, March 12, CDC **announced** the imminent release of almost \$600 million to support state and local authorities respond to the COVID-19 outbreak. Full funding amounts are [here](#).
- CDC released their “**Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission**.” This is a guide for communities describing possible coronavirus transmission. Community mitigation strategies are often the most available interventions to help slow the transmission of COVID-19 in communities.
- The CDC has been actively working to address the need for testing across the country. You can find more information about testing [here](#). We encourage review of the [Updated Guidance on Evaluating and Testing Persons for Coronavirus Disease 2019](#), as well as the recently updated the [FAQ website for laboratories](#) to determine best practices for testing.
- The U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps has deployed hundreds of officers to help with this response. As America’s Health Responders, the Commissioned Corps is currently very involved in assisting the CDC with airport screenings, deploying staff to support hospitals, among other important missions. Find out more about Commissioned Corps activities [here](#).
- Part of preparedness includes a robust blood supply. The current situation around COVID-19 heightens the need for a ready blood supply, please encourage your health community members to keep their appointments to donate blood.
- CDC released updated [guidance](#) on infection prevention and control recommendations for healthcare workers. Healthcare workers are fighting this outbreak on the front lines, and this guidance is intended to provide assistance to healthcare settings that are handling suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. This guidance is applicable to all U.S. healthcare settings.

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

- The Small Business Administration will work directly with state Governors to provide targeted, low-interest loans to small businesses and non-profits that have been severely impacted by the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan program provides small businesses with working capital loans of up to \$2 million that can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing.
- The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental expanded the disaster definition for the Small Business Administration’s Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) to include COVID-19. Economic Injury Disaster Loans are SBA loans that are available to eligible Small Businesses, Small agricultural cooperatives, and most non-profits that have experienced substantial economic injury as a result of a disaster.
 - EIDLs are available in areas that are declared a disaster area by the SBA.
 - There has to be an SBA Disaster Declaration in an area for EIDL loans to be made available, which originates from a request made by the Governor.
 - To assist in the efforts, the SBA engages with States’ Emergency Response Teams to help them comply with the requirements before a request is made.
- EIDL Loan Details
 - Entities that can apply for EIDL loans are eligible Small Businesses, Small agricultural cooperatives, and most private nonprofit organizations.
 - EIDL Loans are up to \$2million and have terms as long as 30 years.
- State and local officials who have been contacted by Small Businesses that may have been affected should share that information with their Governor or the State’s Emergency Response Officials. More information on SBA’s disaster loans, including eligibility and how to apply for loans, can be found here: www.SBA.gov/disaster

U.S. Department of Education (DoED)

- The Department of Education has established a dedicated Coronavirus [webpage](#), which includes resources for institutions of higher education and for K-12.
 - The website includes [guidance](#) for students at institutions of higher education, and covers Coronavirus-related scenarios that could impact students who are enrolled in study abroad programs, students who meet full-time requirements but fall below 12 credit hours, students who are quarantined and miss class, campuses that have temporarily stopped offering ground-based classes to prevent the spread of Coronavirus, and foreign schools that serve Americans who receive Federal financial aid. Also see a [letter from the Office for Civil Rights](#) that addresses potential discrimination associated with coronavirus.
- The Department is working on additional information for families and communities including:
 - Information regarding certain flexibilities under the Every Student Succeeds Act, or “ESSA;”
 - Information regarding services to children with disabilities;
 - A fact sheet from our Office for Civil Rights on the risk of Coronavirus in schools while protecting the civil rights of students; and

- Information on the Family Education Records Privacy Act, or “FERPA,” as it pertains to K-12 and higher education students.
- The Department will continue to update its website, ed.gov/coronavirus. Please direct education related questions to COVID-19@ed.gov.

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

- The U.S. Department of Transportation, in its important supporting role, has and will continue to coordinate with transportation stakeholders, foreign counterparts and other federal agencies to manage the risk in the United States.
- DOT continues to ensure: an active air bridge remains in place for the safe return of Americans from affected areas; airlines are funneling passenger flights to one of the eleven designated U.S. airports equipped to health-screen Americans returning from affected areas; continued air and sea cargo traffic between the US and China; health protocols are established to protect the crews of aircraft continuing to fly between the US and foreign locations; and, dissemination of health messages about the virus, for airlines to use to inform their passengers.
- The U.S. government’s travel restrictions and advisories have been a remarkably effective ‘first layer’ of containment. These travel requirements delayed the arrival of the virus to the United States, giving the nation precious time to prepare further measures, and plan for mitigation. This achievement took the cooperation of nearly 200 commercial airlines, a like number of overseas airports, and the Civil Aviation Authority of China.
- External Stakeholder outreach is being actively conducted throughout the modes of transportation in DOT. DOT has already hosted calls with stakeholders for the Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Transit Authority, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and others. Additional calls are scheduled for outreach to additional stakeholders in all surface transportation, maritime, and labor.

U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)

- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) developed COVID-19 [planning guidance](#) for employers to implement engineering, administrative, and work practice controls and personal protective equipment (PPE). The guidance is intended for planning purposes – employers and workers should use the planning guidance to help identify risk levels in workplace settings and to determine any appropriate control measures to implement.
- The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), an independent agency that serves as the chief human resources agency and personnel policy manager for the Federal Government, issued [guidance](#) for Federal Agencies regarding COVID-19 and human resources policies.
- DOL announced new guidance outlining flexibilities that States have in administering their unemployment (UI) programs to assist Americans affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Under the guidance, federal law.

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)

- The health and well-being of our country’s most vulnerable citizens is Secretary Ben Carson’s highest priority. At the direction of Secretary Carson senior HUD, officials have developed an Infectious Disease Toolkit for Continuum of Care homeless shelters (CoC). This includes specific documents addressing preparedness in shelters and encampment settings. More [here](#).
- HUD has sent communication to CoC and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) grantees, highlighting the importance of infectious disease preparedness and linking to CDC and Healthcare for the Homeless resources: [Infectious Disease Preparedness Among Homeless Assistance Providers](#)
- HUD is coordinating with the CDC, Healthcare for the Homeless, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) on messaging and cross-promoting resource materials. This will continue on an ongoing basis. Also, the Department is reaching out to Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for future coordination.
- HUD has plenty of resources for your communities including:
 - Communities can use their unspent Emergency Solutions Grants and Continuum of Care Program funds to help address needs related to coronavirus. Additionally, a portion of CDBG funds are also available for public services, including health care.
 - Technical Assistance is available for ESG and CoC Program recipients if requested. Additionally, communities that want to amend their CDBG plans, can reach out to their CPD representative if they need assistance.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue [announced proactive flexibilities](#) to allow meal service during school closures to minimize potential exposure to the coronavirus. During an unexpected school closure, schools can leverage their participation in one of USDA’s summer meal programs to provide meals at no cost to students. Under normal circumstances, those meals must be served in a group setting. However, in a public health emergency, the law allows USDA the authority to waive the group setting meal requirement, which is vital during a social distancing situation.
- USDA intends to use all available program flexibilities and contingencies to serve program participants across our 15 nutrition programs. USDA has already begun to issue waivers to ease program operations and protect the health of participants. USDA is receiving requests for waivers on an ongoing basis. As of today, USDA has been asked to waive congregate feeding requirements in Washington, California, Maryland, Alaska, Utah, Pennsylvania, Wyoming, Maine, Kansas, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Virginia and USDA has granted those requests.
- For more information about the coronavirus response across USDA, please visit : www.usda.gov/coronavirus.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- While the overall risk to the American public remains low, actions by DHS and the administration are decreasing the strain on public health officials by screening incoming travelers, expediting the processing of U.S. citizens returning from China, and ensuring resources are focused on the health and safety of the American people. It is important to recognize, that while there is a significant focus on containing and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, all departments and agencies of DHS are continuing to perform their regular duties with no impact on their mission.
- DHS is working to recognize, detect, and assist individuals attempting to enter the U.S. through our, airports, land ports, or waterways who may be carrying the virus: Cruise Lines International Association, CDC, USCG, and CBP. DHS is working with

the Department of State, HHS, and the senior public health leadership with the Government of Mexico to prepare for any COVID-19 cases identified along the South West Border. This effort includes coordination with state, and local Public Health Officials to develop reporting and response courses of action.

- FEMA has rostered 56 four-person Incident Management Assistance Teams.
- The Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, which contains the National Biosurveillance Integration Center and the Chief Medical Officer, has maintained close coordination with our Components and U.S. Government partners regarding the status of the outbreak and associated U.S. Government response actions.

Recent Announcements

SBA To Provide Disaster Loans for Small Businesses Impacted by Coronavirus (COVID-19)

On Thursday, March 12, SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza issued the following statement: “The President took bold, decisive action to make our 30 million small businesses more resilient to Coronavirus-related economic disruptions. Small businesses are vital economic engines in every community and state, and they have helped make our economy the strongest in the world. Our Agency will work directly with state Governors to provide targeted, low-interest disaster recovery loans to small businesses that have been severely impacted by the situation. Additionally, the SBA continues to assist small businesses with counseling and navigating their own preparedness plans through our network of 68 District Offices and numerous Resource Partners located around the country. The SBA will continue to provide every small business with the most effective and customer-focused response possible during these times of uncertainty.” SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loans offer up to \$2 million in assistance for a small business. These loans can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing. More information can be found [here](#).

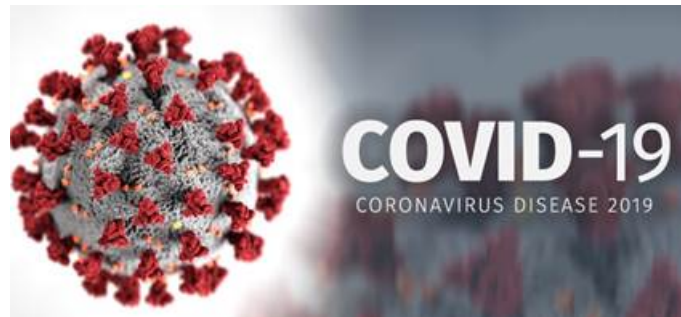
CDC to Award Over \$560 Million to State & Local Jurisdictions in Support of COVID-19 Response

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing another upcoming action by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide resources to state and local jurisdictions in support of our nation’s response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The \$8.3 billion dollar Supplemental passed by Congress included [statutory language](#) which prescribed the exact formula for disbursing the money: states will receive 90% of their [2019 CDC PHEP grants](#). This marks the first tranche of funding to states from the \$8.3 billion supplemental. Your state health officers are receiving a letter today from CDC outlining what is needed to receive the funding, essentially they need to submit a spend plan and they will receive guidance on what that spend plan should contain. More [here](#).

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Nursing Home Guidance

As you know, nursing homes and their residents are vulnerable populations for COVID-19. This week, CMS released updated guidance for infection control and prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes which can be found [here](#) (3/9). The Press Release can be found [here](#) and all CMS guidance related to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information



Background

Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Since the beginning of the outbreak, President Trump has taken unprecedented steps – including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy – to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response ([President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond To the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans](#)). The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk to the average American remains low. All agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information

- The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website ([here](#))
- HHS/CDC Community Framework for Mitigation ([here](#))
- Guidance for families, businesses, schools and others ([here](#)).
- The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live ([here](#))
- You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

What You Need To Know

- What You Should Know - How COVID-19 Spreads, Symptoms, etc. ([here](#))
- Situation Summary ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information

Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))
- U.S. Food & Drug Administration ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- U.S. Election Assistance Commission ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips

- Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.
- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Proactively sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information such as HHS/CDC [guidance for families, businesses, and schools](#).
- Reviewing Federal guidance such as the HHS/CDC [Community Mitigation Framework](#).
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

Recent Task Force Actions

Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- Remarks by President Trump in Address to the Nation (March 11) ([transcript/video](#))
- Remarks by President Trump and Vice President Pence at a Coronavirus Briefing with Health Insurers (March 10) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness (March 9) ([readout](#))
- Remarks by Vice President Pence in a Coronavirus Briefing with Cruise Line Executives and Port Directors (March 7) ([transcript](#))
- Remarks by President Trump After Tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (March 5) ([transcript](#))
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6)
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000195

[\(transcript/video\)](#)

- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 11:09 AM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Good Morning,

The White House Task Force on Coronavirus and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention have released two helpful documents for State, local, tribal, and community leaders.

- [Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)
- [A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

You can find additional information about both documents and resources below.

[Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)

- Keeping the workplace safe
- Keeping the school safe
- Keeping the home safe
- Keeping commercial establishments safe

[A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts. Framework includes:

- Local Factors to Consider for Determining Mitigation Strategies
- Community mitigation strategies by setting and by level of community transmission or impact of COVID-19
- Potential mitigation strategies for public health functions

Recent Actions

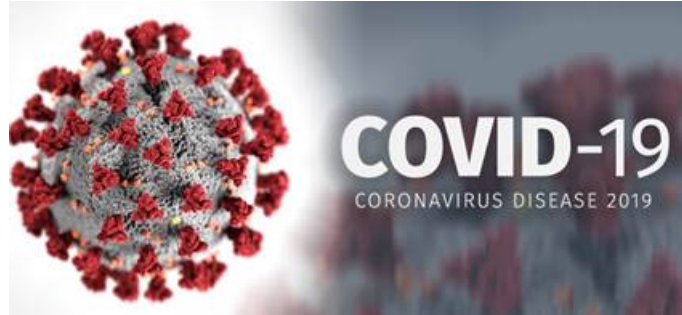
- HHS Supports Development of First High-Throughput COVID-19 Diagnostic Test ([click here](#))
 - CMS Issues Key Protective Mask Guidance for Healthcare Workers ([click here](#))
 - CMS Issues Clear, Actionable Guidance to Providers about COVID-19 Virus ([click here](#))
 - CMS Issues Call to Action for Hospital Emergency Departments to Screen Patients for Coronavirus ([click here](#))
- LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000197

· Telehealth Benefits in Medicare are a Lifeline for Patients During Coronavirus Outbreak ([click here](#))

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

Background & Additional Information (*Updated*)



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#). The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live: [HERE](#). You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

- What You Should Know ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information: Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000198

- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Responses locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities (a complete list of State & Territorial Health Department Websites can be found [here](#))
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
- Establishing the White House task force to combat the coronavirus spread. The Task Force is coordinating and marshalling the full resources and capabilities of the Federal government to respond to the coronavirus.
- Forging relationships and collaboration between the public and private sectors.
- Remained in close contact with our Nation's governors and other key stakeholders.
- *The Washington Times*: [Thanks to Trump Administration, the United States has a Coronavirus Plan of Action.](#)
- *Dr. Marc Siegel*: [Coronavirus Public Health Response Has Been Handled Well](#)
- [Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)
- [A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

While the overall threat to the American public remains low, the President has directed the White House Task Force to take all steps to ensure the health and well-being of the American people and we are well-prepared.

- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.
- There are good tried and true hygiene practices which can be very effective to reduce the chance of getting sick.

- Travelers are encouraged to always exercise healthy travel habits when traveling and to follow appropriate guidance (see [here](#)). At this time, there are no domestic travel restrictions in the United States.
- We are working rapidly on therapeutics and vaccines and have launched the first U.S. clinical trial for an investigational antiviral.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. Between March 2nd and 5th, more than 900,000 tests were distributed across the country.
- The United States has the finest public health system in the world and knows the playbook to respond to infectious disease outbreaks.

Local, State, tribal, & Federal coordinated preparedness & response efforts.

- Federal officials have been working diligently to communicate with State, local, and tribal officials on the Federal government's efforts to prepare and respond to COVID-1.
- Our Nation's Governors have participated in-person and on conference call briefings with Federal partners on January 30, February 9, February 20, March 2, and March 9. These communications remain ongoing.
- White House, OMB, HHS, DHS, DOT, and State Department Officials met with over 40 State, county, and city health officials from over 30 States and territories to thank them for their leadership and to continue discussions on the Federal-State-Local partnership to prepare and respond to COVID-19 (February 25).
- HHS, CDC, DHS, and Federal partners have held numerous national briefing calls with State, local, tribal, private-sector, and community leaders.
- The Trump Administration is partnering with State, local, and tribal elected and appointed leaders' associations.

Recent Actions: Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- Remarks by President Trump and Vice President Pence at a Coronavirus Briefing with Health Insurers (March 10) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness (March 9) ([readout](#))
- Remarks by Vice President Pence in a Coronavirus Briefing with Cruise Line Executives and Port Directors (March 7) ([transcript](#))
- Remarks by President Trump After Tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (March 5) ([transcript](#))
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 4:45 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: COVID-19 Updates- February 24, 2020
Attachment(s): "CDC_COVID-19_Daily Key Points__2_24_2020 FINAL (003).pdf"

FYI

From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) [mailto:Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Updates- February 24, 2020

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear State and Local Partners,

In an effort to keep you informed of federal response efforts related to COVID-19, we would like to share an update on CDC actions as of February 24th (see full update attached). Please visit www.cdc.gov/COVID19 for the most up to date information. Current interim guidance issued by the CDC regarding COVID-19 is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/index.html>

CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and preparing for the potential of community spread in the United States.

- Preparing first responders, healthcare providers, and health systems:
 - Establishing visibility across healthcare systems to understand healthcare use, particularly surges in demand for medical care and associated resources.
 - Conducting extensive outreach to clinical and hospital professional organizations to ensure health system preparedness.
 - Producing more than 23 guidance documents on infection control, hospital preparedness assessments, personal protective equipment (PPE) supply planning, and clinical evaluation and management (as of February 22, 2020).
 - Working closely with healthcare facilities and providers to reinforce infection control principles that recognize PPE is one component of a larger set of practices that help to limit the spread of disease.
 - Developing a range of respirator conservation strategies, including strategies to make supplies last longer (such as using alternative products like reusable respirators) and extending the use of disposable respirators.
 - Leveraging existing telehealth tools to direct people to the right level of healthcare for their medical needs.
 - Working with supply chain partners to understand supply usage, what products are available, and when more aggressive measures may need to be taken to ensure that healthcare workers at highest risk have access to PPE.
 - Sharing information with stakeholders to help them recognize when to shift the strategies they are using.

Reinforcing state, territorial, and local public health readiness:

- Assessing state and local readiness to implement community mitigation measures like home containment, including housing and transportation needs.
- Coordinating with states to identify and mitigate gaps in readiness that will help reduce the spread of disease in the community while protecting workers, infrastructure, and institutions.
- Linking public health agencies and healthcare systems to identify and mitigate stressors to the health system
- Tracking stockpiles of PPE across jurisdictions.
- Working with state and local public health to use existing Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) funding to support COVID-19 preparedness and response activities.
- Leveraging funding mechanisms to help states accelerate preparedness activities.
- Providing technical assistance and guidance to states to improve their ability to respond to the outbreak.

Supporting communities, businesses, and schools:

- Creating business guidance to help the public and private sectors ensure they are able to operate with adaptations like telework and flexible sick leave policies, as well as how to respond if an employee gets sick.
- Developing guidance for childcare programs, K-12 schools, and colleges/universities to help them plan and prepare for COVID-19 and respond if there is a local outbreak in their community.
- Providing planning guides for COVID-19 that households, community- and faith-based organizations, event planners of mass gatherings, and public health communicators can use.
- Educating communities about nonpharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) that help slow the spread of illness, like COVID-19.

For more information, please visit the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Outbreak Page at: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

Darcie Johnston, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
(202) 853-0582

CDC Daily Key Points
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) Outbreak
February 24, 2020

All content updated since February 21 is shown in colored text.

MAIN KEY POINTS

- There is an expanding [global](#) outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus.
- This virus has been named “SARS-CoV-2;” the disease it causes has been named COVID-19.
 - Due to potential for confusion with SARS-CoV, where possible, public communications will use “the virus that causes COVID-19.”
- While most COVID-19 cases outside of China have been associated with travel to or from China, [community spread is being detected in a growing number of countries](#).
- Destinations with apparent community spread of COVID-19 include Hong Kong, [Iran, Italy, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand](#).
- [The fact that COVID-19 has caused illness, including illness resulting in death, and sustained person-to-person spread is concerning. These factors meet two of the criteria of a pandemic.](#)
- [As community spread is detected in more and more countries, the world moves closer toward meeting the third criteria, worldwide spread of the new virus.](#)
- [The potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 is high, both globally and to the United States.](#)
- [But individual risk is dependent on exposure.](#)
- [For the general American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus at this time, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is low.](#)
- [Under current circumstances, certain people will have an increased risk of infection. For example, healthcare workers caring for patients with COVID-19 and other close contacts of persons with COVID-19. CDC has developed guidance to help in the risk assessment and management of people with potential exposures to COVID-19.](#)
- [However, it’s important to note that current global circumstances suggest it is likely that this virus will cause a pandemic. In that case, risk assessment would be different.](#)
- [Global efforts at this time are focused concurrently on containing spread of this virus and mitigating the impact of this virus.](#)
- [The federal government is working closely with state, local, tribal, and territorial partners, as well as public health partners, to respond to this public health threat.](#)
- [The public health response is multi-layered, with the goal of detecting and minimizing introductions of this virus in the United States so as to reduce the spread and the impact of this virus.](#)
- [CDC is operationalizing all of its pandemic preparedness and response plans, working on multiple fronts to meet these goals, including specific measures to prepare communities to respond local transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19.](#)
- [Pandemic guidance developed in anticipation of an influenza pandemic is being repurposed and adapted for a COVID-19 pandemic.](#)
- [Public health partners are encouraged to review their pandemic preparedness plans at this time.](#)

- At this time, there is no vaccine to protect against COVID-19 and no medications approved to treat it.
- [Nonpharmaceutical interventions](#) would be the most important response strategy.
- CDC launched a new weekly email newsletter with updates on the agency's COVID-19 outbreak response. [Sign up for the newsletter.](#)

SITUATION UPDATE

- To date, [35](#) international locations (including the U.S.) have reported confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- More than 77,000 cases have been confirmed on mainland China, with more than 2,500 deaths.
- On February 22, 2020, CDC issued a Level 2 Travel Notice (Practice Enhanced Precautions) for [Japan](#) and [South Korea](#).
- On February 23, 2020 CDC issued Level 1 Travel Alert Notices (Practice Usual Precautions) for [Iran](#) and [Italy](#).
- CDC also recommends that all travelers reconsider cruise ship voyages into or within Asia at this time.
- This is consistent with [guidance by the U.S. State Department](#).
- For the latest travel guidance, visit [COVID-19 Information for Travel](#).
- This is a rapidly evolving situation. CDC is constantly reviewing and updating its guidance as needed.
- CDC is reporting confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States in two categories:
 1. Cases detected through our domestic public health systems, and
 2. Cases among people who were repatriated via U.S. State Department flights from Wuhan, China and from the Diamond Princess cruise ship (Japan).
- [Fourteen](#) cases of COVID-19 have been detected in California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Washington, and Wisconsin through U.S. public health surveillance.
- Two of these cases occurred through person-to-person spread. The remaining cases all were in persons who had travel to China.
- [39 cases of COVID-19 have been detected among the 1,100+ people repatriated from Hubei Province, China and the Diamond Princess. \(That includes 3 people repatriated from Wuhan and 36 people who were repatriated from the Diamond Princess.\)](#)
- Almost all of the people from the Wuhan flights who were quarantined have finished their 14-day quarantine period.
- Because the passengers on the Diamond Princess were in a close setting where there was significant spread of COVID-19, they are considered at high-risk for infection. CDC expects to see additional confirmed cases of among those passengers.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- While the immediate risk of this new virus to the American public is believed to be low at this time, everyone can do their part to help us respond to this emerging public health threat:
 - It's currently flu and respiratory disease season and CDC recommends getting a flu vaccine, taking everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of germs, and taking flu antivirals if prescribed.

- If you are a healthcare provider, be on the look-out for people with who recently traveled from China and fever and respiratory symptoms.
- If you are a healthcare provider caring for a COVID-19 patient or a public health responder, please take care of yourself and follow recommended infection control procedures.
- If you have been in China or have been exposed to someone sick with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, you will face some limitations on your movement and activity. Please follow instructions during this time. Your cooperation is integral to the ongoing public health response to try to slow spread of this virus. If you develop COVID-19 symptoms, contact your healthcare provider, and tell them about your symptoms and your travel or exposure to a COVID-19 patient.
- For people who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 who develop symptoms, contact your healthcare provider, and tell them about your symptoms and your exposure to a COVID-19 patient.
- For people who are ill with COVID-19, please follow CDC guidance on how to reduce the risk of spreading your illness to others. This guidance in on the CDC website.

TESTING

- All testing for COVID-19 continues to be performed at CDC. At this time, all positive results from testing conducted in non-CDC, U.S. laboratories must be confirmed at CDC.
- CDC is remanufacturing test kits, which will be distributed following rigorous quality control processes.

REPATRIATED FLIGHTS & QUARANTINE ORDERS

- CDC has supported the Department of State in the safe and expedient ordered departure of U.S. citizens and residents affected by outbreaks of COVID-19.
 - Five chartered flights returned passengers from Wuhan City, China.
 - Most recently, passengers from a cruise ship docked in Japan were repatriated. (See section: *Diamond Princess*)
- The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Secretary, under statutory authority, issued federal quarantine orders to all such passengers entering the United States.
- Almost all of the people from the Wuhan flights who were quarantined fulfilled their 14-day quarantine period and been released.
 - On February 12, 195 people from the first chartered flight were discharged from quarantine.
 - On February 18, 347 people who were under federal quarantine were released.
 - On February 20, 263 people who were under federal quarantine were released.
- People released from quarantine pose no health risk to their communities.

DIAMOND PRINCESS

- On February 16, 329 American citizens returned by flights chartered by the State Department.
- [Persons who are not sick are being kept in quarantine.](#)
- [Persons who are sick with COVID-19 are in isolation and receiving medical care as needed.](#)

- All American passengers have disembarked from the *Diamond Princess* cruise ship. These people have been placed under travel restrictions, as have the ship's other passengers and crew.
- Some American crew members of the *Diamond Princess* remain aboard the ship.
- More than 60 Americans who were on board the *Diamond Princess* remain in Japan, hospitalized with COVID-2, including some who are reportedly severely ill.
- The U.S. Government is taking measures to protect the health of the people under quarantine, their loved ones, and their communities, as well as the communities where they are being temporarily housed.
- Based on what is known about this virus and other coronaviruses, CDC believes the risk to the communities temporarily housing these people is low.

WESTERDAM

- No testing of passengers from the *Westerdam* Cruise Ship for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, has been done at CDC.
- CDC is aware that an American passenger on the *Westerdam* tested positive for infection with SARS-CoV-2 in Malaysia and that two subsequent and sequential tests on samples from that same person were negative.
- CDC is aware that follow-up testing among more than 1,500 passengers from the *Westerdam* has all been negative.
- CDC considers passengers from the *Westerdam* to be at "low risk" of SARS-CoV-2 infection during the 14 days after their last exposure per the agency's [Risk Assessment guidance](#).
- Given this level of risk, testing of *Westerdam* passengers for SARS-CoV-2 is not recommended unless additional exposures are identified to warrant testing.

CDC ACTIONS

- CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and preparing for the potential of community spread in the United States.
- **Preparing first responders, healthcare providers, and health systems:**
 - Establishing **visibility across healthcare systems** to understand healthcare use, particularly surges in demand for medical care and associated resources.
 - Conducting **extensive outreach to clinical and hospital professional organizations** to ensure health system **preparedness**.
 - Producing more than **23 guidance documents** on infection control, hospital preparedness assessments, personal protective equipment (PPE) supply planning, and clinical evaluation and management (as of February 22, 2020).
 - Working closely with healthcare facilities and providers to **reinforce infection control principles** that recognize PPE is one component of a larger set of practices that help to limit the spread of disease.
 - **Developing a range of respirator conservation strategies**, including strategies to make supplies last longer (such as using alternative products like reusable respirators) and extending the use of disposable respirators.
 - Leveraging existing **telehealth tools** to direct people to the right level of healthcare for their medical needs.

- **Working with supply chain partners** to understand supply usage, what products are available, and when more aggressive measures may need to be taken to ensure that healthcare workers at highest risk have access to PPE.
- **Sharing information with stakeholders** to help them recognize when to shift the strategies they are using.
- **Reinforcing state, territorial, and local public health readiness:**
 - **Assessing state and local readiness** to implement community mitigation measures like home containment, including housing and transportation needs.
 - Coordinating with states to **identify and mitigate gaps in readiness** that will help reduce the spread of disease in the community while protecting workers, infrastructure, and institutions.
 - Linking public health agencies and healthcare systems to **identify and mitigate stressors to the health system**
 - **Tracking stockpiles of PPE** across jurisdictions.
 - Working with state and local public health to **use existing Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) funding** to support COVID-19 preparedness and response activities.
 - Leveraging funding mechanisms to help states **accelerate preparedness activities**.
 - Providing **technical assistance and guidance** to states to improve their ability to respond to the outbreak.
- **Supporting communities, businesses, and schools:**
 - **Creating business guidance** to help the public and private sectors ensure they are able to operate with adaptations like telework and flexible sick leave policies, as well as how to respond if an employee gets sick.
 - **Developing guidance for childcare programs, K-12 schools, and colleges/universities** to help them plan and prepare for COVID-19 and respond if there is a local outbreak in their community.
 - Providing **planning guides for COVID-19** that households, community- and faith-based organizations, event planners of mass gatherings, and public health communicators can use.
 - Educating communities about **nonpharmaceutical interventions (NPIs)** that help slow the spread of illness, like COVID-19.

For more information, please visit the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Outbreak Page at: www.cdc.gov/COVID19.

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 6:00 AM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: DHS Invitation: 3/13 CISA Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Stakeholder Call
Attachment(s): "image001.png"

From: Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) [mailto:IGA@messages.dhs.gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 9:14 PM
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Subject: DHS Invitation: 3/13 CISA Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Stakeholder Call

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Please see the announcement below from our partners in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) regarding a call on activities relating to COVID-19 occurring tomorrow, **Friday, March 13, at 3:00PM ET.**

CISA Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Stakeholder Call

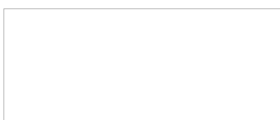
The Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) will host a broad stakeholder conference call on **Friday, March 13, 2020 at 3:00PM ET**, to provide an update regarding current activities related to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). On this short-notice call, we plan to provide a quick update on the current situation; an overview of CISA's activities; and discuss your current concerns, priorities, and where you may need additional assistance.

The agenda will be disseminated prior to the call.

Teleconference: 1-888-982-7287
Participant passcode: 5130967#

We look forward to your participation and thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency



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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000207



CISA
CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY

From: Mark Cooper

Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 5:15 PM EST

To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>; Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>

CC: Chancely Courson <Chancely.Courson@la.gov>

Subject: FW: FW: DWH 10 Itinerary - Final

Attachment(s): "DWH 10 Itinerary.docx"

Good afternoon. As discussed a couple of weeks ago, we are in the planning stages of the 10 year anniversary for the Deep Water Horizon Anniversary for the morning of April 20, 2020. Given the COVID-19 event, the President and Vice President may not be able to commit on his participation, but wanted to provide the agenda.

Any indication of their participation would be appreciation as we are in the middle of planning for the event.

Thank you.

Mark

Mark A. Cooper

Chief of Staff



(225) 342-7188 office

Deepwater Horizon
10 Year Anniversary Events

Monday, April 20, 2020

- 9:00 am — Remembrance Ceremony
 - Purpose: To honor and remember the eleven men who lost their lives that day.
 - Location: Lost at Sea Memorial, Port Fourchon, LA
 - Remarks by President/VP and Governor Edwards
- 10:00 am — Recovery & Restoration Event
 - Purpose: To highlight the Gulf Coast's recovery and restoration accomplishments since *Deepwater Horizon* and to emphasize the importance of the Gulf Coast's resources to the rest of the country.
 - Location: Chouest Boat Slip (CPORT 2), Port Fourchon, LA
 - Run of Show:
 - § President/VP
 - § Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards
 - Potential attendees: Governors of Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida, Members of the Gulf Coast Congressional Delegations, White House Cabinet Secretaries
- 12 pm — Lunch/reception
- 1:30 pm — Media/VIP Tours of coastal restoration projects near port:
 - § Queen Bess Island Refuge
 - § Terrebonne Basin Barrier Islands and Beach Nourishment
 - § Caminada Headland Beach and Dune Restoration

Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:00 AM EDT

To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>; Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>

Subject: FW: FW: DWH 10 Itinerary - Final

Good afternoon. As discussed a couple of weeks ago, we are in the planning stages of the 10 year anniversary of the Deep Water Horizon Anniversary toward the end of April. Given the COVID-19 event, the President may not be able to commit on his participation, but wanted to provide the agenda.

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 6:04 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: Final NGA Letter in Support of COVID-19 Emergency Supplemental
Attachment(s): "Final.NGA Congressional Letter_COVID-19.pdf"

From: Ramos, Maribel [mailto:MRamos@nga.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 4:53 PM
To: Ramos, Maribel <MRamos@nga.org>
Cc: McBride, Bill <BMcBride@nga.org>; Perez Quinn, Susie <SPQuinn@nga.org>; Wohlschlegel, Eric <EWohlschlegel@NGA.ORG>; Ott, Mary Catherine <mcott@nga.org>; Blute, Timothy <tblute@nga.org>
Subject: Final NGA Letter in Support of COVID-19 Emergency Supplemental

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good evening all,

Please find attached the final approved letter with 38 signatures.

Thank you to everyone for the hard work in getting this through the finish line! We will be sending this out momentarily.

Let me know if you have any questions!

Maribel

The information contained in this electronic transmission, including any attachments, is for the exclusive use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain information that is privileged, proprietary, and/or confidential. If the reader of this transmission is not an intended recipient, or a person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete this message.

March 4, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room S-230
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room S-224
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

The nation's governors applaud the U.S. House of Representatives for passage of the "*Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020*" (H.R. 6074) and urge the U.S. Senate to take swift action and pass the emergency supplemental request, in response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

As the nation's governors, the health and well-being of our residents is our primary concern. States and localities are at the forefront of public health crises, and COVID-19 is no different. As the situation evolves, states are incurring escalating costs in assisting the federal response to COVID-19. It is imperative that we have adequate resources and funding to respond to this rapidly developing public health emergency. Any appropriation must include the allocation of new federal funding for preventing and responding to COVID-19, backfill states for costs already incurred, and ensure that any monies transferred from existing programs be replenished.

Congress must assure states and territories that necessary resources will be provided to address the multitude of costs associated with a public health emergency. These include but are not limited to travel screening, isolation and quarantine related activities, transportation, lodging, increased staffing, National Guard personnel, testing and monitoring patients, public outreach, supplies, equipment, schools, and wrap-around services.

States and territories are relying on federal dollars to support state public health efforts to prevent and reduce the impact of COVID-19. We appreciate the state-federal coordination on the response thus far and look forward to working with both the Administration and Congress as the nation tackles this public health threat.

Sincerely,



Governor Larry Hogan
Maryland



Governor Andrew Cuomo
New York



Governor Kay Ivey
Alabama



Governor Doug Ducey
Arizona



Governor Asa Hutchinson
Arkansas



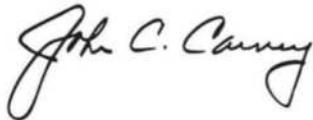
Governor Gavin Newsom
California



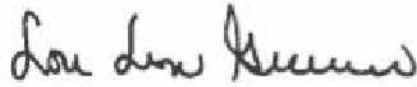
Governor Jared Polis
Colorado



Governor Ned Lamont
Connecticut



Governor John Carney
Delaware



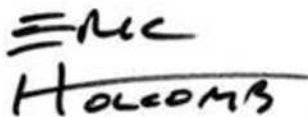
Governor Lou Leon Guerrero
Guam



Governor David Ige
Hawaii



Governor JB Pritzker
Illinois



Governor Eric Holcomb
Indiana



Governor Kim Reynolds
Iowa



Governor John Bel Edwards
Louisiana



Governor Janet Mills
Maine



Governor Charlie Baker
Massachusetts



Governor Gretchen Whitmer
Michigan



Governor Tim Walz
Minnesota



Governor Mike Parson
Missouri



Governor Steve Bullock
Montana



Governor Steve Sisolak
Nevada



Governor Chris Sununu
New Hampshire



Governor Phil Murphy
New Jersey



Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham
New Mexico



Governor Roy Cooper
North Carolina



Governor Ralph Torres
Northern Mariana Islands



Governor Mike DeWine
Ohio



Governor Kevin Stitt
Oklahoma



Governor Kate Brown
Oregon



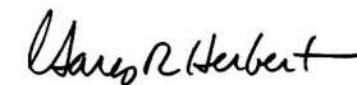
Governor Tom Wolf
Pennsylvania



Governor Kristi Noem
South Dakota



Governor Bill Lee
Tennessee



Governor Gary Herbert
Utah



Governor Phil Scott
Vermont



Governor Ralph Northam
Virginia



Governor Jay Inslee
Washington



Governor Tony Evers
Wisconsin

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 7:02 PM EST

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

Subject: FW: FW: Follow-Up Vice President's Discussion with Our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 5:30 PM

To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>

Subject: Follow-Up Vice President's Discussion with Our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Our Nations' Governors,

Thank you for joining today's discussion between the **Vice President and Our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness**. Below you will find a readout of the briefing along with additional resources.

Vice President Mike Pence today participated in a discussion with more than 50 of our Nation's governors to provide an update on the work of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, to continue coordination with governors and state and local officials to respond to and prepare for the coronavirus, and to thank governors and state and local leaders—particularly state and local health officials—for their leadership.



The Vice President first introduced Ambassador Debbie Birx, M.D. as the White House Coronavirus Coordinator. Dr. Birx is a world renowned expert in handling the HIV/AIDS epidemic who will play a critical role in the Administration's efforts and understands the importance of a whole-of-government approach alongside governors, state and local leaders.

Next, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar, and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) Principal Deputy Director Dr. Anne Schuchat provided a status update on the Coronavirus, outlined ongoing Federal efforts, and discussed State and local actions with the governors.

Governor Larry Hogan, Chair of the National Governors Association, joined the Vice President in person, and other governors joined via video teleconference or phone.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people, thus the Vice President pledged to convene the governors for a teleconference on a weekly basis,

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000217

assuring that Federal leaders will continue its close coordinate with our Nation's governors and other State and local leaders on a Whole-of Government Approach to the developing situation.

Moving forward, the Vice President asks that you keep the following resources close at hand.

Helpful Agency Contact Information: Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the Federal family.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Darcie Johnston (Office – 202-853-0582 / Cell – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security – Cherie Short (Office – 202-441-3101 / Cell – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State – Bill Killion (Office – 202-647-7595 / Cell – 202-294-2605 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation – Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)

The Office of the Vice President and White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Office of the Vice President		
Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov

White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs		
Name	Cell Phone	Email
Doug Hoelscher	202-881-8950	Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Up-To-Date Information: Additional helpful resources and up-to-date information can be found on the below websites and social media channels.

For background and the most up-to-date information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- Twitter ([here](#))
- Facebook ([here](#))

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Twitter ([here](#))
- Facebook ([here](#))

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 1:19 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
CC: Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>
Subject: FW: FW: GOVERNOR-ONLY INVITE: Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET
FYI

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 9:36 PM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: GOVERNOR-ONLY INVITE: Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Dear Governor and Governor's Senior Staff,

Our Nation's Governors are invited to a **Governors-only Briefing Call with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 2, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19.

Participation in this call is for governors only. We encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19, but the call interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.

Briefing Call Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 2, 2020
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- **Expected Length:** 30 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder:** Participation in this call is for governors only. While we are allowing governors to be joined by their relevant cabinet members and key state officials (in the room with the governor – i.e. one call-in per state), only governors will be allowed to actively participate in the briefing.

RSVP & Dial-In Information – Deadline to RSVP is Saturday, February 29 at 5:00 p.m.

To RSVP your governor, email Nic Pottebaum with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Saturday, February 29 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.** Once you RSVP your governor, you will receive call-in information and guidance.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 1:16 PM EST

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

Subject: FW: FW: GOVERNOR-ONLY INVITE: Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET

FYI

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 9:36 PM

To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>

Subject: GOVERNOR-ONLY INVITE: Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Dear Governor and Governor's Senior Staff,

Our Nation's Governors are invited to a **Governors-only Briefing Call with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 2, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19.

Participation in this call is for governors only. We encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19, but the call interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.

Briefing Call Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 2, 2020
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- **Expected Length:** 30 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder:** Participation in this call is for governors only. While we are allowing governors to be joined by their relevant cabinet members and key state officials (in the room with the governor – i.e. one call-in per state), only governors will be allowed to actively participate in the briefing.

RSVP & Dial-In Information – Deadline to RSVP is Saturday, February 29 at 5:00 p.m.

To RSVP your governor, email Nic Pottebaum with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Saturday, February 29 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.** Once you RSVP your governor, you will receive call-in information and guidance.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 5:16 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

FYI,
Let me know if I need to RSVP.

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO [mailto:Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 3:35 PM
Subject: RE: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello,

If you have not yet registered for the call yet, please register through the link below. Please note this is a **new** link and differs from the one provided in the original email.

New Registration Link: [CLICK HERE](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Olivia Imhoff
Deputy Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
C: 202-881-7466

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 7:03 PM
Subject: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)



State and Local Leaders –

On **Wednesday, March 11, at 1:00 PM ET**, please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 (coronavirus). If you would like to join, registration instructions and additional background information are below. Please feel free to share this invitation with your county and/or municipal colleagues as well as public health officials.

Briefing Call Registration

Date: Wednesday, March 11

Time: 1:00 PM ET (please note time zone)

Call-In Registration: [CLICK HERE](#)

Note: You must RSVP to join the call. Upon successful registration, you will receive dial-in details to the email address you use to register. Note that multiple people cannot dial-in using the same registration information.

Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance. As a reminder, WH IGA is the primary liaison between the White House and the country's State and local elected officials and Tribal Governments.

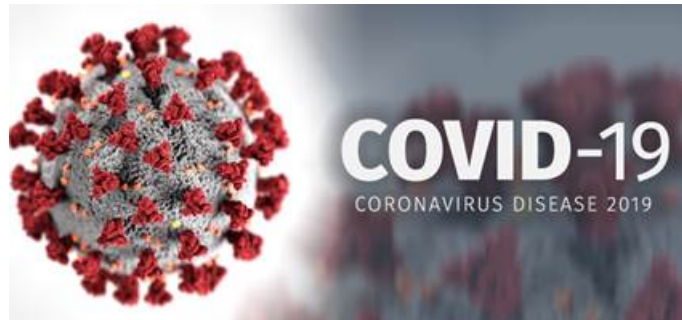
Sincerely,

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Olivia Imhoff
Deputy Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
C: 202-881-7466

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000221

Background & Additional Information



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#). The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live: [HERE](#). You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

- What You Should Know ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information: Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.

- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
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From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 7:07 PM EDT

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Adren Wilson <Adren.Wilson@LA.GOV>; Toye Taylor <Toye.Taylor@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>

Subject: FW: FW: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO [mailto:Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 6:03 PM

Subject: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State and Local Leaders –

On **Wednesday, March 11, at 1:00 PM ET**, please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 (coronavirus). If you would like to join, registration instructions and additional background information are below. Please feel free to share this invitation with your county and/or municipal colleagues as well as public health officials.

Briefing Call Registration

Date: Wednesday, March 11

Time: 1:00 PM ET (please note time zone)

Call-In Registration: [CLICK HERE](#)

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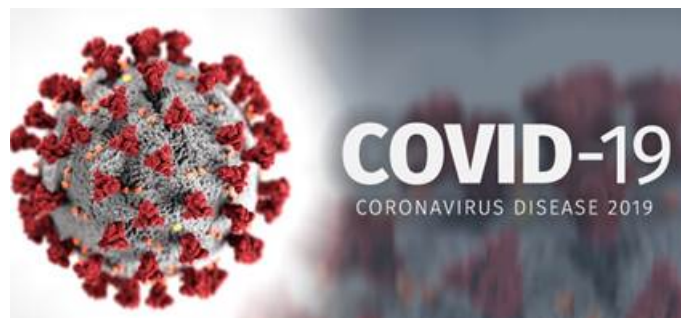
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Sincerely,

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Olivia Imhoff
Deputy Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
C: 202-881-7466

Background & Additional Information



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000225

partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#). The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live: [HERE](#). You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

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What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

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Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 5:10 PM EDT

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>

Subject: FW: FW: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

FYI,

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO [mailto:Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 3:35 PM

Subject: RE: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello,

If you have not yet registered for the call yet, please register through the link below. Please note this is a **new** link and differs from the one provided in the original email.

New Registration Link: [CLICK HERE](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Olivia Imhoff
Deputy Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
C: 202-881-7466

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO

Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 7:03 PM

Subject: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)



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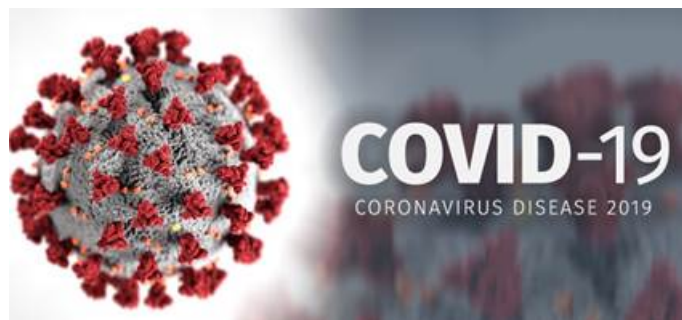
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From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:51 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: INVITE: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 13) at 7:30 p.m. ET

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 4:34 PM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 13) at 7:30 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State and Local Leaders,

Please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 preparedness, response, and mitigation efforts **TONIGHT (Friday, March 13) at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time.**

Important Note: *Call-in lines will be limited due to quick around to setting up the briefing call. State and local leaders (especially staff) working in the same office are encouraged to dial-in using one call-in line to maximize the number of people who can join (e.g., governors staff in the same location are encouraged to call-in using one call-in registration).*

Briefing Call Registration

- **Date:** TODAY, Friday, March 13
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time (please note time zone)
- **Call-In Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)
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Press Advisory – President Donald J. Trump Directs FEMA Support Under Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 (PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION HERE)

The federal government continues to take aggressive and proactive steps to address the COVID-19 threat as the health and safety of the American people remain a top priority.

Today, President Trump [declared](#) a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”). This increases federal support to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in its role as the lead federal agency for the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response. As a result of the President’s decisive, unprecedented action, FEMA is directed to assist state, local, tribal, territorial governments and other eligible entities with the health and safety actions they take on behalf of the American public. Today’s declaration does not make direct financial assistance available to individuals.

The emergency declaration does not change measures authorized under other federal statutes and HHS remains the lead federal agency directing the federal response to COVID-19. FEMA actions will be in support of HHS and in coordination with state, tribal and territorial governments. Eligible emergency protective measures taken at the direction or guidance of public health officials in response to this emergency, and not supported by the authorities of another federal agency, will be reimbursed strictly under the FEMA Public Assistance program. FEMA assistance will be provided at a 75 percent Federal cost share. Reimbursable activities typically include emergency protective measures such as the activation of State Emergency Operations Centers, National Guard costs, law enforcement and other measures necessary to protect public health and safety.

Presidential Message to the Congress on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak (March 13, 2020) (PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE HERE)

“Pursuant to section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), I hereby report that I have exercised my authority to declare that the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the United States constitutes a national emergency. This declaration invokes section 1135 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1320b–5, to allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to exercise the authority under that section to temporarily waive or modify certain requirements of the Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children’s Health Insurance programs and of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Rule throughout the duration of the public health emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.”

Memorandum on Expanding State-Approved Diagnostic Tests ([FULL MEMORANDUM HERE](#))

“By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows: It is the policy of the United States to take proactive measures to prepare for and respond to public health threats, including the public health emergency involving Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), which was declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (the “Secretary”) on January 31, 2020, pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d). Our response must include heightened coordination among Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies, and we must offer States the flexibility they need to care for their citizens. In accordance with this principle, the Food and Drug Administration, in coordination with the State of New York, allowed the State flexibility in expediting State-approved COVID-19 testing. Should additional States request flexibility to authorize laboratories within the State to develop and perform tests used to detect COVID-19, the Secretary shall take appropriate action, consistent with law, to facilitate the request.”

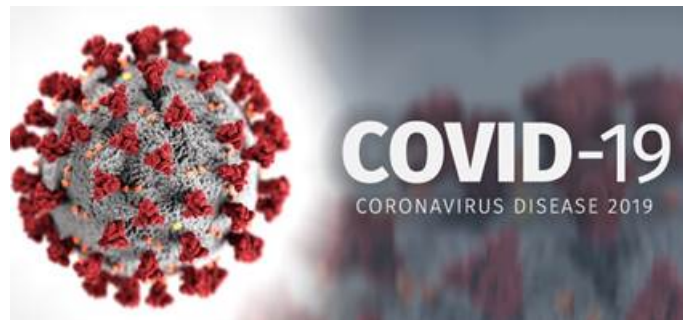
Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information



Background

Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Since the beginning of the outbreak, President Trump has taken unprecedented steps – including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy – to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response ([President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond to the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans](#)). The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk to the average American remains low. All agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information

- The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website ([here](#))
- HHS/CDC Community Framework for Mitigation ([here](#))
- Guidance for families, businesses, schools and others ([here](#)).
- The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live ([here](#))
- You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

What You Need To Know

- What You Should Know - How COVID-19 Spreads, Symptoms, etc. ([here](#))
- Situation Summary ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information

Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))
- U.S. Food & Drug Administration ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- U.S. Election Assistance Commission ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips

- Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.
- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Proactively sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information such as HHS/CDC [guidance for families, businesses, and schools](#).
- Reviewing Federal guidance such as the HHS/CDC [Community Mitigation Framework](#).
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

Recent Task Force Actions

Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- Remarks by President Trump in Address to the Nation (March 11) ([transcript/video](#))
- Remarks by President Trump and Vice President Pence at a Coronavirus Briefing with Health Insurers (March 10) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness (March 9) ([readout](#))
- Remarks by Vice President Pence in a Coronavirus Briefing with Cruise Line Executives and Port Directors (March 7) ([transcript](#))
- Remarks by President Trump After Tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (March 5) ([transcript](#))
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 6:53 PM EDT

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>

Subject: FW: FW: National Governors Association's COVID-19 Daily Update

From: McBride, Bill [mailto:BMcBride@nga.org]

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 4:32 PM

To: McBride, Bill <BMcBride@nga.org>

Subject: National Governors Association's COVID-19 Daily Update

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Governors,

This is the first of a new National Governors Association daily email with **recent updates** on the state and federal COVID-19 response. As we continue to monitor this health crisis, we are also working with states on their efforts. Thanks to NGA Chair and Maryland Governor Larry Hogan and NGA Vice Chair and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo for the leadership over the past weeks, as they worked both within this organization and their states to provide guidance during this public health emergency. Governors and state officials are leading the preparedness and response to COVID-19, and this email outlines some of those efforts, as well as providing links to online resources with further information to assist you.

My goal is to provide you with daily updates from the National Governors Association to help you in dealing with the ongoing COVID-19 situation on the following topics:

- Actions being taken by governors,
- Provide our [website](#) updates with resource materials,
- NGA activities to assist you in your response to COVID-19, and
- Actions being taken by the federal Administration and Congress.

Actions Being Taken By Governors

State Emergency/Public Health Emergency Declarations

At least 30 states and the District of Columbia have issued emergency declarations: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, NC, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, TN, UT, VA, WA, WI and WV.

State Employee Restricted Travel/Restricted State Travel

At least 13 states have restricted state employee travel as a result of the coronavirus: AK, AR, CT, FL, KY, LA, MD, NJ, NM, OH, PA, RI and VA.

Website Updates with Resource Materials

State/Territorial Actions

This section outlines the most recent actions taken by governors and state and territorial leaders. **Given the fast-moving nature of these events, if we are missing an action that you have taken that you would like to share with fellow governors, please send those along to be included in tomorrow's daily update.** For a full list of state and territorial actions, please visit [NGA's Coronavirus webpage](#).

- Alabama
 - Governor Kay Ivey [announced the formation](#) of a Coronavirus (COVID-19) Task Force comprised of cabinet and state agency officials, as well as disease specialists in an abundance of caution.
 - Governor Ivey [sent a memo to state agency heads](#) directing state employees to notify their department heads, supervisors, and human resource offices if they have traveled in areas affected by coronavirus.
- Alaska
 - Governor Mike Dunleavy [submitted a supplemental budget amendmen](#)t to fund 10 additional temporary positions within the Department of Health and Social Services for novel coronavirus disease preparedness and response.
 - Governor Dunleavy [issued](#) a declaration of public health disaster emergency in response to the COVID-19 anticipated outbreak.
- American Samoa
 - Governor Lolo Matalasi Moliga [appointed](#) a government taskforce to provide a plan for preparation and response to the COVID-19 coronavirus.
- Arizona
 - Governor Doug Ducey [issued](#) a Declaration of Emergency and an Executive Order to provide health officials and administrators with tools and guidance necessary to combat the continued spread of COVID-19 and to reduce financial burdens on Arizonans by lowering healthcare costs associated with the virus.
- California
 - Governor Gavin Newsom [announced](#) that gatherings larger than 250 people should be cancelled or postponed.

- Colorado
 - Governor Jared Polis has [instructed the Colorado Division of Insurance \(DOI\)](#) to require insurance companies to take actions related to COVID-19 in the area as of telehealth, prescription refills and cost-sharing.
 - Governor Polis signed an executive order [declaring a state of emergency](#) and requesting certain actions:
 - The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) is directed to engage in emergency rulemaking to ensure workers in food handling, hospitality, child care, health care, and education can get paid sick leave.
 - For workers who test positive and lack access to paid leave, the governor is directing CDLE to identify additional supports and wage replacement such as access to unemployment insurance.
 - The Colorado Department of Personnel and Administration will engage in emergency rulemaking regarding state employees.
 - The Department of Revenue is directed to temporarily allow Coloradans over the age of 65 to extend their driver's licenses online to avoid having to congregate at DMVs.
 - The Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment will be opening a drive-up lab at their facility in Lowry to test anyone who has a note from their doctor stating that they meet the criteria for testing.
 - Governor Polis also encouraged the private sector to voluntarily offer paid sick leave.
 - Governor Polis [issued](#) guidance to all K-12 schools recommending that if they have a student or faculty member who tests positive that they close for 72 hours, allowing for schools to be disinfected and for the epidemiologists to conduct an investigation and recommend next steps for those schools. More details on the guidance are available [here](#).
 - Governor Polis also [instructed](#) the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment and the Colorado Department of Human Services to engage in emergency rulemaking to limit visitation to facilities that serve older Coloradans, to screen all employees and visitors to these facilities, and to take necessary steps to protect those in these facilities.
- Connecticut
 - Governor Ned Lamont [declared civil preparedness and public health emergencies](#). The declarations trigger price gouging laws and make clear that municipal leaders have emergency powers to mitigate disasters and emergencies.
 - The Connecticut Insurance Department is notifying travel insurance companies about the emergency declarations and will be monitoring their compliance with the terms of their policies.
 - Governor Lamont announced that his administration is [working with health insurance carriers in Connecticut to cover the costs for COVID-19 testing](#) and to assure access to maintenance prescription drug medications (excluding controlled substances).
 - The Department of Insurance has a [bulletin](#) which encourages insurers to consider waiving cost sharing for COVID-19 testing and also highlights other related benefits.
 - Connecticut Insurance Department Commissioner Andrew Mais [issued](#) a notice to all travel insurers conducting business in Connecticut. The notice instructs insurers to accommodate travel cancellation requests under the terms of the policies taking into account the seriousness of the circumstances and the civil preparedness and public health emergencies issued by Governor Lamont.
 - Governor Lamont [made](#) an emergency request from the Strategic National Supply for a total of 540,000 additional N-95 protective masks.
- CNMI
 - Governor Ralph DeLeon Guerrero Torres [created](#) a COVID-19 Task Force, bringing together key departments, agencies, and stakeholders, to focus on three major concerns: tourism, residents, and schools.
- Florida
 - Governor Ron [DeSantis declared a state of emergency](#) allowing nurses and doctors from other states to work in Florida and pharmacists to issue emergency 30-day prescriptions. The order also allows officials to activate the Florida National Guard, purchase medical supplies more swiftly, and establish field hospitals.
- Georgia
 - Governor Brian Kemp, the public safety department and health officials [announced](#) they have designated Hard Labor Creek State Park as a location that could be used to isolate any patients with COVID-19
- Guam
 - A [bipartisan bill was introduced](#) to create and fund an Emergency Pandemic Fund for COVID-19 response efforts.
- Idaho
 - Governor Brad Little requested a [transfer of \\$2 million](#) from the state legislature to the Governor's Emergency Fund.
- Illinois
 - Governor JB Pritzker issued a public health [disaster proclamation](#) for COVID-19.

- In a press conference, Governor Pritzker [announced](#) that his office would file emergency rules to allow those who are unemployed because they are sick to collect unemployment insurance if permitted under federal law.
- Iowa
 - Governor Kim Reynolds [announced](#) that 18 of the 22 Iowans quarantined on the Grand Princess cruise ship will be returning home on a chartered flight to Iowa. The Department of Public Health will screen the returning people before they begin their travel back to Iowa and direct people to a screening center when they arrive.
- Kentucky
 - Governor Andy Beshear [announced](#) that Kentucky nursing homes will be limiting patient visits. Patients receiving end-of-life-care are the only group allowed to receive visitors to help prevent and limit the spread of COVID-19.
 - Governor Beshear [instructed](#) school districts to be prepared to close schools on short notice, closed all state prisons to visitors, suspended out-of-state travel for state employees, urged more businesses to allow employees to tele-commute and to provide paid sick leave, and asked places of worship to temporarily cancel services.
- Louisiana
 - Governor John Bel Edwards [declared a public health emergency](#) to allow state agencies to thoroughly prepare for any eventuality related to public health needs and deploy additional resources to assist local authorities. The declaration also addresses efforts to prevent price gouging and limits state employee travel.
- Maryland
 - Governor Larry Hogan issued a directive requiring state health carriers to [waive all cost-sharing](#) for coronavirus testing.
 - The governor, with support from the Department of Budget and Management, is advising state agencies to [cancel out-of-state](#) business travel, and to prepare for possible mandatory telework.
 - Governor Hogan [signed](#) emergency legislation allowing his state to access rainy day funds, and formed a Coronavirus Response Team to advise on health and emergency management decisions.
 - Governor Hogan [enacted](#) several new actions and recommendations:
 - § The Department of Motor Vehicles moved toward an all appointment system for all transactions, to reduce walk-in visits and foot traffic.
 - § The Maryland Health Benefits Exchange established a special enrollment period through Maryland Health Connection for COVID-19.
 - § The Department of Corrections and Public Safety Services discontinued visitation services for an individual in infirmaries.
 - § For long-term care communities, access is restricted to essential visits only; staff are prohibited from international travel; and it is recommended that facilities screen all individuals entering the facilities.
 - § All state veterans' facilities are required to follow the above guidelines.
 - Governor Hogan [suspended](#) all business-related out-of-state travel for state employees.
 - Governor Hogan [announced](#) major action including:
 - § Maryland Emergency Management Agency moving to its highest action level.
 - § Activating the National Guard.
 - § All state government is raised to “elevated level two” and all non-essential state employees who are approved for telework will be required to do so.
 - § Closing all public schools from March 16 through March 27.
- Massachusetts
 - Governor Charlie Baker [declared](#) a state of emergency on March 10.
- Michigan
 - The state's Medicaid program will [waive copays and cost-sharing](#) for testing and treatment related to COVID-19.
 - Governor Gretchen Whitmer [declared](#) a state of emergency on March 10.
- Minnesota

- Governor Tim Walz [signed](#) legislation authorizing the state to use an additional \$21 million in state investments to support disease investigation, monitoring of the outbreak, public health information, and laboratory analysis of samples.
- Proposed legislation would [grant](#) the governor the authority to declare a peacetime emergency and allow employees to seek unemployment insurance or paid sick leave should they be quarantined due to COVID-19.
- Mississippi
 - Governor Tate Reeves appointed a preparedness and response [planning committee](#).
- Nebraska
 - A press release from Governor Pete Ricketts announced the University of Nebraska Medical Center has begun a [clinical trial for a vaccine](#) to treat COVID-19.
- New Jersey
 - Governor Phil Murphy [signed](#) an executive order declaring a state of emergency and public health emergency. The declaration [allows](#) for certain safeguards, such as the prohibition of price increases pursuant to New Jersey's Consumer Fraud Act, as well as the ability to expedite the delivery of goods and services essential for preparedness and response efforts.
- New Mexico
 - The Department of Insurance [issued](#) a bulletin stating that carriers should educate enrollees and providers on CDC guidelines around COVID, adopt new billing codes, encourage telehealth, and ensure preparedness response is ready.
 - Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham signed an [executive order](#) declaring a state of public health emergency. The governor also restricted state employee travel.
- New York
 - Governor Andrew Cuomo [deployed](#) National Guard troops to a Health Department command post in New Rochelle to assist with the outbreak – an area with 108 confirmed cases at the time of mobilization.
 - Governor Cuomo [announced](#) that New York will contract with 28 private labs to increase COVID-19 testing capacity. Additionally, he announced that the state will provide two weeks paid leave for workers who are quarantined as well as \$200,000 to local food banks in New Rochelle for families who rely on free school lunches.
 - Governor Cuomo [announced](#) that gatherings larger than 500 people should be cancelled or postponed.
- North Carolina
 - Governor Roy Cooper [declared](#) a state of emergency.
- Ohio
 - Governor Mike DeWine signed an [emergency order](#) to allow state departments and agencies to better coordinate response efforts for COVID-19.
 - Governor DeWine [issued a recommendation](#) on limiting large indoor gatherings.
 - Governor DeWine [announced](#) that all schools will be closed for three weeks beginning on Monday, March 16.
- Oregon
 - Governor Kate Brown [issued a policy](#) to limit transmission of COVID-19 in long-term care facilities by restricting and limiting entry to these facilities, requiring screening of all individuals who are allowed to enter facilities, documenting screening procedures for all visitors, and limiting community activities.
- Pennsylvania
 - Governor Tom Wolf [announced](#) that all major health insurance carriers will cover COVID-19 diagnostic testing and treatment and have committed to waive any cost-sharing for testing.
 - The Department of Insurance [issued](#) a notice regarding preparedness plans and information for educating enrollees on their benefits for COVID treatment and testing.
 - Governor Wolf [issued guidance](#) on restricting travel for state employees as well as new directives to address large gatherings, telework, and paid leave for impacted employees.
- Rhode Island
 - Governor Gina M. Raimondo [declared a state of emergency](#) in Rhode Island to allow better response and coordination related to the coronavirus.
 - Governor Raimondo [issued guidance](#) for large events in Rhode Island to help contain the spread of COVID-19 in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control.
- South Dakota
 - Governor Kristi Noem [announced](#) the first presumptive case of coronavirus in South Dakota on March 10.
 - The South Dakota State Department of Health issued [guidance](#) to school administrators regarding prevention and mitigation in schools.
- Texas
 - Governor Greg Abbott [issued](#) a statement regarding price-gouging of medical supplies, pointing out that should there be extensive reports of price gouging, the governor can grant the Texas Attorney General broader powers to prosecute those cases.
 - Governor Abbott and the Texas Department of Insurance [requested](#) insurers and HMOs to waive copayments, co-insurance, and deductibles for “testing and telemedicine visits for the diagnosis of coronavirus,” that is consistent with CDC guidance.
- Utah
 - Utah [established](#) the COVID-19 Community Task Force. On March 10, the task force [recommended](#) that hospital and health care systems establish satellite sites for testing.
 - Governor Gary Herbert [issued a statement](#) praising the Church of Jesus of Latter-day Saints' decision to host

sessions of its General Conference remotely and to limit mass gatherings in the immediate future.

- Vermont
 - The Vermont Agency of Education issued [guidance](#) to Vermont schools on materials, cleaning and disinfecting, travel guidance, school closure and absences.
 - Governor Phil Scott [activated](#) the State Emergency Operations Center on 10 March to expand the state's capacity to coordinate and respond to COVID-19.
 - The Vermont Department of Health [issued](#) guidance to healthcare providers and workers regarding death certification and disposition of remains for patients with COVID-19.
 - Governor Scott [ordered activation](#) of the State Emergency Operations Center to coordinate response efforts for COVID-19.
- Virginia
 - Governor Ralph Northam [issued a statement](#) addressing plans to enable state employee teleworking. He also encouraged private businesses to explore telework and paid time-off options.
 - Governor Northam [declared a state of emergency](#) and limited employee travel.
- Washington
 - Governor Jay Inslee [issued rules](#) regarding visitors, screening, and protective measures for nursing homes and assisted living facilities.
 - The governor's office published a [resource list for business and workers](#) in the state who have been impacted by the virus. These resources are aimed at supporting economic retention and recovery efforts.
 - The Washington State Department of Health [developed](#) a suite of policy considerations and recommendations for school facilities, correctional facilities, and broader community-based organizations.
 - Governor Inslee [issued an emergency proclamation](#) prohibiting large public events with more the 250 people in King, Snohomish, and Pierce counties.

Select Resources Available

The following are additional resources added to NGA's website today. For a full list of select resources, please visit [NGA's coronavirus webpage](#).

- [Planning & Preparedness](#)
 - [CDC Guidance for Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#)
 - [CDC Emergency Preparedness and Response](#)
 - [CDC Practical Steps to Keep Workplaces, School, Home and Commercial Establishments Safe](#)
- [Long Term Care](#)
 - [CMS Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention Concerning Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) by Hospice Agencies](#)
 - [AHCA-NCAL Steps to Prevent COVID-19 from Entering Your Facility](#)
- [Housing](#)
 - [HUD Preventing and Managing the Spread of Infectious Disease for People Experiencing Homelessness](#)
 - [HUD Preventing and Managing the Spread of Infectious Disease within Shelters](#)
 - [HUD Preventing and Managing the Spread of Infectious Disease within Encampments](#)

NGA Activities

NGA Statement

Yesterday, NGA released a [statement](#) calling on congressional leaders to take swift action and expand liability protections to ensure a supply of respirators needed to support the COVID-19 response. Legislation is needed to make all National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)-approved respirators eligible for protection under the Public Readiness & Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act.

Because of NGA's bipartisan leadership, and the efforts of allied organizations, the "Families First Coronavirus Response Act" (H.R. 6210) bill includes "Section 106. Treatment of Personal Respiratory Protective Devices as Covered Countermeasures," which requires certain personal respiratory protective devices to be treated as covered countermeasures under the PREP Act Declaration for the purposes of emergency use during the COVID-19 outbreak and ending Oct. 1, 2024.

SCAN Call

On Tuesday, NGA held our second State Coronavirus Action Network (SCAN) call with 136 key governors' advisors and Washington Representatives/State-Federal Contacts and experts. This call focused on strategies for communicating effectively with the public as coronavirus testing becomes more widely available and additional COVID-19 cases emerge. Our government relations team also provided an update regarding a second emergency supplemental bill. Presentation slides can be found [here](#) and a recording of the call is available [here](#). LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000240

Because this public health crisis is advancing so quickly, we will be holding our SCAN calls on a weekly basis moving forward. Our next SCAN call is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17 at 4 p.m. ET. These calls are designed to share best practices among peers, learn from subject-matter experts, and provide technical assistance from the National Governors Association. The next call will focus on the decision making criteria and strategies governors have used in their COVID-19 response efforts, including restrictions on state employee travel and mass gatherings, as well as guidance to schools and employers.

Social Media

We are following governors closely on social media and are sharing posts in real-time. Please follow [NGA's Official Twitter account](#) to stay-up-to-date on recent state actions and announcements on social media.

Steps Taken By the Federal Administration and Congress

Steps the Federal Government Has Taken to Address Coronavirus

The following are recent steps the federal government has taken to address COVID-19. For a full list of federal government actions, please visit [NGA's coronavirus webpage](#).

- March 11, 2020 – The White House Task Force on Coronavirus and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released two documents ([Actions for All Americans](#) and [A Framework for Mitigation](#)) to assist State, local, tribal, and community leaders in slowing the transmission of COVID-19.
- March 11, 2020 – President Donald Trump [issued a proclamation](#) limiting entry of foreign nationals who have been in the Schengen Area during the 14-day period preceding their entry or attempted entry into the United States.
- March 11, 2020 – The State Department [issued](#) a “Global Level 3 Health Advisory – Reconsider Travel” advising U.S. citizens to reconsider travel abroad.
- March 11, 2020 – HHS announced that the CDC will [be awarding more than \\$560 million](#) to state and local jurisdictions to support COVID-19 response.

Upcoming Actions: Yesterday, the U.S House of Representatives introduced the “Families First Coronavirus Response Act” ([H.R. 6210](#)), which includes emergency provisions such as: paid sick leave, widespread free testing, food aid and unemployment insurance. Negotiations are ongoing regarding a second emergency funding supplemental.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with questions. Additionally, if you would like technical assistance or more information from NGA, contact [Maribel Ramos](#) (NGA Government Relations), [Lauren Stienstra](#) (Homeland Security and Public Safety Division) or [Melinda Becker](#) (Health Division).

Respectfully,
Bill

Bill McBride | Executive Director



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From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 5:46 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: NGA Call: State Coronavirus Action Network (SCAN) - Wed., Feb. 26, 1:00 pm ET

From: Ott, Mary Catherine [mailto:mcott@nga.org]
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 4:44 PM

To: Washington Representatives
Re: National Governors Association (NGA) State Coronavirus Action Network (SCAN) Learning Call

The following information has been shared with governors' health policy advisors, homeland security and public safety advisors, and governors' policy advisors. Please note this call is open to state personnel only.

State Coronavirus Action Network (SCAN) Call: Public Health Emergency Powers, State Resource and Coordination Needs

Wednesday, Feb. 26 | 1:00 – 2:00 EST
Dial-In: 888-475-4499 | Meeting ID: 202-624-5318#

The NGA State Coronavirus Action Network (SCAN) learning call will take place on Wednesday, February 26 **from 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET**. This call will feature a briefing on public health legal considerations, including those concerning federal-state coordination, health information sharing, and liability protections. State officials from Illinois and North Carolina will talk about their preparedness and response activities to date.

Following the conversation on public health legal preparedness and state actions, NGA's Office of Government Relations will provide an update on federal activity regarding emergency supplemental funding and invite state leaders to identify where additional federal resources and coordination are needed to support state preparedness and response efforts. State leaders are strongly encouraged to participate, as this information will be critical to informing NGA's advocacy regarding any potential COVID-19 funding requests.

Please note this call is open to state personnel, only. Click [here](#) to view the slides.

Questions? Contact Carl Amritt at camritt@nga.org

Call information:
Dial-In: 888-475-4499
Meeting ID: 202-624-5318#

Call Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions

Lauren Stienstra
Program Director
NGA Homeland Security & Public Safety

2. Discussion on Public Health Legal Considerations

James Hodge, Jr., JD, LL.M.
Director of the Center for Public Health Law and Policy
Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
Arizona State University's State Profile

3. State Profiles

Eric Lohrenz
Legal Advisor
Emergency Management Agency
State of Illinois

Erik Hooks
Secretary of Public Safety
State of North Carolina

Michael Sprayberry
Executive Director of Emergency Management
State of North Carolina

4. Discussion of State Resource and Coordination Needs

Mary Catherine Ott
Legislative Director
NGA Homeland Security & Public Safety Committee

Maribel Ramos
Legislative Director
NGA Health & Human Services Committee

5. Q&A

BI-WEEKLY STATE LEARNING CALLS: State Coronavirus Action Network (SCAN)

The NGA State Coronavirus Action Network (SCAN) supports governors and their offices with preventing and responding to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and assist states with other public health planning considerations when responding to an outbreak. The learning calls will occur on a bi-weekly basis and allow states to share best practices, speak with subject-matter experts, and receive technical assistance from the National Governors Association. For more information, please direct any inquiries to the [NGA SCAN workgroup](#).

Mary Catherine Ott | Legislative Director
Homeland Security and Public Safety & Council of Governors

Maribel Ramos | Legislative Director
Health and Human Services



National Governors Association
444 North Capitol Street, NW
Suite 267
Washington, DC 20001

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From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 5:16 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: NGA Congressional Letter in Support of COVID-19 Emergency Supplemental
Attachment(s): "NGA Congressional Letter_COVID-19 .docx"

From: Ramos, Maribel [mailto:MRamos@nga.org]
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 4:01 PM
To: Ramos, Maribel <MRamos@nga.org>
Cc: Perez Quinn, Susie <SPQuinn@nga.org>; McBride, Bill <BMcBride@nga.org>; Solt, Ryan <rsolt@nga.org>; Ott, Mary Catherine <mcott@nga.org>; Blute, Timothy <tblute@nga.org>; Wohlschlegel, Eric <EWohlschlegel@NGA.ORG>; Nash, James <JNash@nga.org>
Subject: NGA Congressional Letter in Support of COVID-19 Emergency Supplemental

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Washington Representatives:

In follow-up to our discussion this afternoon at the Washington Representatives NGA Weekly Meeting, I have attached a draft letter in support of the COVID-19 emergency supplemental. As you all have seen in the media, appropriators are trying to get this done rather quickly and the measure is expected to provide as much as \$7 - \$8 billion. The House is looking to vote on the measure this week.

The draft letter is in support of the supplemental and includes language for new federal funding, as well as funding to backfill states for costs already incurred. Again, as we mentioned earlier today, we are not requesting a specific dollar amount but have included a list of overall spending buckets to try and be all-inclusive.

We would like to have as many governors, as possible, sign on to this letter. **We are requesting that you let us know if your governor will sign-on to this letter by noon, Wednesday, March 4, 2020.** If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me.

Thank you,

Maribel Ramos

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CHAIR
Larry Hogan
Governor of Maryland

VICE CHAIR
Andrew Cuomo
Governor of New York

March 2, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room S-230
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room S-224
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

The nation's Governors applaud the U.S. House of Representatives for passage of the XX (H.R....) and urge the U.S. Senate to take swift action and pass the emergency supplemental request, in response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

As the nation's Governors, the health and well-being of our residents is our primary concern. States and localities are at the forefront of public health crises, and COVID-19 is no different. As the situation evolves, states are incurring escalating costs in assisting the federal response to COVID-19. It is imperative that we have adequate resources and funding to respond to this rapidly developing public health emergency. Any appropriation must include the allocation of new federal funding for preventing and responding to COVID-19, backfill states for costs already incurred, and ensure that any monies transferred from existing programs be replenished.

Congress must assure states and territories that necessary resources will be provided to address the multitude of costs associated with a public health emergency. These include but are not limited to travel screening, isolation and quarantine related activities, transportation, lodging, increased staffing, National Guard personnel, testing and monitoring patients, public outreach, supplies, equipment, schools, and wrap-around services.

States and territories are relying on federal dollars to support state public health efforts to prevent and reduce the impact of COVID-19. We appreciate the state-federal coordination on the response thus far and look forward to working with both the Administration and Congress as the nation tackles this public health threat.

Sincerely,

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 9:55 AM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
CC: Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>
Subject: FW: FW: Read Ahead & Confirmation -- Governor-Only Briefing with the Vice President on Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET
Attachment(s): "Read-Ahead for Governors-Only Call for 3-9-2020.pdf"

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 8:50 AM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Read Ahead & Confirmation -- Governor-Only Briefing with the Vice President on Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Good Morning,

Your Governor is **CONFIRMED** to participate in today's briefing at 12:00 p.m. ET with the Vice President.

Read Ahead – See Attachment

The White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator Ambassador Deborah Birx will be covering the attached PDF during the briefing at 12:00 p.m. **Please make sure your Governor receives the attachment prior to the call.**

Call-In Information

You or a member of your team has already registered your Governor for call-in information via a link. That step resulted in receiving call-in information via email from Audio Conference Notification (noreply@event-services.com). Please reference that email for call-in information. That email provided:

- Dial-In Number
- Access Code
- Attendee ID

If your Governor is participating via video-teleconference (VTC), please reference the VTC dial-in information.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Two new proposed products for Coronavirus.gov

1. What can every American and community do today
2. CDC recommendations for mitigation in 4 specific communities

Preliminary Draft for Discussion not for Distribution

U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

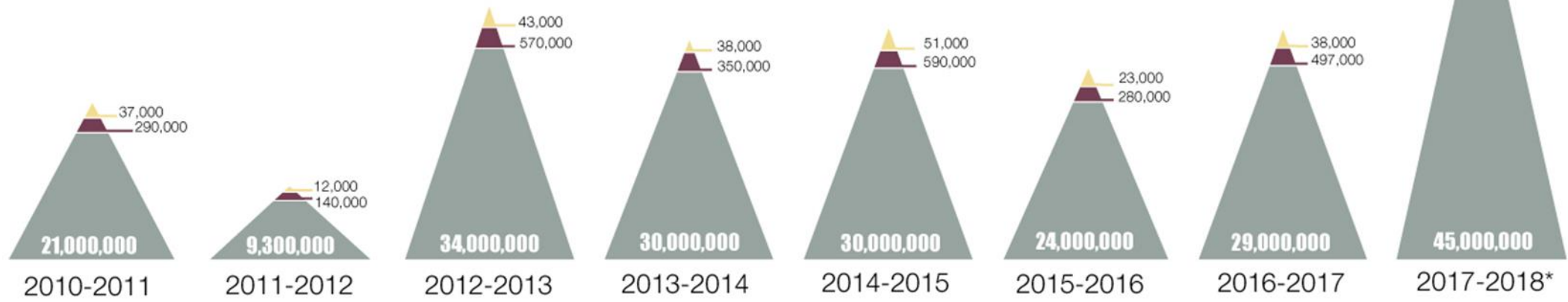
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000247

UNCLASSIFIED

Estimated Influenza Disease Burden, by Season United States, 2010-11 through 2017-18 Influenza Seasons

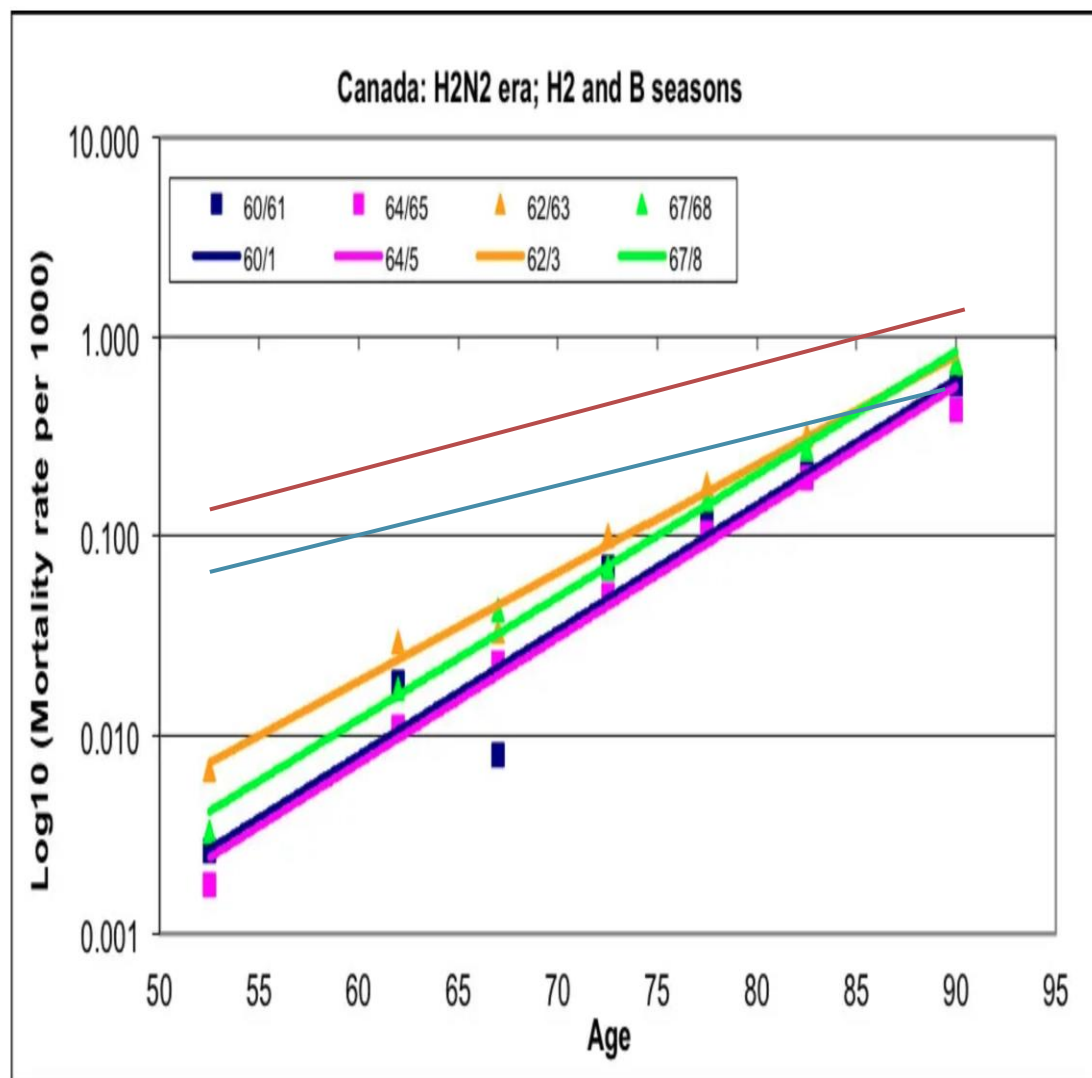
- Deaths
- Hospitalizations
- Illnesses

Estimated U.S. Influenza Burden, By Season
(2010 - 2019)



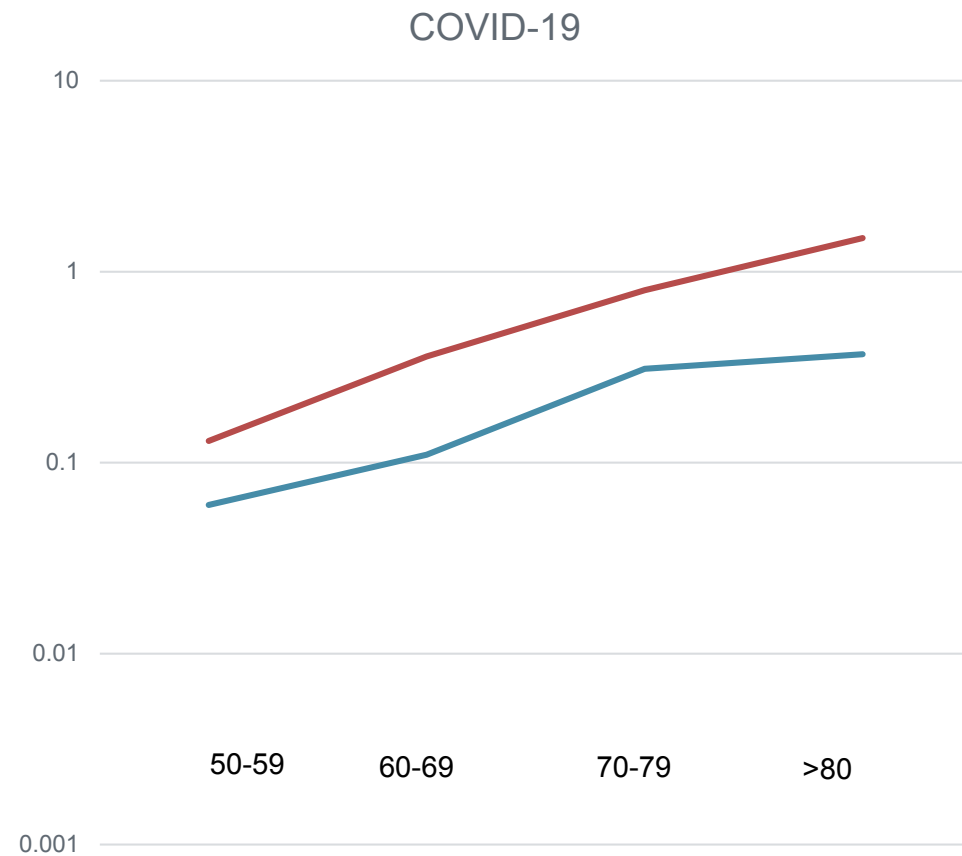
*Estimates for these seasons are preliminary and may change as data are finalized.

Preliminary Draft for Discussion not for Distribution



A semi-log plot of excess all-cause mortality variation with age for epidemic seasons during the era of circulation of influenza A(H2N2) viruses in Canada. The 1960/61 and 1964/5 seasons were dominated by B-type viruses, and the 1962/3 and 1967/8 seasons were dominated in mortality by H2N2 viruses.

COVID-19 compared to Flu



Preliminary Draft for Discussion not for Distribution

LA-GEV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000249

Summary from integrating data

Cases

- Children and young adults underrepresented in cases suggested either preexisting immunity or subclinical/mild cases
- Increasing symptoms and case diagnosis with increasing age

Mortality

- Children and young adults spared – lower mortality in compared to flu
- Mortality in older adults greater than most flu seasons in the 3-5 fold greater range

What can every American and Community do today – Adapted from a scientific article by Dalton et al

Preempted low cost interventions

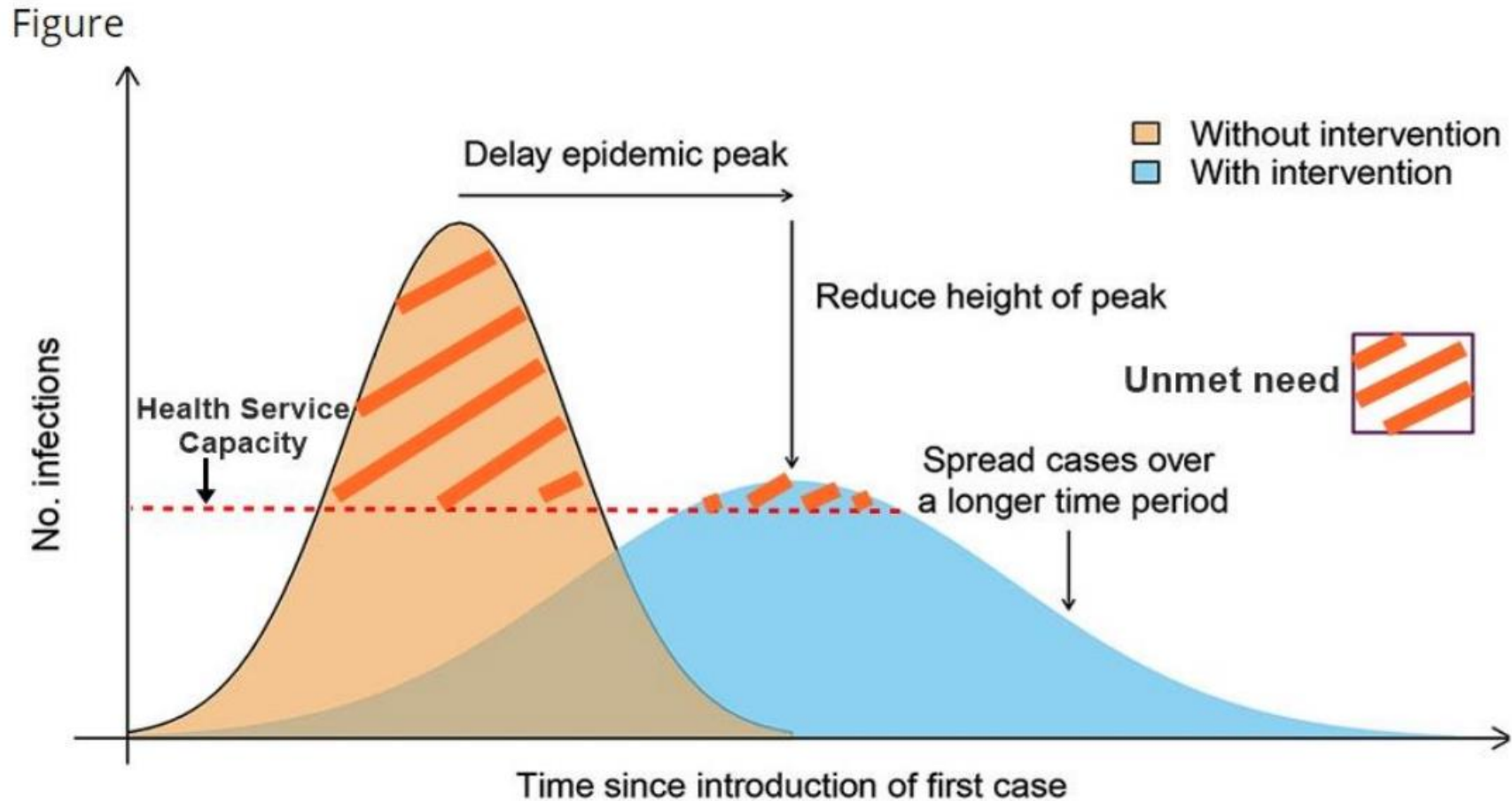


Figure 1: Intended impact of enhanced hygiene and social distancing measures on the COVID-19 pandemic adapted from Fong.⁸

Workplace

Box 1. Workplace Interventions

- No handshaking policy
- Promote cough and sneeze etiquette (but focus is on excluding ill staff)
- Videoconferencing as default for meetings
- Defer large meetings
- Enforced sanitisation of hands at entrance
- Regular hand sanitation schedule reminders via email
- Lunch at desk rather than in lunch room
- Gamifying hygiene rules e.g. to discourage touching face
- Ill* people stay at home and ill workers immediately isolated
- Hold necessary meetings outside in open air if possible
- Staff with ill household contacts should stay at home**
- Disinfect high touch surfaces regularly and between users
- Work from home where possible and consider staggering of staff where there is no loss of productivity from remote work
- Consider opening windows and adjusting air conditioning***
- Limit food handling and sharing of food in the workplace
- Assess staff business travel risks****
- Enhance hygiene and screening for illness among food preparation (canteen) staff and their close contacts.
- Analyse the root cause of crowding events on site and prevent through rescheduling, staggering, cancelling.



School

Box 2. School Interventions

- Supervised sanitisation of hands at entrance and at regular intervals
- Defer activities that lead to mixing between classes and years.
- Promote cough and sneeze etiquette (but focus on excluding ill persons)
- Strict stay at home policy if ill
- Gamifying hygiene rules e.g. to discourage touching face
- Regular handwashing schedule
- Disinfect high touch surfaces regularly and between users
- Outdoor lessons where possible
- Consider opening windows and adjusting conditioning
- Enhance hygiene and screening for illness among food preparation (canteen) staff and their close contacts
- Review after-school care arrangements that lead to mixing of children from multiple classes and ages



Household

Box 3. Household-based Interventions

All Households

- Enhanced hand sanitisation
- Gamifying hygiene rules e.g. to discourage touching face
- Disinfect high touch surfaces regularly
- “Welcome if you are well” signs on front door.
- Increase ventilation rates in the home by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning
- Promote cough and sneeze etiquette

Households with ill members (in addition to measures above)

- Ill household members are given own room if possible and only one person cares for them
- The door to the ill persons room is kept closed*
- Wearing simple surgical/dust masks by both infected persons and other family members caring for the case.
- Consider extra protection or alternative accommodation for household members over 65 years or with underlying illness.

Commercial establishments

Box 4. Commercial/entertainment/transport setting Interventions

- Sanitisation of hands at building entrance encouraged
- Tap and pay preferred to limit handling of money.
- Disinfect high touch surfaces regularly
- Avoiding crowding through booking and scheduling, online pre-purchasing, limiting attendance numbers.
- Enhance hygiene and screening for illness among food preparation staff and their close contacts.
- Enhance airflow and adjust air conditioning
- Public transport workers/taxi/ride share – vehicle windows opened where possible, increased air flow, high-touch surfaces disinfected.



China CDC Epidemiologic Study

TABLE 1. Patients, deaths, and case fatality rates, as well as observed time and mortality cases in Mainland China as of February 11, 2020.

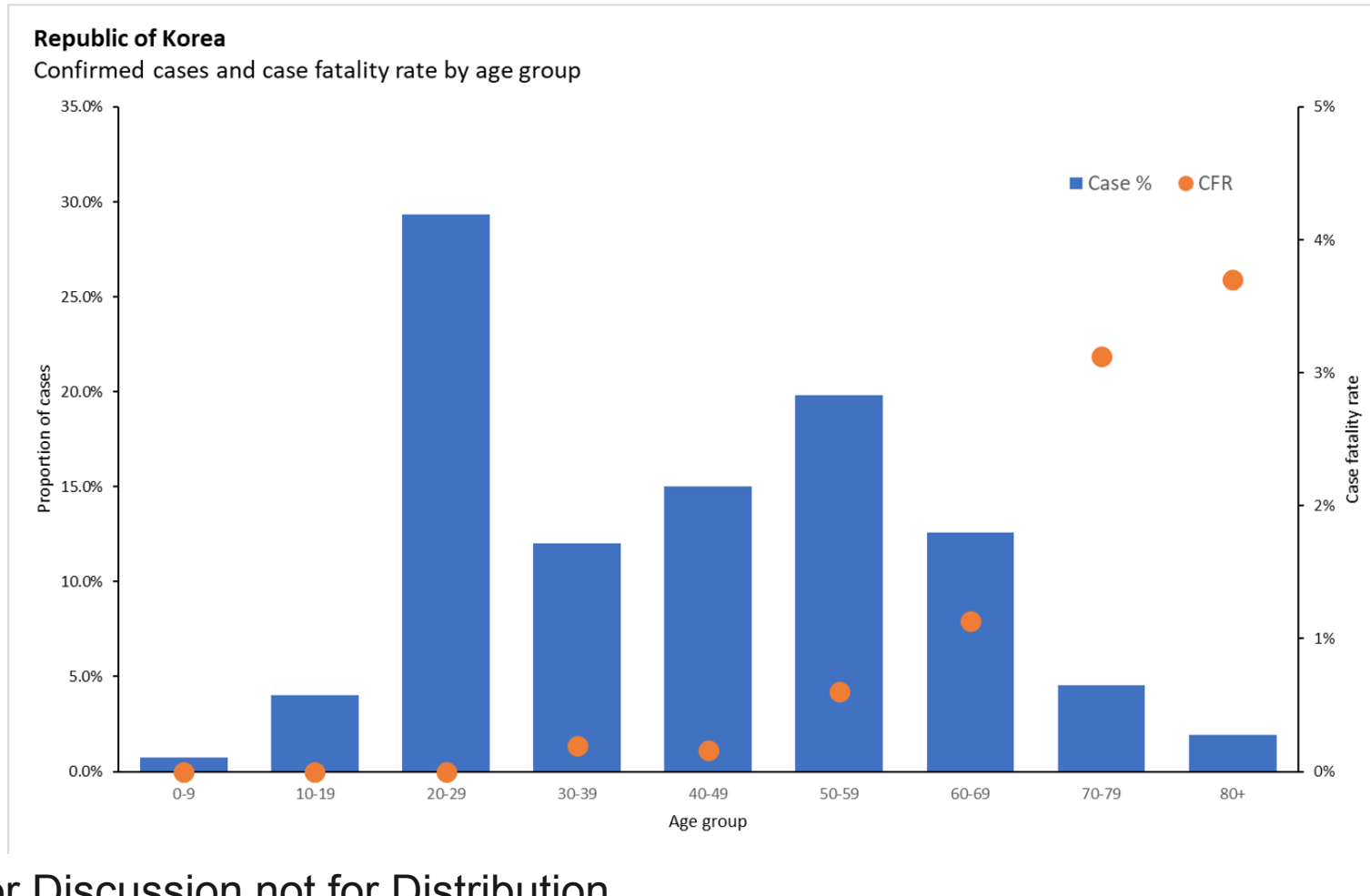
Baseline characteristics	Confirmed cases, N (%)	Deaths, N (%)	Case fatality rate, %
Overall	44,672	1,023	2.3
Age, years			
0–9	416 (0.9)	–	–
10–19	549 (1.2)	1 (0.1)	0.2
20–29	3,619 (8.1)	7 (0.7)	0.2
30–39	7,600 (17.0)	18 (1.8)	0.2
40–49	8,571 (19.2)	38 (3.7)	0.4
50–59	10,008 (22.4)	130 (12.7)	1.3
60–69	8,583 (19.2)	309 (30.2)	3.6
70–79	3,918 (8.8)	312 (30.5)	8.0
≥80	1,408 (3.2)	208 (20.3)	14.8
Sex			
Male	22,981 (51.4)	653 (63.8)	2.8
Female	21,691 (48.6)	370 (36.2)	1.7

[The Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia Emergency Response Epidemiology Team. The Epidemiological Characteristics of an Outbreak of 2019 Novel Coronavirus Diseases \(COVID-19\) – China, 2020. China CDC Weekly.](#)

Preliminary Draft for Discussion not for Distribution

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000257

Korean Case and Case Fatality



Preliminary Draft for Discussion not for Distribution

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000258

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 11:48 AM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: REMINDER: State Coronavirus Action Network Call – Today at 4 p.m. ET

From: Scarbin, Courtney [mailto:cscarbin@nga.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Scarbin, Courtney <cscarbin@nga.org>
Cc: Ramos, Maribel <MRamos@nga.org>; Ott, Mary Catherine <mcott@nga.org>
Subject: REMINDER: State Coronavirus Action Network Call – Today at 4 p.m. ET
Importance: High

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State Coronavirus Action Network Call
Tuesday, March 10th at 4:00 - 5:00pm ET
Dial-in: 877-853-5257
Conference ID: 401-907-0258
Link: <https://zoom.us/j/4019070258>

As a reminder, NGA is hosting a State Coronavirus Action Network (SCAN) call **today from 4:00-5:00 pm ET** on strategies for communicating effectively with the public as coronavirus testing becomes more widely available and additional COVID-19 cases emerge. A former communications director for Governor Gina Raimondo will discuss best practices for crisis communications and insights from his experience in the Governor's office. Officials from Colorado will speak to their state's approach to communicating about the coronavirus, followed by a presentation on new coronavirus "message maps" developed by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials to assist state leaders in addressing key questions.

Following the communications discussion, Governor Jay Inslee's director of federal and inter-state affairs will report on developments in Washington and steps the state is taking to address the coronavirus. All states will be invited to raise questions and share their experiences.

Please note that this call is state-only, with the exception of invited speakers. This notice is also being shared with governors' chiefs of staff, communications directors, policy directors, health policy advisors, homeland security and public safety advisors.

An agenda and presentation slides are below.

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - Melinda Becker, Program Director, NGA Health
2. Crisis and Public Health Communications
 - Mike Raia, Managing Partner, NAIL[PR] – [PowerPoint Slides](#)
 - Stan Hilkey, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
 - Randy Hyer, Deputy Director, Center for Risk Communication – [PowerPoint Slides](#)
 - Vincent Covello, Founder and Director, Center for Risk Communication
 - Q&A
3. Cross-State Dialogue
 - Casey Katims, Director of Federal and Inter-State Affairs, Office of Governor Jay Inslee
 - Q&A
4. NGA and Federal Updates
 - Melinda Becker, Program Director, NGA Health
 - Lauren Stienstra, Program Director, NGA Homeland Security and Public Safety
 - Maribel Ramos, Legislative Director, NGA Health and Human Services Committee
 - Mary Catherine Ott, Legislative Director, NGA Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee

Courtney Scarbin | Project Coordinator, Government Relations



National Governors Association
444 North Capitol Street, NW
Suite 267
Washington, DC 20001

202.719.2874
cscarbin@nga.org
www.nga.org

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From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 5:39 PM EDT
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
CC: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: FW: FW: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Christina--just received word below that Mayor Cantrell will not be attending the press conference tomorrow.

From: Catrina M. Simmons <cmsimmons@nola.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 4:38 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Omar,

I was just informed that Mayor Cantrell will not be attending the press conference tomorrow.

Thanks,

Catrina Simmons-Steib
Director of Scheduling
Office of the Mayor LaToya Cantrell | City of New Orleans
1300 Perdido St 2E04
New Orleans, LA 70112
cmsimmons@nola.gov
O: 504-658-4900

From: Catrina M. Simmons
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Yes, Mayor is confirmed.
Thanks Omar

Catrina Simmons-Steib
Director of Scheduling
Office of the Mayor LaToya Cantrell | City of New Orleans
1300 Perdido St 2E04
New Orleans, LA 70112
cmsimmons@nola.gov
O: 504-658-4900

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 1:23 PM
To: Catrina M. Simmons <cmsimmons@nola.gov>; Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Hi Catrina, we are working out some details but this is what we have so far. We are asking that the 9:15 meeting be attended by only Mayor Cantrell and Dr. Avegno or her designee as space will be limited. I'm happy to answer any additional questions, please let me know if we can confirm this so I can let the Gov's office know. Thanks for your assistance with this!

Thanks,
Omar

Thursday March 12:

09:15 AM – 09:45 AM Discussion with Governor John Bel Edwards (State Capitol 4th floor, Governor's office 900 North 3rd Street; Baton Rouge, Louisiana)

- Opportunity to talk about the status of COVID-19 in Louisiana prior to press event

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000261

- Mayor Cantrell, Mayor Broome, President Lee Sheng, President Cooper
- Area hospital executives (5 max)

This will be an informal, unstructured opportunity for the participants to discuss the situation with the Governor and Surgeon General, with a small group of hospital executives in attendance. Please limit staff to one for this discussion

09:45 AM – 10:15 AM Press Event with Governor John Bel Edwards (State Capitol 4th floor, Governor's office 900 North 3rd Street; Baton Rouge, Louisiana)

- Proposed Run of Show:
- 9:45 Welcome and opening comments by Governor Edwards
- 9:55 Introductory comments by Surgeon General RADM Jerome Adams, MD
- 10:05 questions fielded by Governor Edwards and the Surgeon General

From: Catrina M. Simmons <cmsimmons@nola.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:08 PM
To: Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Omar,

Can you forward a run of show or agenda for the press conference?

Thanks,

Catrina Simmons-Steib
Director of Scheduling
Office of the Mayor LaToya Cantrell | City of New Orleans
1300 Perdido St 2E04
New Orleans, LA 70112
cmsimmons@nola.gov
O: 504-658-4900

From: Catrina M. Simmons
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 11:46 AM
To: Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Good Morning Dr. Avegno,

I spoke to the mayor and have placed the press conference on the mayor's calendar.

Thanks,

Catrina Simmons-Steib
Director of Scheduling
Office of the Mayor LaToya Cantrell | City of New Orleans
1300 Perdido St 2E04
New Orleans, LA 70112
cmsimmons@nola.gov
O: 504-658-4900

From: Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Catrina M. Simmons <cmsimmons@nola.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Please see urgent request for the mayor tomorrow -

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000262

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 9:51 AM
To: Jennifer L. Avegno M.D.
Cc: Alexander Billioux; Joseph Kanter
Subject: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Good Morning Dr. Avegno,

My thoughts are definitely with you, I can imagine how challenging these days are like for you and your team.

As you know we are working with the Office of the Surgeon General of the United States to schedule a visit to Louisiana. While this was intended to be a routine visit when originally planned, the spread of COVID-19 has meant that we have had to do some scrambling to change and add some events.

The Surgeon General will now be holding a press conference with Governor Edwards tomorrow morning at **9:15am-10:15am** at the Governor's office at the Capitol. We would like for the Mayors/Parish Presidents of areas with presumptive positives for COVID-19 cases to be in attendance, with an opportunity to meet privately with the Governor and Surgeon General and other municipal leaders. Of course this is very short notice, but due to the rapid developments of this situation and the profile of the event, we would be very grateful if Mayor Cantrell could attend. So far Mayor Broome has been invited and Parish President Lee Sheng has confirmed. We are also reaching out to Parish President Cooper in St. Tammany.

Schedule:

9:00

9:15 meeting with Governor Edwards, Surgeon General Adams, and Mayors Cantrell and Broome/Presidents Lee Sheng and Cooper

9:30 Press Conference

Happy to discuss this further by phone if you'd like.

Thanks,

Omar Khalid
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Chief of Staff
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
omar.khalid@la.gov
225-953-2784



From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 5:05 PM EST

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

Subject: FW: FW: The President & Coronavirus Task Force News Conference TODAY at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 4:00 PM

To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>

Subject: The President & Coronavirus Task Force News Conference TODAY at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State Leaders and Staff,

Today (Wednesday, February 26) at 6:30 PM Eastern Time, President Donald J. Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, and Members of the Coronavirus Task Force will Hold a News Conference from the White House James S. Brady Briefing Room.

You can view the news conference here: [WhiteHouse.gov/Live](https://www.whitehouse.gov/live).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum

Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director

White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 6:21 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: The President & Coronavirus Task Force News Conference TODAY at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time
FYI

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 4:31 PM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Re: The President & Coronavirus Task Force News Conference TODAY at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

State Leaders and Staff,

Below you will find additional information.

[1600 Daily](#)

The White House • February 26, 2020

President Trump's aggressive coronavirus response

[Watch LIVE at 6:30 p.m. ET as President Trump and members of the Coronavirus Task Force hold a news conference.](#)

Under President Trump's leadership, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people.

[Tonight at 6:30 p.m. ET](#), the President and members of the Coronavirus Task Force will hold a news conference to update Americans on the federal response to the coronavirus.

Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given local officials time to prepare. Last month, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response.

As a result, America has been able to stay ahead of the outbreak as it develops abroad.

The Trump Administration also recently requested new funding authorities from Congress. With this action, the Administration expects to allocate at least \$2.5 billion to fight the coronavirus. That funding will go toward public health preparedness, laboratory testing, quarantine costs, the development of vaccines, and other healthcare priorities.

One principle in particular has defined President Trump's approach: radical transparency. Rather than keep Americans in the dark, the Administration wants citizens to be able to see inside each step of the process. The President also wants all Americans to understand how their government is working hard to keep them safe.

"We're taking this incredibly serious here in the United States," Secretary Azar said. "We are doing the most aggressive containment efforts in modern history to prevent further spread in the United States. We're going to continue taking those measures."

[Tune in to President Trump's briefing LIVE at 6:30 p.m. ET.](#)

READ: ["Our coronavirus response is protecting Americans"](#)

Thanks,
Nic

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000265

On Feb 26, 2020, at 4:58 PM, Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov> wrote:

State Leaders and Staff,

Today (Wednesday, February 26) at 6:30 PM Eastern Time, President Donald J. Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, and Members of the Coronavirus Task Force will Hold a News Conference from the White House James S. Brady Briefing Room.

You can view the news conference here:[WhiteHouse.gov/Live](https://www.whitehouse.gov/live).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 3:35 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: FW: What Governors Need to Know - HHS Issues New COVID-19 Resources
Attachment(s): "PRELIMINARY - NOT FOR FURTHER DISCLOSURE Initial State and Local Funding.pdf"

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) [mailto:Michael.Baker@hhs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:12 PM
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: What Governors Need to Know - HHS Issues New COVID-19 Resources

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Governor:

Thank you for your continued engagement and partnership with us to address and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

As you might imagine, a number of HHS divisions are releasing COVID-19-related information on funding and guidance. We thought it would be helpful to batch up information on key issues to keep you up-to-date.

Funding for States to Address COVID-19

Perhaps of keenest interest to you and your health officials is an update on funding for states and communities to address mitigation of COVID-19.

Today, at 1 PM EST HHS will be announcing that more than \$560 million will be made available to the 62 entities which have existing cooperative agreements with the CDC through its Public Health Emergency Program, known as "PHEP."

The \$8.3 billion dollar Supplemental passed by Congress included [statutory language](#) which prescribed the exact formula for disbursing the money: states will receive 90% of their [2019 CDC PHEP grants](#). So that you know what your state will receive, we have attached a document identifying the amounts going to states, territories, or cities. This marks the first tranche of funding to states from the \$8.3 billion supplemental. Your state health officers are receiving a letter today from CDC outlining what is needed to receive the funding, essentially they need to submit a spend plan and they will receive guidance on what that spend plan should contain.

Helping Communities Know Mitigation Strategies

Yesterday, CDC released their "Implementation." Essentially, this is a guide for communities describing possible mitigation strategies for communities dealing with transmission at three different levels: (1) None/Minimal, (2) Moderate, or (3) Substantial. Community mitigation strategies, which are non-pharmaceutical interventions, are often the most available interventions to help slow the transmission of COVID-19 in communities. The Mitigation Plans include a set of actions that persons and communities can take to slow the spread of respiratory virus infections. The Community Mitigation Plan can be found [here](#).

Guidance on Infection Control For Healthcare Workers

Yesterday, CDC released updated guidance on infection prevention and control recommendations. Healthcare workers are fighting this outbreak on the front lines, and this guidance is intended to provide assistance to healthcare settings that are handling suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. This guidance is applicable to all U.S. healthcare settings, but not for non-healthcare settings. There is separate guidance for that. The new guidance on infection control can be found [here](#).

OMB Flexibilities

On March 9, 2020, OMB issued a memo that provides administrative relief for recipients and applicants of Federal financial assistance who are directly impacted by COVID-19. The grant flexibilities include 10 actions that HHS can take to provide short-term administrative and financial management relief, allowing funds to be awarded quicker and giving grantees the ability to focus on their critical response, research, or services. More information can be found [here](#).

General Preparation Information: On March 9, 2020, the White House Coronavirus Task Force released practical steps that we recommend posting and sharing to keep workplaces, school, home and commercial establishments safe. This information can be found [here](#).

CMS Specific Guidance:

- **CMS Guidance on Masks:** On March 10, 2020, CMS released guidance updating recommendations to expand the type of facemasks healthcare workers can use in situations involving COVID-19. This guidance aligns with the information by CDC regarding personal protective equipment as well. The memo sent to State Survey Agency Directors can be found [here](#).
- **CMS FAQs on Suspension of Non-Emergency Survey Inspections:** On March 10, 2020, CMS released a frequently asked questions document to further explain the changes in guidance issued on March 4 that suspends all non-emergency survey inspections. This guidance and FAQ will help to enable State Inspectors to address the spread of COVID-19. The FAQ

document can be found [here](#).

- **CMS Nursing Home Guidance:** As you know, nursing homes and their residents are vulnerable populations for COVID-19. This week, CMS released updated guidance for infection control and prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes which can be found [here](#) (3/9). The Press Release can be found [here](#) and all CMS guidance related to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions on these items or other issues, please feel free to reach out.

Thanks,

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

DRAFT: CDC FUNDING INFORMATION (MAR 11, 2020)

Jurisdiction	Initial \$25M (via Crisis CoAg) Complete	Initial \$10M (ELC) Complete	\$560M+ Award (Crisis CoAg) Underway	Total
Alabama			\$ 8,148,798.90	\$ 8,148,798.90
Alaska			\$ 4,902,840.00	\$ 4,902,840.00
American Samoa			\$ 370,246.50	\$ 370,246.50
Arizona	\$ 500,000.00		\$ 11,201,871.60	\$ 11,701,871.60
Arkansas			\$ 6,205,347.00	\$ 6,205,347.00
California	\$ 3,500,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 37,706,709.60	\$ 42,206,709.60
Colorado		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 9,331,323.30	\$ 9,831,323.30
Connecticut		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 7,058,270.70	\$ 7,558,270.70
Delaware			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
District of Columbia			\$ 6,148,297.80	\$ 6,148,297.80
Florida	\$ 500,000.00		\$ 27,296,306.10	\$ 27,796,306.10
Georgia	\$ 250,000.00		\$ 14,786,284.50	\$ 15,036,284.50
Guam			\$ 479,431.80	\$ 479,431.80
Hawaii	\$ 1,750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 7,317,500.00
Idaho			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
Illinois	\$ 1,750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 14,667,281.10	\$ 17,417,281.10
Indiana	\$ 250,000.00		\$ 10,374,951.60	\$ 10,624,951.60
Iowa			\$ 6,347,828.70	\$ 6,347,828.70
Kansas			\$ 5,940,546.30	\$ 5,940,546.30
Kentucky			\$ 7,464,394.80	\$ 7,464,394.80
Louisiana			\$ 7,805,064.60	\$ 7,805,064.60
Maine			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
Marshall Islands			\$ 367,754.40	\$ 367,754.40
Maryland		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 10,259,226.90	\$ 10,759,226.90
Massachusetts	\$ 500,000.00		\$ 11,649,309.30	\$ 12,149,309.30
Michigan	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 14,567,049.90	\$ 15,317,049.90
Micronesia			\$ 420,402.60	\$ 420,402.60
Minnesota		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 10,048,123.80	\$ 10,548,123.80
Mississippi			\$ 5,874,995.70	\$ 5,874,995.70
Missouri			\$ 9,888,657.30	\$ 9,888,657.30
Montana			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
Nebraska	\$ 1,750,000.00		\$ 4,796,664.30	\$ 6,546,664.30
Nevada			\$ 6,532,739.10	\$ 6,532,739.10
New Hampshire			\$ 4,902,840.00	\$ 4,902,840.00
New Jersey	\$ 1,750,000.00		\$ 13,860,160.20	\$ 15,610,160.20
New Mexico		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 5,974,364.70	\$ 6,474,364.70
New York	\$ 1,750,000.00		\$ 16,690,279.50	\$ 18,440,279.50
North Carolina			\$ 13,820,515.20	\$ 13,820,515.20
North Dakota			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
Northern Marianas			\$ 369,765.90	\$ 369,765.90
Ohio			\$ 15,620,977.80	\$ 15,620,977.80
Oklahoma			\$ 6,924,231.00	\$ 6,924,231.00
Oregon	\$ 500,000.00		\$ 7,298,826.30	\$ 7,798,826.30
Palau			\$ 336,793.50	\$ 336,793.50
Pennsylvania			\$ 16,904,048.40	\$ 16,904,048.40
Puerto Rico			\$ 5,870,358.00	\$ 5,870,358.00
Rhode Island	\$ 500,000.00		\$ 4,902,840.00	\$ 5,402,840.00
South Carolina			\$ 8,926,132.50	\$ 8,926,132.50
South Dakota			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
Tennessee		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 10,078,293.60	\$ 10,578,293.60
Texas	\$ 1,750,000.00		\$ 35,226,922.50	\$ 36,976,922.50
Utah			\$ 6,441,412.50	\$ 6,441,412.50
Vermont			\$ 4,902,840.00	\$ 4,902,840.00
Virgin Islands			\$ 419,100.30	\$ 419,100.30
Virginia	\$ 250,000.00		\$ 13,371,612.30	\$ 13,621,612.30
Washington	\$ 1,750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 11,480,798.70	\$ 14,230,798.70
West Virginia			\$ 5,000,803.20	\$ 5,000,803.20
Wisconsin	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 10,200,192.30	\$ 11,200,192.30
Wyoming			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
New York City	\$ 1,750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 16,911,778.50	\$ 19,661,778.50
Los Angeles	\$ 1,750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 18,212,100.30	\$ 20,962,100.30
Chicago	\$ 1,750,000.00		\$ 8,743,674.60	\$ 10,493,674.60
Houston			\$ 5,000,000.00	\$ 5,000,000.00
Philadelphia			\$ 3,500,000.00	\$ 3,500,000.00
Cherokee Nation			\$ 750,000.00	\$ 750,000.00
Total	\$ 25,000,000.00	\$ 10,000,000.00	\$ 569,822,380.00	\$ 604,822,380.00

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2020 5:14 PM EST

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>

Subject: FW: FW: What You Need To Know: The Trump-Pence Administration Is Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach To Address the Coronavirus

FYI

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 1, 2020 4:03 PM

To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>

Subject: What You Need To Know: The Trump-Pence Administration Is Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach To Address the Coronavirus

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State Leaders and Staff,

Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given state and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. Last month, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Administration and Coronavirus Task Force have and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. It is important to note that at this time, the risk of infection for Americans remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed. Below, please find additional pertinent information.

Up-To-Date Information: Additional helpful resources and up-to-date information can be found on the below websites and social media channels.

For background and the most up-to-date information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- Twitter ([here](#))
- Facebook ([here](#))

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Twitter ([here](#))
- Facebook ([here](#))

Latest Updates: Below, please find pertinent updates on Administrations actions.

- **President Donald J. Trump & Vice President Mike Pence Press Conference with HHS, CDC, & NIH Officials on Saturday, February 29** ([video](#) / [remarks](#))
- **FDA Issues New Policy to Help Expedite Availability of Diagnostics.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's issued a new policy for certain laboratories seeking to develop diagnostic tests for coronavirus in order to achieve more rapid testing capacity in the U.S. (more [here](#))
- **The Associated Press: Pence Says States Will Receive Help If Coronavirus Spreads.** Vice President Mike Pence said Friday that the federal government is prepared to assist the states if the coronavirus spreads significantly across the country — an eventuality he called unlikely. Pence told a brief press conference in Florida that as a former Indiana governor he understands the need for state and federal partnerships in dealing with a potential health crisis. President Donald Trump appointed Pence on Wednesday to oversee the administration's response to the coronavirus. Pence was in Florida to speak to a conservative political group and raise money for Republican congressional campaigns, but also met with GOP Gov. Ron DeSantis and his health staff at Palm Beach International Airport before speaking with reporters. (more [here](#))
- **USA Today: 'No Need To Panic': President Trump Says Risk To Americans Is Low As First Coronavirus Death Reported In U.S.** In a rare televised news conference from the White House on Saturday, President Donald Trump said the risk to Americans from coronavirus remains low and that he would meet with pharmaceutical companies next week to discuss development of a vaccine. His comments came as the first U.S. death from the disease was reported. Trump and Vice President

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000270

Mike Pence also announced new travel restrictions to combat the virus, which has infected more than 84,000 people and killed nearly 3,000 people globally. An existing travel ban on Iran will be expanded to prevent any foreign national who has been in that country in the past 14 days from entering the U.S. The administration also advised Americans not to travel to regions of Italy and South Korea that have been impacted by the virus. (more [here](#))

Helpful Agency Contact Information: Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the Federal family.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Darcie Johnston (Office – 202-853-0582 / Cell – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security – Cherie Short (Office – 202-441-3101 / Cell – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State – Bill Killion (Office – 202-647-7595 / Cell – 202-294-2605 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation – Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance. As a reminder, WH IGA is the primary liaison between the White House and State and local elected officials.

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

President's Coronavirus Task Force



🐦 Vice President Mike Pence: [“Today, I led a meeting of the White House Coronavirus Taskforce at @HHSgov. Grateful for the work of @SecAzar, @Surgeon General, @NIH, Dr. Fauci and more. As President @realDonaldTrump said, we’re ready and we’ll continue to put the health and safety of the American people first.”](#)

Led by Vice President Mike Pence, the Task Force is leading the United States Government response to the novel 2019 coronavirus. The Task Force is composed of subject matter experts from the White House and several United States Government agencies and includes some of the Nation’s foremost experts on infectious diseases. The Task Force leads the Administration’s efforts to monitor, contain, and mitigate the spread of the virus, while ensuring that the American people have the most accurate and up-to-date health and travel information. Additional information about the Task Force can be found [here](#). If you would like to contact the Task Force, please reach out to White House Intergovernmental Affairs Staff.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#) (more [here](#)), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the American public remains low and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China. This is chief among reasons why the threat to Americans from coronavirus remains low.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
- Establishing the White House task force to combat the coronavirus spread.
- The White House has already met with over 40 state, county and health officials in 30 states on how to respond to the potential threat of the coronavirus. We will be continuing to reach out to governors, state and local officials, and Members of Congress to ensure they have the necessary resources.
- Remained in close contact with our Nation's governors.

While the threat to the American public remains low, the President has directed the White House Task Force to take all steps to ensure the health and well-being of the American people and we are well-prepared.

- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.
- There are good tried and true hygiene practices which can be very effective to reduce the chance of getting sick.
- Travelers are encouraged to always exercise healthy travel habits when traveling and to follow appropriate guidance ([see here](#)). At this time, there are no restrictions on travel anywhere in the United States.
- We are working rapidly on therapeutics and vaccines and have launched the first U.S. clinical trial for an investigational antiviral.
- The United States has the finest public health system in the world and knows the playbook to respond to infectious disease outbreaks.

The United States is helping lead the global response to the coronavirus outbreak and offering assistance to the Chinese people in their time of need.

- The Coronavirus Task Force and Administration continue to operationalize a unified government-wide public health response.
- The Administration has requested funding from Congress to help cover all the needs across the federal government to remain prepared for the Coronavirus – the Administration encourages Congress to move expeditiously to provide additional resources to the Federal government and our State and local partners.

Local, State, tribal, & Federal coordinated preparedness & response efforts.

- Federal officials have been working diligently to communicate with State, local, and tribal officials on the Federal government's efforts to prepare and respond to COVID-1.
- Our Nation's Governors have participated in-person and conference call briefings with Federal partners (January 30, February 9, and February 20) – and another one is scheduled for March 2.
- White House, OMB, HHS, DHS, DOT, and State Department Officials met with over 40 State, county, and city health officials from over 30 States and territories to thank them for their leadership and to continue discussions on the Federal-State-Local partnership to prepare and respond to COVID-19 (February 25).
- HHS, CDC, DHS, and Federal partners have held numerous national briefing calls with State, local, tribal, private-sector, and community leaders.
- The Trump Administration is partnering with State, local, and tribal elected and appointed leaders' associations.

Excerpt from On-The-Record Pen and Pad Roundtable by Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar and Other Senior Administration Officials on Resources Available to Combat the Coronavirus (February 28, 2020)

SECRETARY AZAR: Well, thanks for coming, everybody. In case you didn't hear from us enough the other night, wanted to give you an update on the budget issues, in particular.

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000272

As the President has repeatedly emphasized, there is no higher priority for us than protecting the health and safety of Americans. Thanks to the President's aggressive containment efforts, at this time, the risk from COVID-19 to the American public is low. But as we have all repeatedly emphasized, that has the potential to change.

The President's bold, decisive decisions have brought us extremely -- have bought us extremely valuable time to prepare for the possibility that the situation may worsen and we may need to mitigate its spread in the United States. That time is valuable for all sorts of things, including state and local preparation, and the development of diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines.

It's also helped us determine our funding and resource needs, allowing the White House to make its supplemental funding request of Congress earlier this week. We want to work with Congress to determine the funds we need for FY2020 first, because our priorities here are speed and flexibility.

HHS is already using up the \$105 million in the Infectious Disease Rapid Response Reserve Fund, which has been vital, but it's not enough -- which is why we are moving forward with a transfer of \$136 million to continue our public health response, which I notified Congress about on February the 2nd.

Thanks to investments supported by this administration, we have highly valuable and flexible relationships and contracting methods for developing and purchasing diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines through entities like BARDA. But we'll need more money for the focused drive toward countermeasures that we need to keep America safe.

Working on a supplemental needs to be a top priority for Congress. As the President has said, this is not a time for politics. We cannot undertake all the preparation that it's widely acknowledged we need without more funding.

As chairman of the Coronavirus Task Force, I have already begun working alongside Vice President Pence, Acting Director Vought, Director Ueland, and others to begin productive discussions with Congress about what funding should look like.

We laid out five key elements of our supplemental request. First, surveillance. Second, state and local support. Third, therapeutics. Fourth, vaccines. And fifth, personal protective equipment, or PPE.

I want to mention some particular activities we plan with the funding. With surveillance funds, we'll build on existing influenza surveillance systems, covering all states and adding coronavirus testing and reporting to the current flu systems. We request funding for grants to state and local jurisdictions for epidemiology, lab capacity, infection control, and other activities, complementing CDC investments over the years. And we've requested new funding for the 62 recipients of our hospital preparedness program.

We request \$1 billion in support for the development of up to five candidate coronavirus vaccines, including support for one or more through phase-three clinical trials.

On therapeutics and diagnostics, we request support for investigation of broad-spectrum antivirals, research on existing monoclonal antibodies that work on other coronaviruses, development of new targeted monoclonal antibodies, and screening of small molecule compounds that have existing clinical data. We request support for these activities through early clinical trials.

We also request support for development of assays to ensure ready availability of diagnostics, plus funding to help the FDA support these development priorities -- pipelines.

On personal protective equipment, we propose almost half a billion dollars in investments for the Strategic National Stockpile to increase production, capacity, and purchase of respirators, ventilators, and antimicrobials for secondary infections.

These kinds of activities will build on activities that we have prioritized and generously funded over the years. Since FY2017, under President Trump, the CDC's budget has increased by \$668 million, while NIH's budget has increased by more than \$7 billion.

The FY2020 appropriations signed by President Trump include \$2.7 billion for preparedness programs in HHS's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, up about \$600 million from FY2017. That included a 130-million-dollar increase in annual spending for the Strategic National Stockpile, and a 203-million-dollar increase in our Pandemic Preparedness Program.

The President's 2021 budget for CDC, developed before we knew the coronavirus would present such an emergency, reflects similar priorities. It maintains the \$675 million in state and local preparedness investments, the FEP funding. It prioritizes infectious disease funding and proposes a \$50 million increase for CDC's Global Health Security Agenda efforts.

That reflects this administration's longtime focus on effective preparedness programs, the CDC's core mission of infectious disease response, and support for tackling infectious disease threats, especially ones that can cross borders.

I've been a strong advocate for this work and so have leaders across the Trump administration. Tragically, we are now reminded why we've made the case for these priorities over the years. And this situation demands more support from Congress, just as earlier potential pandemic situations have.

[...]

DIRECTOR VOUGHT: So the first one I want to tackle is the total amount for CDC of fighting infectious diseases and preparedness in the President's budget versus last year. So, last year, fiscal year 2020, there was \$4.182 billion for fighting infectious diseases and preparedness within CDC. We then increased that in the President's budget by 3 percent -- \$135 million -- to \$4.317 billion.

billion.

So from the standpoint of everything that -- all of the activities that are going on at CDC in this area, there's an increase of 3 percent.

There is a topline reduction in the President's budget for CDC in areas that are not infectious disease fighting and preparedness -- things like climate change research; things like occupational health research that is not going to go away, but is merely something that we no longer feel like we need to jumpstart research that universities are doing, and they have been doing it since 1970, when these programs were first created because it wasn't happening at universities.

We also think there's waste, fraud, and abuse in this area, where you have studies on how taxi drivers are taking too few bathroom breaks, and whether that's an important occupational health issue.

Those are the kinds of things that we still think, even in a time of making sure that all the resources are there for CDC, we can find inefficiencies and waste, and deal with mission creep at the same time.

So it is not true that we cut CDC infectious disease fighting -- which gets me to the second one, which I think this is the main inaccuracy out there, which is this notion that you see in some of the New York Post and CNN reporting that we cut CDC by 80 percent. It's flat-out inaccurate.

Let me explain how the numbers are concocted, comparing apples and oranges, to get that 80 percent. When the Ebola supplemental was passed, there was \$597 million provided over five years. It was not an annual spend; it was a five-year lump sum supplemental. Per year, that was \$119 million for global health activities that would apply to any infectious disease. But that was passed by Congress as part of the Ebola supplemental.

The last two years of that five-year supplemental, we began to make sure that it would be funded within the base amount of resources. So we put forward \$50 million in Fiscal Year '18, \$50 million in Fiscal Year '19, \$125 million in Fiscal Year '20, and in this budget we propose \$175 million in Fiscal Year '21.

So, in -- while it was still available, we were taking steps to make sure it was funded within base resources. So when the supplemental emergency funding expired, there would still be there, and then when that expired we then pulsed it up to \$125 [million]. And this year we propose it at \$175 [million]. So significant resources there.

You hear, in the same kind of stories, about leaked memos regarding contingency plans. Those were -- we never got to the point where the funds were expired. And so the contingency plans were what they're meant to be: contingency plans if the funds go away. So, kind of -- we keep seeing this story out there. It's flat-out inaccurate.

I want to talk a little bit about the run rate. So when we talk about: Is there money in the account right now? There's money in the account. We have spent \$77 million of the \$105 million that Secretary Azar mentioned.

We will be able to get through into April. We can't tell you with a specific degree of certainty, but we're in a good place right now, temporarily. The difference between what we have actually spent, and the -- and the amounts that are provided, we have committed to other activities. We need a supplemental; we need it soon. There's no doubt about that. But we haven't run out of money. And we've got some time and we think that Congress is taking this very seriously.

Eric will speak to how quickly they will move a supplemental. But we're moving forward and we are making sure we have all the accurate data.

I've heard the argument from the Hill: "Well, you haven't given us all of the obligation rates." Well, that's because we're trying to get all of the obligation rates ourselves: collect them, make sure we have all of them from the various different accounts across the federal government, compile them, and get them to the Hill. And we will be as transparent as we always have.

And then the last thing I would just say from a comparison of -- this is our sup request versus their sup request. Remember that ours was based on the notion of what's needed for the seven months remaining in Fiscal Year '20. We put forward a two-and-a-half-billion-dollar request. The President has been very -- made it very clear. Secretary Azar, as head of our task force, has made it very clear. We are willing to go to a higher level if Congress feels the need to do that. But we put forward a two-and-a-half-billion-dollar request based on what was required in seven months, knowing that we're going to go right into Fiscal Year '21 appropriations, and build in additional resources for this area.

So when you see a big number from Senator Schumer -- again, not much detail there, but the assumption is that that is a five-year number. "No-year money" was what we call it. And so, to some extent, you're dealing, again, with apples and oranges. The Ebola supplemental was, again, no-year money, so it wasn't intended to be for what was needed in this particular fiscal year.

So those are the main things that I've seen that I wanted to make sure we definitely unpack. And I'm sure we'll do more of that in the Q&A.

From: Johnny Koch <JKoch@roedelparsons.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 11:07 AM EDT

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Fred Mills <fmills@legis.la.gov>; Larry Bagley <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Cortez <pcortez@legis.la.gov>; Clay Schexnayder <schexnayderc@legis.la.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Fwd: Walmart New COVID-19 policy to support the health of our associates

Attachment(s): "New COVID-19 policy to support the health of our associates.pdf", "ATT00001.htm"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Please see attached re Walmart response to COVC-19 impact on company and its employees. I am available at any time to meet and discuss. Thanks; God Bless and be "smart and safe."

Johnny

From: Tice White <Tice.White@walmart.com>

Date: March 11, 2020 at 9:03:22 AM CDT

To: Johnny Koch <jkoch@roedelparsons.com>, Johnny Koch <JohnK@roedelparsons.com>, AVANTGARDE STRATEGIES LLC - Serena Flowers <serena.clark@gmail.com>, Jeremy Nagoshiner <jnagoshiner@mnagr.com>

Subject: Walmart New COVID-19 policy to support the health of our associates

All - Please share this with anyone you feel is pertinent (including chief of staffs, legislators, policy advisors, health commissioners, etc.). We are starting to see various states begin to implement their own policies and procedures and want to make sure they are aware we are attempting to be pro-active (both from a policy and safety perspective) on this issue.

Thanks,
Tice

This email has been scanned for spam and viruses by Proofpoint Essentials. Visit the following link to report this email as spam:

https://us3.proofpointessentials.com/index01.php?mod_id=11&mod_option=logitem&mail_id=1583935400-Lz5aZszikalC&r_address=jkoch%40roedelparsons.com&report=1

Sent from my iPhone



To: All U.S. associates
John Furner, President and Chief Executive Officer – Walmart U.S.
From: Kath McLay, President and Chief Executive Officer – Sam's Club
Donna Morris, Executive Vice President, Chief People Officer – Walmart
Date: March 10, 2020
RE: New COVID-19 policy to support the health of our associates

Thank you for all you're doing to serve customers and members during this challenging time, as the U.S. deals with COVID-19 (coronavirus). We know how busy you are, and greatly appreciate what you're doing for your communities.

As you know from previous notes, we are responding to the developing situation and planning for what may occur in the coming weeks and months. We wanted to share an update that a Walmart associate at our store in Cynthiana, Kentucky, has tested positive for COVID-19. The associate is receiving medical care, and her condition is improving. We wish her a speedy recovery. After learning of this case, we consulted with state and local health experts, reinforced our cleaning and sanitizing protocol, and, with the support and encouragement of the state government, the store remains open.

As more cases are likely to occur, we'll continue to take precautions and actions to keep our stores, clubs and other facilities clean and ensure the well-being of our associates, customers and members, following the protocols from our own health experts and relevant federal and state agencies. We are in close communication with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as other health organizations, and have plans and procedures in place.

Your health is our priority, and, as we've said before, we want any associate who is not feeling well to stay home. So, we have created a COVID-19 emergency leave policy, which is effective immediately, to ensure you have the support you need. Let us describe three different circumstances:

- During this uncertain time, if you determine you are unable to work or are uncomfortable at work, you can choose to stay home. To ensure you feel supported making this choice, we will waive our attendance occurrence policy through the end of April, but please call in as usual to let us know. In order to be paid for this time, you may use your regular paid time off options.
- If your store, club, office or distribution center is part of a mandated quarantine or if you're required to quarantine by a government agency or by Walmart, you will receive up to two weeks of pay, and absences during the time you are out will not

count against attendance. We've chosen two weeks because it matches the recommended time for quarantines related to this virus.

- Should an associate have a confirmed case of the virus, they'll receive up to two weeks of pay. If they're not able to return to work after that time, additional pay replacement may be provided for up to 26 weeks for both full-time and part-time hourly associates.

We are also pleased that, in response to COVID-19, the Walmart Associates in Critical Need Trust, an independent charitable trust (ACNT), temporarily waived the eligibility requirement that U.S. associates be employed with Walmart for 365 days before they can apply for a grant.

More information on all of these options will be available on [OneWalmart](#).

We will continue to monitor this situation closely with the support of our Emergency Operations Center and health officials. Know that we will continue to take any and all measures necessary to ensure the well-being of our associates, customers and members.

Again, thank you for all you are doing during this difficult time.



From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 12:24 PM EST
To: Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
CC: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Please see the email below the General's team with times to schedule a call to discuss press event and mtg with Governor.

Please let me know your availability and I am happy to coordinate.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)" <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Date: March 5, 2020 at 10:06:04 AM CST
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>, Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>, Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Update,

So I was able to coordinate with Mia Heck. Tonya and Aly, you may have connected with Mia not too long ago. I was told she helped plan some work with your team when the Assistant Secretary for Health visited Louisiana. I'd be happy to schedule a call this afternoon or early tomorrow. Looks like there is a window today between 1pm-130pm ET, or tomorrow between 1230pm-230pm or after 330pm ET.

Let me know if any of those times work and I can set up a conference line.

Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Alex,

Thanks for your note.

I'm sorting some things out internally and hope to have an answer shortly. I just found out this morning that Jenn Sherman, our Director of Public Affairs at OSG, is out of the office today and tomorrow. Her deputy is helping the Assistant Secretary for Health with comm support this week. So I'm checking with the Department to see if there is someone else from comms that can take her place to help facilitate the press event on our end while she's out. Jenn returns to the office on Monday, but I'd like to finalize this sooner if possible.

I know they're pretty backed up with media request so it'll take some maneuvering on my end. I'm happy to chat with Tonya and Aly in the interim and forward any press details to a new department point of contact once I've identified them.

I apologize for the inconvenience and hope to reach back out shortly.

Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I am following up to connect you to Tonya Joiner, the Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Department of Health. She is coordinating with the Governor's Office and so will need contact information to coordinate with you and ASPA for a potential press event.

Thanks,
Alex

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 3, 2020, at 10:13 AM, Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

So there may be some changes to the SG's availability given his involvement with the President's Coronavirus Task Force. I should know more tomorrow, but there are 3 options that I'm aware of:

1. Same schedule, but include some media opportunities for COVID-19 throughout the trip
2. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, participates in SRNT at 1:30 PM then departs back to DC.
3. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, SRNT moves his session earlier in the day so he can make an afternoon briefing in DC

I wanted to throw this on your radar for awareness. A question the team brought up was whether Gov. Edwards would be available Friday morning for some media? If so, Aly, I'd want to connect you with our public affairs team to work out those details as soon as possible, given our approval process extends outside of the department for COVID-19 activities.

Once again, I'll know more tomorrow but wanted to share.

Best,
Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 5:46 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 4:37 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Date: March 11, 2020 at 3:32:43 PM CDT
Cc: "Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO" <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>, "Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP" <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>, "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>, "Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO" <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

As a follow-up to this morning's update, below you will find details on CDC's awarding of over \$560 million State and local jurisdictions in support of COVID-19 response, and community mitigation strategies for Seattle (WA) and Santa Clara (CA).

[CDC to Award Over \\$560 Million to State & Local Jurisdictions in Support of COVID-19 Response \(more here\)](#)

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing another upcoming action by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide resources to state and local jurisdictions in support of our nation's response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The \$8.3 billion dollar Supplemental passed by Congress included [statutory language](#) which prescribed the exact formula for disbursing the money: states will receive 90% of their [2019 CDC PHEP grants](#). This marks the first tranche of funding to states from the \$8.3 billion supplemental. Your state health officers are receiving a letter today from CDC outlining what is needed to receive the funding, essentially they need to submit a spend plan and they will receive guidance on what that spend plan should contain.

-

[White House Coronavirus Task Force Announces Community Mitigation Strategies for Seattle, Santa Clara](#)

The White House Coronavirus Task Force today recommended 30-day mitigation strategies for [Seattle-King, Pierce, and Snohomish County, Washington](#), and [Santa Clara County, California](#) due to widespread transmission of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). These mitigation activities are designed to address the effects of COVID-19 on areas that are experiencing community spread.

"President Trump has made clear that the Task Force must move decisively to protect the health and safety of the American people," said Vice President Mike Pence. "These recommendations outline a whole-of-community approach to immediately minimize the impacts of coronavirus in these cities and towns. I look forward to the continued partnership between the Task Force and State and local leaders."

Earlier today, Vice President Pence spoke with California Governor Gavin Newsom and Washington Governor Jay Inslee about these community mitigation strategies. The Task Force and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have worked closely with state and local leaders in California, Washington, and around the Nation to develop these strategies. Additionally, CDC has teams in these areas working with public health partners to respond to the situation on the ground.

Cooperation with communities, businesses, and healthcare organizations is necessary to implement extensive community mitigation activities with the goal of protecting:

- Individuals at risk for severe illness, including persons with underlying health conditions including immune suppression and especially seniors with underlying health conditions;
- The healthcare workforce; and
- Critical infrastructure workforces.

Due to widespread community transmission of COVID-19 in these communities, examples of mitigation strategies for these areas include, but are not limited to:

- Individuals should practice protective measures (e.g., hand washing);
- Schools should conduct regular health checks of students, staff, and visitors;
- Senior living facilities should implement social distancing measures;
- Workplaces should encourage staff to telework and expand sick leave policies;
- Community and faith-based organizations should move gatherings of any size to video-accessible venues or postpone/cancel; and
- Healthcare facilities should implement triage before entering facilities.

In making these recommendations, the Task Force considered guidance from multiple Federal agencies, including technical advice from CDC. These community mitigation strategies are recommended for 30 days, after which local and state public health officials, in coordination with CDC will reassess the individual community situations.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Nursing Home Guidance

As you know, nursing homes and their residents are vulnerable populations for COVID-19. This week, CMS released updated guidance for infection control and prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes which can be found [here](#) (3/9). The Press Release can be found [here](#) and all CMS guidance related to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

Below you will find addition information.

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation



Good Morning,

The White House Task Force on Coronavirus and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention have released two helpful documents for State, local, tribal, and community leaders.

- [Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)
- [A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

You can find additional information about both documents and resources below.

Actions for All Americans (4-page slide deck)

- Keeping the workplace safe
- Keeping the school safe
- Keeping the home safe
- Keeping commercial establishments safe

A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local

[COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts. Framework includes:

- Local Factors to Consider for Determining Mitigation Strategies
- Community mitigation strategies by setting and by level of community transmission or impact of COVID-19
- Potential mitigation strategies for public health functions

Recent Actions

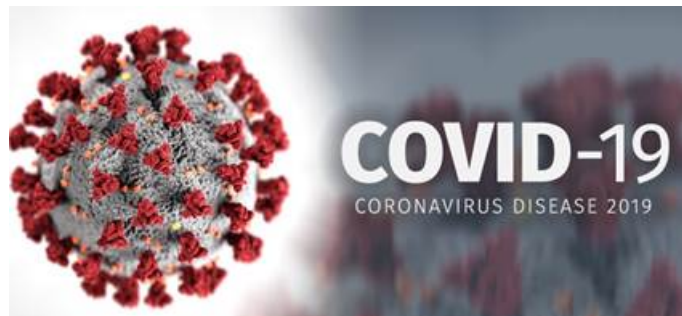
- HHS Supports Development of First High-Throughput COVID-19 Diagnostic Test ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Key Protective Mask Guidance for Healthcare Workers ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Clear, Actionable Guidance to Providers about COVID-19 Virus ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Call to Action for Hospital Emergency Departments to Screen Patients for Coronavirus ([click here](#))
- Telehealth Benefits in Medicare are a Lifeline for Patients During Coronavirus Outbreak ([click here](#))

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

Background & Additional Information (*Updated*)



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: **The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#). The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live: [HERE](#). You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.**

- What You Should Know ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))

- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information: Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Responses locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities (a complete list of State & Territorial Health Department Websites can be found [here](#))
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000284

it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
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- *The Washington Times*: [Thanks to Trump Administration, the United States has a Coronavirus Plan of Action.](#)
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While the overall threat to the American public remains low, the President has directed the White House Task Force to take all steps to ensure the health and well-being of the American people and we are well-prepared.

- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.
- There are good tried and true hygiene practices which can be very effective to reduce the chance of getting sick.
- Travelers are encouraged to always exercise healthy travel habits when traveling and to follow appropriate guidance (*see [here](#)*). At this time, there are no domestic travel restrictions in the United States.
- We are working rapidly on therapeutics and vaccines and have launched the first U.S. clinical trial for an investigational antiviral.
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- Federal officials have been working diligently to communicate with State, local, and tribal officials on the Federal government's efforts to prepare and respond to COVID-1.
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- The Trump Administration is partnering with State, local, and tribal elected and appointed leaders' associations.

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From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 4:37 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Date: March 11, 2020 at 3:32:43 PM CDT
Cc: "Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO" <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>, "Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP" <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>, "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>, "Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO" <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

As a follow-up to this morning's update, below you will find details on CDC's awarding of over \$560 million State and local jurisdictions in support of COVID-19 response, and community mitigation strategies for Seattle (WA) and Santa Clara (CA).

[CDC to Award Over \\$560 Million to State & Local Jurisdictions in Support of COVID-19 Response \(more here\)](#)

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing another upcoming action by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide resources to state and local jurisdictions in support of our nation's response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The \$8.3 billion dollar Supplemental passed by Congress included [statutory language](#) which prescribed the exact formula for disbursing the money: states will receive 90% of their [2019 CDC PHEP grants](#). This marks the first tranche of funding to states from the \$8.3 billion supplemental. Your state health officers are receiving a letter today from CDC outlining what is needed to receive the funding, essentially they need to submit a spend plan and they will receive guidance on what that spend plan should contain.

-

[White House Coronavirus Task Force Announces Community Mitigation Strategies for Seattle, Santa Clara](#)

The White House Coronavirus Task Force today recommended 30-day mitigation strategies for [Seattle-King, Pierce, and Snohomish County, Washington](#), and [Santa Clara County, California](#) due to widespread transmission of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). These mitigation activities are designed to address the effects of COVID-19 on areas that are experiencing community spread.

"President Trump has made clear that the Task Force must move decisively to protect the health and safety of the American people," said Vice President Mike Pence. "These recommendations outline a whole-of-community approach to immediately minimize the impacts of coronavirus in these cities and towns. I look forward to the continued partnership between the Task Force and State and local leaders."

Earlier today, Vice President Pence spoke with California Governor Gavin Newsom and Washington Governor Jay Inslee about these community mitigation strategies. The Task Force and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have worked closely with state and local leaders in California, Washington, and around the Nation to develop these strategies. Additionally, CDC has teams in these areas working with public health partners to respond to the situation on the ground.

Cooperation with communities, businesses, and healthcare organizations is necessary to implement extensive community mitigation activities with the goal of protecting:

- Individuals at risk for severe illness, including persons with underlying health conditions including immune suppression and especially seniors with underlying health conditions;
- The healthcare workforce; and
- Critical infrastructure workforces.

Due to widespread community transmission of COVID-19 in these communities, examples of mitigation strategies for these areas include, but are not limited to:

- Individuals should practice protective measures (e.g., hand washing);
- Schools should conduct regular health checks of students, staff, and visitors;
- Senior living facilities should implement social distancing measures;
- Workplaces should encourage staff to telework and expand sick leave policies;
- Community and faith-based organizations should move gatherings of any size to video-accessible venues or postpone/cancel; and
- Healthcare facilities should implement triage before entering facilities.

In making these recommendations, the Task Force considered guidance from multiple Federal agencies, including technical advice from CDC. These community mitigation strategies are recommended for 30 days, after which local and state public health officials, in coordination with CDC will reassess the individual community situations.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Nursing Home Guidance

As you know, nursing homes and their residents are vulnerable populations for COVID-19. This week, CMS released updated guidance for infection control and prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes which can be found [here](#) (3/9). The Press Release can be found [here](#) and all CMS guidance related to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

Below you will find addition information.

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation



Good Morning,

The White House Task Force on Coronavirus and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention have released two helpful documents for State, local, tribal, and community leaders.

- [Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)
- [A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

You can find additional information about both documents and resources below.

Actions for All Americans (4-page slide deck)

- Keeping the workplace safe
- Keeping the school safe
- Keeping the home safe
- Keeping commercial establishments safe

A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local

COVID-19 Transmission (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts. Framework includes:

- Local Factors to Consider for Determining Mitigation Strategies
- Community mitigation strategies by setting and by level of community transmission or impact of COVID-19
- Potential mitigation strategies for public health functions

Recent Actions

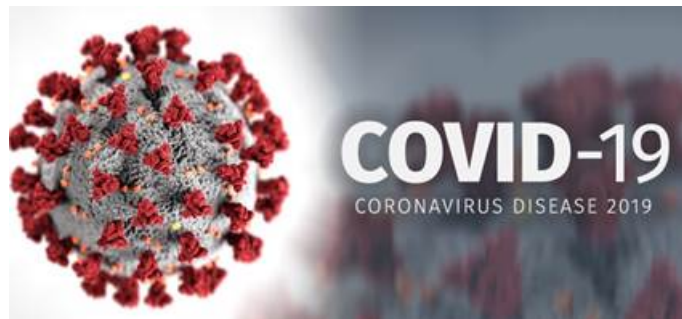
- HHS Supports Development of First High-Throughput COVID-19 Diagnostic Test ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Key Protective Mask Guidance for Healthcare Workers ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Clear, Actionable Guidance to Providers about COVID-19 Virus ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Call to Action for Hospital Emergency Departments to Screen Patients for Coronavirus ([click here](#))
- Telehealth Benefits in Medicare are a Lifeline for Patients During Coronavirus Outbreak ([click here](#))

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Background & Additional Information (*Updated*)



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#). The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live: [HERE](#). You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

- What You Should Know ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))

- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information: Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Responses locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities (a complete list of State & Territorial Health Department Websites can be found [here](#))
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000290

it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

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From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 10:02 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: COVID-19 Updates for Friday, March 13, 2020

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Baker, Michael (OS/IEA)" <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Date: March 13, 2020 at 8:14:47 PM CDT
To: "Baker, Michael (OS/IEA)" <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: COVID-19 Updates for Friday, March 13, 2020

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear State and Local Partners:

Every day brings new information and developments on COVID-19, many of which impact your efforts to address the Coronavirus. We value our strong partnership with you all as we continue to work on the COVID-19 response. We aim to ensure that you have access to the resources and information that you need for your communities.

Here are key highlights:

National Emergency Declaration: Today, President Trump signed a [National Emergency Declaration](#) in response to COVID-19. The Emergency Declaration will allow HHS to provide emergency funding to state and local entities (up to \$50 billion) and specifically will enable HHS to waive provisions of certain laws and regulations to provide increased flexibility to healthcare providers. Additional flexibilities will be able to be exercised around the use of telehealth, state licensing requirements for providers to practice in areas of greatest need, increasing the supply of providers, loosening restrictions on where hospitals can care for patients within a hospital, and flexibilities on the number of beds and lengths of stay for Critical Access Hospitals.

Increasing Capacity for Testing: The Administration designated Assistant Secretary for Health, ADM Brett Giroir, M.D., to take the lead in coordinating testing efforts to ensure seamless access for patients, doctors, and hospitals. HHS is working to help expedite the availability of tests by utilizing the private sector and allowing states to offer and develop their own tests. Yesterday, the FDA authorized a diagnostic test developed by Roche, to rapidly expand the capacity and timeliness of testing for COVID-19 diagnostics. The FDA also approved the New York State Department of Health to directly authorize labs to begin patient testing. More information about these actions can be found [here](#). For technical information on diagnostic testing, FDA posted [frequently asked questions](#) related to the development and performance of diagnostic testing.

With help from public-health and private-sector lab capabilities, HHS has also enabled states and healthcare providers to implement sample collection for pre-screened patients, similar to what is being done at the Mayo Clinic and Minnesota Department of Health, by the Colorado Health Department and by the University of Washington. CMS has also published the Medicare reimbursement amounts to providers for COVID-19 testing, which can be found [here](#).

Lab Test Questions – As public and private testing labs continue to gear up capabilities and review the new options being created through the FDA, they may have questions. To help answer those questions that are technical in nature, the FDA has stood up a 24/7 hotline for things related to COVID-19: 1-888-INFO-FDA or 1-888-463-6332.

Essential Health Benefit Coverage of COVID-19: The FAQs released today, March 13, detail existing federal rules governing health coverage provided through the individual and small group insurance markets that apply to the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19. The FAQs clarify which COVID-related services, including testing, isolation/quarantine, and vaccination, are generally currently covered as EHBs in these markets. The purpose of the FAQs is to provide guidance to Americans enrolled in individual or small group market health plans, including HealthCare.gov consumers. As questions and issues continue to come to CMS, they will be addressed and added to these FAQs. The document can be found [here](#).

Community Response: All communities can take measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC has released updated information on [Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Communities](#) as well as issuing [considerations for school closures](#).

Surgical Masks and Gowns: The FDA sent a [letter to healthcare providers](#) on conservation strategies for personal protective equipment. The recommendations include strategies for conventional, contingency and crisis level of supplies.

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000293

Cruise Advisory: CDC and the State Department recommend travelers, particularly those with underlying health issues, defer all cruise ship travel worldwide. At this point, all passengers from the Grand Princess cruise have disembarked from the ship.

If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

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Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

From: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 12:40 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: Direct coordination with City of New Orleans

Fyi

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Date: March 13, 2020 at 11:35:43 AM CDT
To: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Cc: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>, Joseph Kanter <Joseph.Kanter@la.gov>, Theresa Sokol <Theresa.Sokol@LA.GOV>, Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Subject: Direct coordination with City of New Orleans

Hi Steve,

Here is detail on our coordination with the city of New Orleans

- 1) OPH and NOHD continue to work closely together on coordination of COVID-19 preparedness and response, starting at the beginning of the state's activities in January, 2020
 - a. Dr. Joe Kanter, Assistant State Health Officer-Region 1 Medical Director/Administrator-former NOHD Commissioner, and Dr. Avegno, current NOHD Commissioner have been in regular contact since that time and are now in frequent contact and coordination since first individual with COVID-19 was identified.
 - b. Dr. Kanter and Dr. Avegno are in regular contact with Theresa Sokol, Asst. State Epidemiologist, about all GNO cases and contact tracing activities
 - c. This coordination is further supported by CDC team requested at the joint recommendation from Drs. Avegno, Kanter, Billioux and Ms. Sokol
- 2) The State coordinates closely with several parts of CNO for all new presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 in Orleans and surrounding parishes
 - a. Ms. Sokol's Infectious Disease Epidemiology team (ID Epi) and the OPH State Lab immediately inform providers of the presumptive positive finding.
 - b. Ms. Sokol informs Dr. Kanter as Region 1 Medical Director of the Region 1 cases immediately
 - c. Dr. Kanter informs Dr. Avegno of the new region presumptive positive cases and discusses any particulars about clusters, unique patient considerations, and hospital capacity coordination
 - d. Ms. Sokol alerts the GOHSEP listserv of the new presumptive positive cases, which leads to parish EOP alerts [any details we can add here? I know this gets to Collin but not sure if he gets emails or calls]
 - e. Aly Neel, Director of Bureau of Media and Communications alerts the Mayor's Communications Director Beaux [???

Any other details I am missing?

Thanks,
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
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Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599



From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 8:21 AM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: Families First Coronavirus Response Act
Attachment(s): "image001.jpg", "ATT00001.htm", "Families First summary.pdf", "ATT00002.htm"

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ramos, Maribel" <MRamos@nga.org>
Date: March 12, 2020 at 6:23:48 AM CDT
To: "Ramos, Maribel" <MRamos@nga.org>
Subject: Families First Coronavirus Response Act

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good morning all,

Last night the House Democrats introduced the "Families First Coronavirus Response Act" ([H.R. 6201](#)), which includes emergency provisions such as: paid sick leave, widespread free testing, food aid and unemployment insurance. It is being reported that the House vote on final passage is expected between 1PM and 2PM today.

Please find attached a summary of the legislation.

Maribel Ramos

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H.R. 6201, FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT

Title-By-Title Summary

The legislation provides paid leave, establishes free testing, protects public health workers, and provides important benefits to children and families.

DIVISION A – Second Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Appropriations

Title I – Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

Food and Nutrition Service – Includes funding to ensure the domestic nutrition assistance programs have adequate resources to help those impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Funding is provided for:

- **The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC)** – \$500 million to provide access to nutritious foods to low-income pregnant women or mothers with young children who lose their jobs or are laid off due to the COVID-19 emergency.
- **The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)** – \$400 million to assist local food banks to meet increased demand for low-income Americans during the emergency. Of the total, \$300 million is for the purchase of nutritious foods and \$100 million is to support the storage and distribution of the foods.

In addition –

- The legislation includes a general provision that allows the Department of Agriculture to approve state plans to provide emergency SNAP assistance to households with children who would otherwise receive free or reduced-price meals if not for their schools being closed due to the COVID-19 emergency. In order to be eligible, the child’s school must be closed for no less than 5 consecutive days.
- Nutrition Assistance for U.S. Territories – \$100 million for USDA to provide nutrition assistance grants to Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Title II – Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

Emergency Paid Sick Days Program – Includes \$5 million for the Department of Labor to administer the emergency paid sick days program.

Senior Nutrition Program – Includes \$250 million for the Senior Nutrition program in the Administration for Community Living (ACL) to provide approximately 25 million additional home-delivered and pre-packaged meals to low-income seniors who depend on the Senior Nutrition programs in their communities.

This funding will provide meals to low-income seniors:

- who are home-bound;
- who have disabilities;
- who have multiple chronic illnesses;
- as well as caregivers for seniors who are home-bound.

ACL’s Senior Nutrition grants are provided to States, territories, and eligible tribal organizations and serve more than 2.4 million individuals annually.

Nearly two-thirds of recipients of home-delivered meals report these meals as more than half of their food intake for the day.

Title III – Bill-Wide

Technical budgetary provisions.

DIVISION B – Nutrition Waivers

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Agriculture Committee

Title I – Maintaining Essential Access to Lunch for Students Act

Section 101. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the Maintaining Essential Access to Lunch for Students Act or the MEALS Act.

Section 102. Waiver Exception for School Closures Due to COVID-19. Provides the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to issue nationwide school meal waivers during the COVID-19 emergency, which will eliminate paperwork for states and help more schools quickly adopt and utilize flexibilities.

Title II – COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response Act

Section 201. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response Act.

Section 202. National School Lunch Program Requirement Waivers Addressing COVID-19. Allows all child and adult care centers to operate as non-congregate (i.e. they can serve outside the school or in individual settings) and waive all meal pattern requirements if there is a disruption to the food supply as a result of the COVID-19 emergency.

Title III – SNAP COVID-19 Response Waivers

Section 301. SNAP Flexibility for Low-Income Jobless Workers. Suspends the work and work training requirements for SNAP during this crisis.

Section 302. Additional SNAP Flexibilities in a Public Health Emergency. Allows states to request special waivers from the Secretary to provide temporary, emergency CR-SNAP benefits to existing SNAP households up to the maximum monthly allotment, as well as give the Secretary broad discretion to provide much more flexibility for States in managing SNAP caseloads. Additionally, this language requires the Secretary to make State requests for waivers and the USDA response, as well as any USDA guidance on State flexibilities, publicly available online.

DIVISION C – COVID-19 Health Care Worker Protection Act of 2020 *Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Education and Labor*

Section 1. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the COVID-19 Health Care Worker Protection Act of 2020.

Section 2. Findings. This section includes Congressional findings related to COVID-19.

TITLE I – COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard

Section 101. COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard. This section requires the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to issue an Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) within 30 days, requiring employers within the health care sector -- and any other sectors which either OSHA or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designate at elevated risk -- to develop and implement a comprehensive infectious disease exposure control plan to protect health care workers from exposure to the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID19. The ETS shall be based on the CDC’s 2007 “Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings” that was issued to protect health care workers against Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). In addition, the ETS may not be less protective than the infectious disease precautions for novel pathogens issued by any OSHA state plan.

OSHA shall issue a permanent health and safety standard, which the Occupational Safety and Health Act stipulates shall be issued 6 months after the ETS has been issued.

TITLE II – Amendments to the Social Security Act

Section 201. Application of COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard to Certain Facilities Receiving Medicare Funds. This section requires that hospitals and skilled nursing facilities operated by state or local government agencies, which are not otherwise subject to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 or a State occupational safety and health plan, shall comply with the ETS and the permanent OSHA standard required in this Act as a condition of receiving Medicare funds. A facility that fails to comply with the OSHA standards is subject to a civil monetary penalty in an amount similar to the amount OSHA may impose under the OSHA Act for a violation of a standard, but such facility is not subject to termination of an agreement with Medicare.

DIVISION D – Emergency Paid Leave Act of 2020

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Ways and Means

Section 101. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the Emergency Paid Leave Act of 2020.

Section 102. Emergency Paid Leave Benefits. *Amends the Social Security Act by inserting after title V the following: Title VI-Emergency Paid Leave Benefits.* This section creates a new federal emergency paid leave benefits program as Title VI of the Social Security Act, consisting of the following Social Security Act sections.

Section 601. Definitions. This section defines an “emergency leave day” as a day in which an individual is unable to work due to one of four qualifying reasons related to COVID-19:

- The worker has a current diagnosis of COVID-19.
- The worker is quarantined (including self-imposed quarantine), at the instruction of a health care provider, employer, or government official, to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- The worker is caring for another person who has COVID-19 or who is under a quarantine related to COVID-19.
- The worker is caring for a child or other individual who is unable to care for themselves due to the COVID-19-related closing of their school, child care facility, or other care program.

It also defines other key terms including “eligible individual,” which is someone who was working in the thirty days before they were impacted by COVID-19.

Section 602. Emergency Paid Leave Benefits. This section creates a new federal emergency paid leave benefit program. Eligible workers will receive a benefit for a month (up to three months) in which they must take 14 or more days of leave from their work due to the qualifying COVID-19-related reasons. Days when an individual receives pay from their employer (regular wages, sick pay, or other paid time off) or unemployment compensation do not count as leave days for purposes of this benefit.

The program will be administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA). Specifications include the following:

- Benefit amount: Two-thirds of the individual’s average monthly earnings (based on the most recent year of wages or self-employment income for which records are readily available), up to a cap of \$4,000.
- Program and benefit period: The benefits will be available for leave that occurs from January 19, 2020 (the date of the first U.S. COVID-19 diagnosis) through one year after the bill’s enactment.
- Retroactive benefits: Benefits can be paid retroactively, and applications can be filed up to 6 months after enactment.
- Application: Applications will be taken online, by phone, or by mail. Individuals will not visit SSA field offices to apply. Payments will in most cases be issued electronically.
- Program integrity: Applicants must attest that they meet the criteria for eligibility and existing penalties for fraud or misrepresentation with regard to Social Security benefits are applied to the federal emergency paid leave benefits program.

The program will operate in coordination with other relevant benefits and leave programs, including:

- Protection of existing benefit rights: Existing benefit rights are protected, including any rights to State or local paid leave benefits, and greater benefits are allowed including under a contract, collective bargaining agreement, or other employment benefit program.
- Reduction based on receipt of state or private paid leave: Benefit amounts are offset (reduced) dollar-for-dollar by the amount of any state or private paid leave benefit the individual also receives.
- Reimbursement grants to States: States will be reimbursed for the total amount of these offsets that are due to state-run or state-mandated paid leave programs.
- No effect on eligibility for SSI: Benefits paid under this program do not count as income or resources for the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program.

Section 603. Funding and Expedited Implementation Authority. SSA will receive additional direct (mandatory) funding for both the cost of the benefits and the cost of administering the program. Treasury will receive additional direct (mandatory) funding for reimbursement of states.

Section 604. Protection of Social Security Trust Funds. Social Security’s Trust Funds and regular administrative budget will be kept separate from this new program and cannot be used to administer or fund it.

Section 605. Taxation of Emergency Leave Benefits. Benefits paid under this program are not subject to federal income taxes.

DIVISION E – Emergency Unemployment Insurance Stabilization and Access Act of 2020

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Ways and Means

Section 101. Short Title. The short title for the division is the Emergency Unemployment Insurance Stabilization and Access Act of 2020.

Section 102. Emergency Transfers for Unemployment Compensation Administration. This section provides \$1 billion in 2020 for emergency grants to states for activities related to processing and paying unemployment insurance (UI) benefits, under certain conditions.

\$500 million would be used to provide immediate additional funding to all states for staffing, technology, systems, and other administrative costs, so long as they met basic requirements about ensuring access to earned benefits for eligible workers. Those requirements are:

- Require employers to provide notification of potential UI eligibility to laid-off workers
- Ensure that workers have at least two ways (for example, online and phone) to apply for benefits
- Notify applicants when an application is received and being processed and if the application cannot be processed, provide information to the applicant about how to ensure successful processing.

States would be required to report on the share of eligible individuals who received UI benefits and the state's efforts to ensure access within one year of receiving the funding. The funding would be distributed in the same proportions as regular UI administrative funding provided through annual appropriations.

\$500 million would be reserved for emergency grants to states which experienced at least a 10 percent increase in unemployment. Those states would be eligible to receive an additional grant, in the same amount as the initial grant, to assist with costs related to the unemployment spike, and would also be required to take steps to temporarily ease eligibility requirements that might be limiting access to UI during the COVID-19 outbreak, like work search requirements, required waiting periods, and requirements to increase employer UI taxes if they have high layoff rates. Depending on the state, those actions might require changes in state law, or might just require changes in state policy. This section also provides temporary federal flexibility regarding those UI restrictions which are also in federal law.

Section 103. Temporary Assistance for States with Advances. This section provides states with access to interest-free loans to help pay regular UI benefits through December 31, 2020, if needed.

Section 104. Technical Assistance and Guidance for Short-Time Compensation Programs. This section requires the Secretary of Labor to provide technical assistance to states that want to set up work-sharing programs, in which employers reduce hours instead of laying employees off, and then employees receive partial unemployment benefits to offset the wage loss.

Section 105. Full Federal Funding of Extended Unemployment Compensation for a Limited Period. For states that experience an increase of 10 percent or more in their unemployment rate (over the previous year) and comply with all the beneficiary access provisions in section 102, this section provides 100 percent federal funding for Extended Benefits, which normally require 50 percent of funding to come from states. Extended Benefits are triggered when unemployment is high in a state and provide up to an additional 26 weeks after regular UI benefits (usually 26 weeks) are exhausted.

DIVISION F – Paid Sick Days for Public Health Emergencies and Personal and Family Care Act

The emergency paid sick days legislation:

- Requires all employers to allow employees to gradually accrue seven days of paid sick leave and to provide an additional 14 days available immediately in the event of any public health emergency, including the current coronavirus crisis;
- Requires all employers to provide an additional 14 days of paid sick leave, available immediately at the beginning of a public health emergency, including the current coronavirus crisis;
- Ensures paid sick leave covers days when your child’s school is closed due to a public health emergency, when your employer is closed due to public health emergency, or if you or a family member is quarantined or isolated due to a public health emergency;
- Reimburses small businesses—defined as businesses with 50 or fewer employees—for the costs of providing the 14 days of additional paid sick leave used by employees during a public health emergency;
- Enables construction employees to receive sick pay based on hours they work for multiple contractors; and
- Makes the bill effective immediately so that employees in areas covered under a qualifying Public Health Emergency, upon the date of enactment, can take 14 days of paid sick leave in order to address COVID-19.

DIVISION G – Health Provisions

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Education and Labor

Section 101. Coverage of Testing for COVID-19. This section requires private health plans to provide coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing, including the cost of a provider, urgent care center and emergency room visits in order to receive testing. Coverage must be provided at no cost to the consumer.

Section 102. Waiving Cost Sharing Under the Medicare Program For Certain Visits Relating To Testing For COVID-19. This section requires Medicare Part B to cover beneficiary cost-sharing for provider visits during which a COVID-19 diagnostic test is administered or ordered. Medicare Part B currently covers the COVID-19 diagnostic test with no beneficiary cost-sharing.

Section 103. Waiving Cost Sharing Under the Medicare Advantage Program for Certain Visits Relating to Testing for COVID-19. This section requires Medicare Advantage to provide coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing, including the associated cost of the visit in order to receive testing. Coverage must be provided at no cost to the beneficiary.

Section 104. Coverage at No Cost Sharing of COVID-19 Testing Under Medicaid and CHIP. This section requires Medicaid to provide coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing, including the cost of a provider visit in order to receive testing. Coverage must be provided at no cost to the beneficiary. It would also provide states with the option to extend Medicaid eligibility to uninsured populations for the purposes of COVID-19 diagnostic testing. State expenditures for medical and administrative costs would be matched by the federal government at 100 percent.

Section 105. Laboratory Reimbursement for Diagnostic Testing for COVID-19 in Uninsured Individuals. This section requires the National Disaster Medical System to reimburse the costs of COVID-19 diagnostic testing provided to individuals without insurance.

Section 106. Treatment of Personal Respiratory Protective Devices as Covered Countermeasures. This section requires certain personal respiratory protective devices to be treated as covered countermeasures under the PREP Act Declaration for the purposes of emergency use during the COVID-19 outbreak and ending October 1, 2024.

Section 107. Application with Respect to TRICARE, Coverage for Veterans, and Coverage for Federal Civilians. This section ensures that individuals enrolled in TRICARE, covered veterans, and federal workers have coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing without cost-sharing.

Section 108. Coverage of Testing for COVID-19 At No Cost Sharing for Indians Receiving Contract Health Services. This section ensures that American Indians and Alaskan Natives do not experience cost sharing for COVID-19 testing, including those referred for care away from an Indian Health Service or tribal health care facility.

Section 109. Emergency FMAP Increase. This section provides a temporary increase to states' federal medical assistance percentage for the duration of the public health emergency for COVID-19. It requires states to maintain eligibility standards that are no less restrictive than the date of enactment.

DIVISION H – Budgetary Effects

Technical budgetary provisions.



From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 8:21 AM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: Families First Coronavirus Response Act
Attachment(s): "image001.jpg", "ATT00001.htm", "Families First summary.pdf", "ATT00002.htm"

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Last night the House Democrats introduced the "Families First Coronavirus Response Act" ([H.R. 6201](#)), which includes emergency provisions such as: paid sick leave, widespread free testing, food aid and unemployment insurance. It is being reported that the House vote on final passage is expected between 1PM and 2PM today.

Please find attached a summary of the legislation.

Maribel Ramos

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H.R. 6201, FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT

Title-By-Title Summary

The legislation provides paid leave, establishes free testing, protects public health workers, and provides important benefits to children and families.

DIVISION A – Second Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Appropriations

Title I – Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

Food and Nutrition Service – Includes funding to ensure the domestic nutrition assistance programs have adequate resources to help those impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Funding is provided for:

- **The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC)** – \$500 million to provide access to nutritious foods to low-income pregnant women or mothers with young children who lose their jobs or are laid off due to the COVID-19 emergency.
- **The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)** – \$400 million to assist local food banks to meet increased demand for low-income Americans during the emergency. Of the total, \$300 million is for the purchase of nutritious foods and \$100 million is to support the storage and distribution of the foods.

In addition –

- The legislation includes a general provision that allows the Department of Agriculture to approve state plans to provide emergency SNAP assistance to households with children who would otherwise receive free or reduced-price meals if not for their schools being closed due to the COVID-19 emergency. In order to be eligible, the child’s school must be closed for no less than 5 consecutive days.
- Nutrition Assistance for U.S. Territories – \$100 million for USDA to provide nutrition assistance grants to Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Title II – Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

Emergency Paid Sick Days Program – Includes \$5 million for the Department of Labor to administer the emergency paid sick days program.

Senior Nutrition Program – Includes \$250 million for the Senior Nutrition program in the Administration for Community Living (ACL) to provide approximately 25 million additional home-delivered and pre-packaged meals to low-income seniors who depend on the Senior Nutrition programs in their communities.

This funding will provide meals to low-income seniors:

- who are home-bound;
- who have disabilities;
- who have multiple chronic illnesses;
- as well as caregivers for seniors who are home-bound.

ACL’s Senior Nutrition grants are provided to States, territories, and eligible tribal organizations and serve more than 2.4 million individuals annually.

Nearly two-thirds of recipients of home-delivered meals report these meals as more than half of their food intake for the day.

Title III – Bill-Wide

Technical budgetary provisions.

DIVISION B – Nutrition Waivers

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Agriculture Committee

Title I – Maintaining Essential Access to Lunch for Students Act

Section 101. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the Maintaining Essential Access to Lunch for Students Act or the MEALS Act.

Section 102. Waiver Exception for School Closures Due to COVID-19. Provides the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to issue nationwide school meal waivers during the COVID-19 emergency, which will eliminate paperwork for states and help more schools quickly adopt and utilize flexibilities.

Title II – COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response Act

Section 201. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response Act.

Section 202. National School Lunch Program Requirement Waivers Addressing COVID-19. Allows all child and adult care centers to operate as non-congregate (i.e. they can serve outside the school or in individual settings) and waive all meal pattern requirements if there is a disruption to the food supply as a result of the COVID-19 emergency.

Title III – SNAP COVID-19 Response Waivers

Section 301. SNAP Flexibility for Low-Income Jobless Workers. Suspends the work and work training requirements for SNAP during this crisis.

Section 302. Additional SNAP Flexibilities in a Public Health Emergency. Allows states to request special waivers from the Secretary to provide temporary, emergency CR-SNAP benefits to existing SNAP households up to the maximum monthly allotment, as well as give the Secretary broad discretion to provide much more flexibility for States in managing SNAP caseloads. Additionally, this language requires the Secretary to make State requests for waivers and the USDA response, as well as any USDA guidance on State flexibilities, publicly available online.

DIVISION C – COVID-19 Health Care Worker Protection Act of 2020 *Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Education and Labor*

Section 1. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the COVID-19 Health Care Worker Protection Act of 2020.

Section 2. Findings. This section includes Congressional findings related to COVID-19.

TITLE I – COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard

Section 101. COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard. This section requires the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to issue an Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) within 30 days, requiring employers within the health care sector -- and any other sectors which either OSHA or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designate at elevated risk -- to develop and implement a comprehensive infectious disease exposure control plan to protect health care workers from exposure to the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID19. The ETS shall be based on the CDC’s 2007 “Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings” that was issued to protect health care workers against Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). In addition, the ETS may not be less protective than the infectious disease precautions for novel pathogens issued by any OSHA state plan.

OSHA shall issue a permanent health and safety standard, which the Occupational Safety and Health Act stipulates shall be issued 6 months after the ETS has been issued.

TITLE II – Amendments to the Social Security Act

Section 201. Application of COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard to Certain Facilities Receiving Medicare Funds. This section requires that hospitals and skilled nursing facilities operated by state or local government agencies, which are not otherwise subject to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 or a State occupational safety and health plan, shall comply with the ETS and the permanent OSHA standard required in this Act as a condition of receiving Medicare funds. A facility that fails to comply with the OSHA standards is subject to a civil monetary penalty in an amount similar to the amount OSHA may impose under the OSHA Act for a violation of a standard, but such facility is not subject to termination of an agreement with Medicare.

DIVISION D – Emergency Paid Leave Act of 2020

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Ways and Means

Section 101. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the Emergency Paid Leave Act of 2020.

Section 102. Emergency Paid Leave Benefits. *Amends the Social Security Act by inserting after title V the following: Title VI-Emergency Paid Leave Benefits.* This section creates a new federal emergency paid leave benefits program as Title VI of the Social Security Act, consisting of the following Social Security Act sections.

Section 601. Definitions. This section defines an “emergency leave day” as a day in which an individual is unable to work due to one of four qualifying reasons related to COVID-19:

- The worker has a current diagnosis of COVID-19.
- The worker is quarantined (including self-imposed quarantine), at the instruction of a health care provider, employer, or government official, to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- The worker is caring for another person who has COVID-19 or who is under a quarantine related to COVID-19.
- The worker is caring for a child or other individual who is unable to care for themselves due to the COVID-19-related closing of their school, child care facility, or other care program.

It also defines other key terms including “eligible individual,” which is someone who was working in the thirty days before they were impacted by COVID-19.

Section 602. Emergency Paid Leave Benefits. This section creates a new federal emergency paid leave benefit program. Eligible workers will receive a benefit for a month (up to three months) in which they must take 14 or more days of leave from their work due to the qualifying COVID-19-related reasons. Days when an individual receives pay from their employer (regular wages, sick pay, or other paid time off) or unemployment compensation do not count as leave days for purposes of this benefit.

The program will be administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA). Specifications include the following:

- **Benefit amount:** Two-thirds of the individual’s average monthly earnings (based on the most recent year of wages or self-employment income for which records are readily available), up to a cap of \$4,000.
- **Program and benefit period:** The benefits will be available for leave that occurs from January 19, 2020 (the date of the first U.S. COVID-19 diagnosis) through one year after the bill’s enactment.
- **Retroactive benefits:** Benefits can be paid retroactively, and applications can be filed up to 6 months after enactment.
- **Application:** Applications will be taken online, by phone, or by mail. Individuals will not visit SSA field offices to apply. Payments will in most cases be issued electronically.
- **Program integrity:** Applicants must attest that they meet the criteria for eligibility and existing penalties for fraud or misrepresentation with regard to Social Security benefits are applied to the federal emergency paid leave benefits program.

The program will operate in coordination with other relevant benefits and leave programs, including:

- **Protection of existing benefit rights:** Existing benefit rights are protected, including any rights to State or local paid leave benefits, and greater benefits are allowed including under a contract, collective bargaining agreement, or other employment benefit program.
- **Reduction based on receipt of state or private paid leave:** Benefit amounts are offset (reduced) dollar-for-dollar by the amount of any state or private paid leave benefit the individual also receives.
- **Reimbursement grants to States:** States will be reimbursed for the total amount of these offsets that are due to state-run or state-mandated paid leave programs.
- **No effect on eligibility for SSI:** Benefits paid under this program do not count as income or resources for the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program.

Section 603. Funding and Expedited Implementation Authority. SSA will receive additional direct (mandatory) funding for both the cost of the benefits and the cost of administering the program. Treasury will receive additional direct (mandatory) funding for reimbursement of states.

Section 604. Protection of Social Security Trust Funds. Social Security’s Trust Funds and regular administrative budget will be kept separate from this new program and cannot be used to administer or fund it.

Section 605. Taxation of Emergency Leave Benefits. Benefits paid under this program are not subject to federal income taxes.

DIVISION E – Emergency Unemployment Insurance Stabilization and Access Act of 2020

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Ways and Means

Section 101. Short Title. The short title for the division is the Emergency Unemployment Insurance Stabilization and Access Act of 2020.

Section 102. Emergency Transfers for Unemployment Compensation Administration. This section provides \$1 billion in 2020 for emergency grants to states for activities related to processing and paying unemployment insurance (UI) benefits, under certain conditions.

\$500 million would be used to provide immediate additional funding to all states for staffing, technology, systems, and other administrative costs, so long as they met basic requirements about ensuring access to earned benefits for eligible workers. Those requirements are:

- Require employers to provide notification of potential UI eligibility to laid-off workers
- Ensure that workers have at least two ways (for example, online and phone) to apply for benefits
- Notify applicants when an application is received and being processed and if the application cannot be processed, provide information to the applicant about how to ensure successful processing.

States would be required to report on the share of eligible individuals who received UI benefits and the state's efforts to ensure access within one year of receiving the funding. The funding would be distributed in the same proportions as regular UI administrative funding provided through annual appropriations.

\$500 million would be reserved for emergency grants to states which experienced at least a 10 percent increase in unemployment. Those states would be eligible to receive an additional grant, in the same amount as the initial grant, to assist with costs related to the unemployment spike, and would also be required to take steps to temporarily ease eligibility requirements that might be limiting access to UI during the COVID-19 outbreak, like work search requirements, required waiting periods, and requirements to increase employer UI taxes if they have high layoff rates. Depending on the state, those actions might require changes in state law, or might just require changes in state policy. This section also provides temporary federal flexibility regarding those UI restrictions which are also in federal law.

Section 103. Temporary Assistance for States with Advances. This section provides states with access to interest-free loans to help pay regular UI benefits through December 31, 2020, if needed.

Section 104. Technical Assistance and Guidance for Short-Time Compensation Programs. This section requires the Secretary of Labor to provide technical assistance to states that want to set up work-sharing programs, in which employers reduce hours instead of laying employees off, and then employees receive partial unemployment benefits to offset the wage loss.

Section 105. Full Federal Funding of Extended Unemployment Compensation for a Limited Period. For states that experience an increase of 10 percent or more in their unemployment rate (over the previous year) and comply with all the beneficiary access provisions in section 102, this section provides 100 percent federal funding for Extended Benefits, which normally require 50 percent of funding to come from states. Extended Benefits are triggered when unemployment is high in a state and provide up to an additional 26 weeks after regular UI benefits (usually 26 weeks) are exhausted.

DIVISION F – Paid Sick Days for Public Health Emergencies and Personal and Family Care Act

The emergency paid sick days legislation:

- Requires all employers to allow employees to gradually accrue seven days of paid sick leave and to provide an additional 14 days available immediately in the event of any public health emergency, including the current coronavirus crisis;
- Requires all employers to provide an additional 14 days of paid sick leave, available immediately at the beginning of a public health emergency, including the current coronavirus crisis;
- Ensures paid sick leave covers days when your child’s school is closed due to a public health emergency, when your employer is closed due to public health emergency, or if you or a family member is quarantined or isolated due to a public health emergency;
- Reimburses small businesses—defined as businesses with 50 or fewer employees—for the costs of providing the 14 days of additional paid sick leave used by employees during a public health emergency;
- Enables construction employees to receive sick pay based on hours they work for multiple contractors; and
- Makes the bill effective immediately so that employees in areas covered under a qualifying Public Health Emergency, upon the date of enactment, can take 14 days of paid sick leave in order to address COVID-19.

DIVISION G – Health Provisions

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Education and Labor

Section 101. Coverage of Testing for COVID-19. This section requires private health plans to provide coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing, including the cost of a provider, urgent care center and emergency room visits in order to receive testing. Coverage must be provided at no cost to the consumer.

Section 102. Waiving Cost Sharing Under the Medicare Program For Certain Visits Relating To Testing For COVID-19. This section requires Medicare Part B to cover beneficiary cost-sharing for provider visits during which a COVID-19 diagnostic test is administered or ordered. Medicare Part B currently covers the COVID-19 diagnostic test with no beneficiary cost-sharing.

Section 103. Waiving Cost Sharing Under the Medicare Advantage Program for Certain Visits Relating to Testing for COVID-19. This section requires Medicare Advantage to provide coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing, including the associated cost of the visit in order to receive testing. Coverage must be provided at no cost to the beneficiary.

Section 104. Coverage at No Cost Sharing of COVID-19 Testing Under Medicaid and CHIP. This section requires Medicaid to provide coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing, including the cost of a provider visit in order to receive testing. Coverage must be provided at no cost to the beneficiary. It would also provide states with the option to extend Medicaid eligibility to uninsured populations for the purposes of COVID-19 diagnostic testing. State expenditures for medical and administrative costs would be matched by the federal government at 100 percent.

Section 105. Laboratory Reimbursement for Diagnostic Testing for COVID-19 in Uninsured Individuals. This section requires the National Disaster Medical System to reimburse the costs of COVID-19 diagnostic testing provided to individuals without insurance.

Section 106. Treatment of Personal Respiratory Protective Devices as Covered Countermeasures. This section requires certain personal respiratory protective devices to be treated as covered countermeasures under the PREP Act Declaration for the purposes of emergency use during the COVID-19 outbreak and ending October 1, 2024.

Section 107. Application with Respect to TRICARE, Coverage for Veterans, and Coverage for Federal Civilians. This section ensures that individuals enrolled in TRICARE, covered veterans, and federal workers have coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing without cost-sharing.

Section 108. Coverage of Testing for COVID-19 At No Cost Sharing for Indians Receiving Contract Health Services. This section ensures that American Indians and Alaskan Natives do not experience cost sharing for COVID-19 testing, including those referred for care away from an Indian Health Service or tribal health care facility.

Section 109. Emergency FMAP Increase. This section provides a temporary increase to states' federal medical assistance percentage for the duration of the public health emergency for COVID-19. It requires states to maintain eligibility standards that are no less restrictive than the date of enactment.

DIVISION H – Budgetary Effects

Technical budgetary provisions.



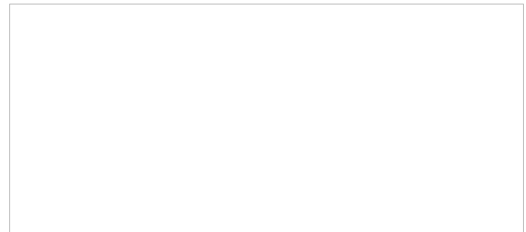
From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:07 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: FEMA Stakeholder Advisory: President Donald J. Trump Directs FEMA Support Under Emergency Declaration for COVID-19

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: FEMA-IGA <FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov>
Date: March 13, 2020 at 4:04:51 PM CDT
To: FEMA-IGA <FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov>
Subject: FEMA Stakeholder Advisory: President Donald J. Trump Directs FEMA Support Under Emergency Declaration for COVID-19

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



March 13, 2020
Contact: Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs Division
Phone: 202-646-3444

Advisory

President Donald J. Trump Directs FEMA Support Under Emergency Declaration for COVID-19

The federal government continues to take aggressive and proactive steps to address the COVID-19 threat as the health and safety of the American people remain a top priority.

Today, President Trump declared a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”). This increases federal support to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in its role as the lead federal agency for the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response. As a result of the President’s decisive, unprecedented action, FEMA is directed to assist state, local, tribal, territorial governments and other eligible entities with the health and safety actions they take on behalf of the American public. Today’s declaration does not make direct financial assistance available to individuals.

The emergency declaration does not change measures authorized under other federal statutes and HHS remains the lead federal agency directing the federal response to COVID-19. FEMA actions will be in support of HHS and in coordination with state, tribal and territorial governments. Eligible emergency protective measures taken at the direction or guidance of public health officials in response to this emergency, and not supported by the authorities of another federal agency, will be reimbursed strictly under the FEMA Public Assistance program. FEMA assistance will be provided at a 75 percent Federal cost share. Reimbursable activities typically include emergency protective measures such as the activation of State Emergency Operations Centers, National Guard costs, law enforcement and other measures necessary to protect public health and safety.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of External Affairs, Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs Division at (202) 646-3444 or at FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov.

###

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000322

FEMA's mission is helping people before, during and after disasters.

Follow [FEMA online](#), on Twitter [@FEMA](#) or [@FEMAEspanol](#), on FEMA's [Facebook page](#) or [Espanol page](#) and at FEMA's [YouTube](#) account. Also, follow Administrator Pete Gaynor's activities [@FEMA_Pete](#).

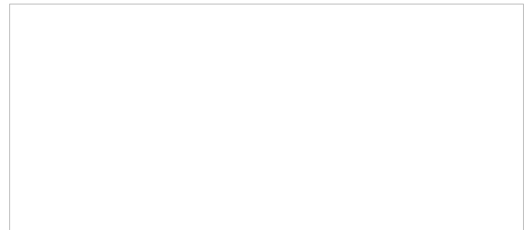
From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:07 PM EDT
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###

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000324

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From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 10:44 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: HHS Statement on Coronavirus Supplemental Request

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Baker, Michael (OS/IEA)" <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Date: February 24, 2020 at 9:04:25 PM CST
To: "Baker, Michael (OS/IEA)" <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: HHS Statement on Coronavirus Supplemental Request

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Partner –

Please find below HHS's statement on the coronavirus supplemental request.

“The Administration has been effectively utilizing all available resources to protect the American people from COVID-19. Today, the White House sent a supplemental request to Congress to make \$2.5 billion available for COVID-19 response efforts, including an emergency supplemental appropriation of \$1.25 billion. HHS will also use the Secretary's transfer authority to provide needed resources to continue the Department's robust and multi-layered public health preparedness and response efforts – including public health surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory testing, support for state and local governments and other key partners, advanced research and development of new vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, advanced manufacturing enhancements, and support for the Strategic National Stockpile.”

Read the letter here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Coronavirus-Supplemental-Request-Letter-Final.pdf>

Please let us know if there are any questions.

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 10:44 PM EST

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

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Please let us know if there are any questions.

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:43 AM EDT

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>

Subject: Fwd: Fwd: House Passed Families First Coronavirus Response Act

Attachment(s): "image001.jpg", "ATT00001.htm", "image002.png", "ATT00002.htm", "Families First Summary FINAL.pdf", "ATT00003.htm"

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "McBride, Bill" <BMcBride@nga.org>

Date: March 14, 2020 at 8:24:22 AM CDT

To: "McBride, Bill" <BMcBride@nga.org>

Subject: House Passed Families First Coronavirus Response Act

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good morning Governors,

I want to keep you and your staff updated on actions taken at the Federal level regarding COVID-19. Early this morning, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act ([H.R. 6201](#)) by a 363-40 vote. This package provides free coronavirus testing, secures paid emergency leave, enhances Unemployment Insurance, strengthens food security initiatives, and increases federal Medicaid funding to states. The bill now awaits Senate action, which is expected the week of March 16.

Please find a summary of the bill attached. If you have questions or need additional information let me know and I will put you in touch with NGA's Government Relations team.

Best,

Bill

Bill McBride | Executive Director

National Governors Association

444 North Capitol Street NW

Suite 267

Washington, DC 20001

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HHS Funding & Health-Care Provisions

Nutrition: The measure would appropriate \$250 million for Health and Human Services Department programs that aid elderly Americans, divided as follows:

- \$160 million for home-delivered nutrition services.
- \$80 million for congregate nutrition services that provide food in group settings, such as adult day care centers and meal sites.
- \$10 million for nutrition services for American Indians.

It also would provide \$64 million to the Indian Health Service for items and services related to Covid-19.

Medicaid Funding: States would be eligible for a 6.2 percentage point increase in their federal medical assistance percentages (FMAP). They would have to provide coverage of coronavirus testing without cost sharing and meet other criteria, such as not imposing more stringent eligibility standards or additional premiums.

States could cover tests for uninsured people through their Medicaid programs and receive a 100% FMAP to cover the cost.

Medicaid funding for U.S. territories would be increased.

Test Coverage: Insurers would be required to cover coronavirus tests and related services, such as provider visits for testing, without cost-sharing or prior authorization requirements. The cost-sharing prohibition would also apply to Medicaid, Medicare, TRICARE, veterans' health programs, the Indian Health Service, and coverage provided to federal civilian employees.

The bill would appropriate \$1 billion to allow the National Disaster Medical System to reimburse provider costs associated with testing uninsured individuals.

Major insurance companies — including BlueCross BlueShield Association companies, Humana Inc., and UnitedHealth Group Inc. — have committed to waiving coronavirus test co-pays, [according](#) to Vice President Mike Pence.

Medicare currently [covers](#) testing without any patient cost-sharing. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services wrote in March 12 [guidance](#) that states can modify their Medicaid plans to eliminate cost-sharing for certain services, such as Covid-19 tests, as long as their policy applies regardless of the diagnosis. The emergency declaration will also give states [more flexibility](#) in their programs.

The administration is also examining ways to provide free tests to the uninsured, CDC Director Robert Redfield [said March 12](#).

Mask Liability: The measure would make personal respiratory protective devices a covered countermeasure under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act ([Public Law 109-148](#)). The law allows HHS to provide liability protections for certain emergency response products.

Nutrition Assistance

The measure would provide:

- \$500 million in emergency funding for the WIC program.
- \$400 million for the Commodity Assistance Program for the emergency food assistance program (TEFAP), \$100 million of which could be used for costs related to the distribution of goods.
- \$100 million for grants to the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa for nutrition assistance provided in response to the virus.

SNAP Benefits for Kids: If a school is closed for at least five consecutive days because of a coronavirus-related public health emergency, states could adjust their Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs (SNAP) to provide additional aid to households with children eligible for free or reduced price school meals.

Additional benefits would have to be equal to the value of the meals for each eligible child in a household. Benefits could be distributed through an electronic benefits transfer card system. The Agriculture Department could purchase food commodities to ensure it can distribute them in areas where a public health emergency has been declared. "Such amounts as are necessary" would be appropriated for the meal provisions.

SNAPWork Requirements: The measure would waive federal work requirements for SNAP eligibility. The waiver would begin the first full month after the bill is enacted and terminate at the end of the first full month after a federal coronavirus-related emergency declaration is lifted. State-imposed work requirements wouldn't be changed, but a person's participation in SNAP during the emergency couldn't be counted for determining compliance with work requirements.

Other SNAP Benefits: States that make their own emergency or disaster declarations related to Covid-19 could request emergency allotments of food aid to support increased participation in SNAP and address temporary food needs. The provision wouldn't change the maximum monthly allotment for any household size. States would have to provide data sufficient to demonstrate the need for additional aid.

Meal Program Waivers: The package would allow USDA to waive statutory requirements for several food programs to ensure that meals can be provided during the emergency and to implement safety measures related to preventing the spread of Covid-19. It would allow nationwide waivers of eligible [National School Lunch Program](#), [School Breakfast Program](#), [Child and Adult Care Food Program](#), and [Summer Food Service Program](#) requirements.

The department could waive nutritional content requirements and rules to provide meals through the Child and Adult Care Food Program in group settings.

Waivers related to Covid-19 that increase the cost to the federal government for school meals would be allowed.

USDA has [granted waivers](#) to 17 states as of March 12 to allow school systems to continue serving meals during prolonged coronavirus-related closures. Several other states also have waiver requests pending.

WIC Waivers: The measure would allow states to request waivers for the requirement that WIC recipients certify their eligibility in person and for deferring biometric and bloodwork requirements. USDA could also modify or waive WIC administrative requirements that a state can't meet due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

Coronavirus Emergency Leave

The agreement would create an emergency paid leave program to directly respond to the coronavirus. Private sector employers with fewer than 500 workers and government entities would have to provide as many as 12 weeks of job-protected leave under the [Family and Medical Leave Act \(FMLA\)](#) for employees who have to:

- Comply with a requirement or recommendation to quarantine because of exposure to or symptoms of coronavirus.
- Provide care to a family member who's complying with such a requirement or recommendation.
- Provide care for child younger than 18 whose school or day care has closed because of coronavirus.

The first 14 days of leave could be unpaid, though a worker could choose to use accrued vacation days, personal leave, or other available paid leave for unpaid time off. Following the 14-day period, workers would receive a benefit from their employers that will be at least two-thirds of their normal pay rate.

The measure also would modify the FMLA to allow individuals to use unpaid leave if they are diagnosed with the virus, caring for a family member, or caring for a child whose school or day care has closed because of a public health emergency through Dec. 31, 2020.

The Labor Department would be authorized to issue regulations to:

- Exclude certain health-care providers and emergency responders from paid leave benefits.
- Exempt small businesses with fewer than 50 employees from the paid leave requirements.

Workers under a multiemployer collective bargaining agreement and whose employers pay into a pension plan would have access to paid leave.

Emergency Sick Leave

Private sector employers with fewer than 500 workers and government entities would have to provide employees with paid sick time off to:

- Self-quarantine.
- Obtain a medical diagnosis or care for coronavirus.
- Provide care for a family member who has been diagnosed or is in quarantine or for a child whose school or day care has closed due to coronavirus.

Full-time employees would receive 80 hours of sick leave under the new emergency leave program and part-time workers would be granted time off that's equivalent to their scheduled or normal work hours in a two-week period. Paid sick time could be carried over from year to year.

Workers would have to be paid at least their normal wage or the federal, state, or local minimum wage, whichever is greater. They would be paid, however, at two-thirds of their regular earning for providing caregiving to a family member.

Employers with similar existing paid leave policies would be required to provide workers with the emergency paid sick time. An employer couldn't require a worker to use any other available paid leave before using the sick time.

Employers would be prohibited from:

- Requiring a worker to find a replacement to cover their hours during time off.
- Discharging or discriminating against workers for requesting paid sick leave or filing a complaint against the employer.

An employer could be subject to civil penalties for a violation of paid sick leave requirements.

Workers under a multiemployer collective bargaining agreement and whose employers pay into a pension plan would have access to paid emergency leave.

Employer Tax Credits

The measure would provide payroll tax credits to employers to cover wages paid to employees while they are taking time off under the bill's sick leave and family leave programs.

The payroll tax, which funds Social Security, is a 6.2% levy on wages imposed on both employers and employees. Employees' share wouldn't be affected by the bill.

The sick leave credit for each employee would be for wages of as much as \$511 per day while the employee is receiving paid sick leave to care for themselves, or \$200 if the sick leave is to care for a family member or child if their school is closed. The limit would be the excess of 10 days over the aggregate number of days taken into account for all preceding calendar quarters.

The family leave credit for each employee would be for wages of as much as \$200 per day while the employee is receiving paid leave, or an aggregate of \$10,000.

The credit would be refundable if it exceeded the amount the employer owed in payroll tax.

Employers couldn't receive the credit if they're also receiving a credit for paid family and medical leave established by the 2017 tax overhaul (Public Law 115-97). They would have to include the credit in their gross income.

State and local governments couldn't receive the credit.

The credit would be in effect for wages through the end of 2020.

The Treasury Department would have to issue regulations or guidance to ensure employers don't manipulate the credit, to minimize compliance and record-keeping burdens, to waive penalties for underpayments in anticipation of the credit, and to establish a process to recapture credits when there's an adjustment.

The measure would authorize the transfer of amounts equal to the credit, as well as lost revenue from wages that are exempt from payroll tax, to the Social Security and disability insurance trust funds from the general fund.

Self-Employed Tax Credit

The measure would provide a similar refundable credit against self-employment tax. It would cover 100% of self-employed individuals' sick-leave equivalent or 67% if they were taking care of a sick family member or child if their school was closed.

Their sick-leave equivalent amount would be the lesser of their average daily self-employment income, or \$511 per day if caring for themselves or \$200 if caring for a family member. It would be available for 10 days over the number of days taken into account in preceding years.

Self-employed individuals could receive a family leave credit for as many as 50 days for the lesser of \$200 or their average daily self-employment income.

Self-employed individuals would have to submit documentation, as required by the Treasury Department.

The measure would establish alternate requirements for self-employed individuals who also receive sick-leave pay from an employer. It would also establish rules for the credit to be provided in U.S. territories.

Unemployment Insurance

Emergency Transfers: The measure would provide as much as \$1 billion for emergency transfers to states in fiscal 2020 to process and pay unemployment benefits.

Each state would receive a proportional amount based on the share of federal unemployment taxes paid by its employers.

States would receive half of their allocation within 60 days of the bill's enactment if they certify that they meet certain requirements, such as ensuring that workers can apply for benefits online or by phone.

States would receive the remaining funds if their unemployment claims increased by at least 10% over the same quarter in the previous year. They would have to waive certain eligibility rules for claimants and charges for employers affected by

Covid-19.

States could modify certain unemployment policies, including rules related to job searches and initial payment waiting periods, on an emergency temporary basis to address the effects of Covid-19.

The Labor Department [announced](#) guidance March 12 to clarify that states can make other changes to their unemployment policies to cover affected workers. For instance, current law allows states to pay benefits when workers are quarantined, or when they leave their jobs due to a risk of exposure or to care for a family member, the department said.

Extended Benefits: Eligible laid-off workers can receive regular unemployment benefits for as long as 26 weeks in most states.

After exhausting those benefits, individuals in states with rising unemployment can qualify for an additional 13 weeks of benefits — or 20 weeks in some states — through the Extended Benefits (EB) program.

The bill would waive a state matching requirement and provide full federal funding for the EB program for the rest of 2020. To qualify, states would need to experience a 10% spike in unemployment claims over the past year and qualify for a full emergency funding transfer under the measure.

Interest-Free Loans: The bill would waive interest payments that states owe for the rest of 2020 on federal advances to their unemployment accounts.

Other Agencies

The measure also would provide:

- \$82 million to the Defense Department for Covid-19-related items and services through the Defense Health Program.
- \$60 million for the Veterans Affairs Department.
- \$15 million to the Internal Revenue Service to carry out the bill's provisions.

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H.R. 6201, FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT *Title-By-Title Summary*

The legislation guarantees free coronavirus testing, establishes paid leave, enhances Unemployment Insurance, expands food security initiatives, and increases federal Medicaid funding.

DIVISION A – Second Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 *Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Appropriations and the House Committee on Education and Labor*

Title I – Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

Food and Nutrition Service – Includes funding to ensure the domestic nutrition assistance programs have adequate resources to help those impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Funding is provided for:

- **The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC)** – \$500 million to provide access to nutritious foods to low-income pregnant women or mothers with young children who lose their jobs or are laid off due to the COVID-19 emergency.
- **The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)** – \$400 million to assist local food banks to meet increased demand for low-income Americans during the emergency. Of the total, \$300 million is for the purchase of nutritious foods and \$100 million is to support the storage and distribution of the foods.

In addition –

- The legislation includes a general provision that allows the Department of Agriculture to approve state plans to provide emergency Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) food assistance to households with children who would otherwise receive free or reduced-price meals if not for their schools being closed due to the COVID-19 emergency. In order to be eligible, the child's school must be closed for no less than 5 consecutive days.

- Nutrition Assistance for U.S. Territories – \$100 million for USDA to provide nutrition assistance grants to Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Title II – Defense

Coverage of Testing for COVID-19 through the Department of Defense – Includes \$82 million for the Department of Defense to cover the costs of COVID-19 diagnostic testing for beneficiaries receiving care through the Defense Health Program.

Title III – Financial Services and General Government

Implementation of Tax Credits – Includes \$15 million for the Internal Revenue Service to implement tax credits for paid sick and paid family and medical leave.

Title IV – Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

Coverage of Testing for COVID-19 through the Indian Health Service – Includes \$64 million for the Indian Health Service to cover the costs of COVID-19 diagnostic testing for Indians receiving care through the Indian Health Service or through an Urban Indian Health Organization.

Title V – Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

Senior Nutrition Program – Includes \$250 million for the Senior Nutrition program in the Administration for Community Living (ACL) to provide approximately 25 million additional home-delivered and pre-packaged meals to low-income seniors who depend on the Senior Nutrition programs in their communities.

This funding will provide meals to low-income seniors:

- who are home-bound;
- who have disabilities;
- who have multiple chronic illnesses;
- as well as caregivers for seniors who are home-bound.

ACL’s Senior Nutrition grants are provided to States, territories, and eligible tribal organizations and serve more than 2.4 million individuals annually.

Nearly two-thirds of recipients of home-delivered meals report these meals as more than half of their food intake for the day.

Reimbursement for Diagnostic Testing and Services for COVID-19 in Uninsured Individuals – Includes \$1 billion for the National Disaster Medical System to reimburse the costs of COVID-19 diagnostic testing and services provided to individuals without health insurance.

Title VI – Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

Coverage of Testing for COVID-19 through the Veterans Health Administration – Includes \$60 million for the Department of Veterans Affairs to cover the costs of COVID-19 diagnostic testing for veterans receiving care through Medical Services or through Medical Community Care.

Title VII – General Provisions

Technical budgetary provisions.

In addition –

- Ensures State Emergency Operations Centers receive regular and real-time reporting on aggregate testing and case data from health departments and share that data with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

DIVISION B – Nutrition Waivers

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Agriculture and the House Committee on Education and Labor

Title I – Maintaining Essential Access to Lunch for Students Act

Section 2101. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the Maintaining Essential Access to Lunch for Students Act or the MEALS Act.

Section 2102. Waiver Exception for School Closures Due to COVID-19. Provides the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to issue waivers for state plans that increase costs to the federal government.

Title II – COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response Act

Section 2201. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response Act.

Section 2202. National School Lunch Program Requirement Waivers Addressing COVID-19. Allows all child and adult care centers to operate as non-congregate (i.e. allows them to take food to go). Allows the Secretary of Agriculture to waive meal pattern requirements in child nutrition programs if there is a disruption to the food supply as a result of the COVID-19 emergency. Provides the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to issue nationwide school meal waivers during the COVID-19 emergency, which will eliminate paperwork for states and help more schools quickly adopt and utilize flexibilities.

Section 2203. Physical Presence Waiver Under WIC During Certain Public Health Emergencies. Provides the Secretary of Agriculture with the authority to grant waivers to allow

participants to be certified for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) without being physically present at the WIC clinic.

Sec. 2204. Administrative Requirements Waiver Under WIC. This section provides the Secretary of Agriculture with the authority to waive administrative requirements that are barriers to serving WIC participants during the coronavirus outbreak.

Title III – SNAP COVID-19 Response Waivers

Section 2301. SNAP Flexibility for Low-Income Jobless Workers. Suspends the work and work training requirements for SNAP during this crisis.

Section 2302. Additional SNAP Flexibilities in a Public Health Emergency. Allows states to request special waivers from the Secretary to provide temporary, emergency CR-SNAP benefits to existing SNAP households up to the maximum monthly allotment, as well as give the Secretary broad discretion to provide much more flexibility for States in managing SNAP caseloads. Additionally, this language requires the Secretary to make State requests for waivers and the USDA response, as well as any USDA guidance on State flexibilities, publicly available online.

DIVISION C – Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act *Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Education and Labor*

Section 3101. Short Title. The short title for the bill is the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act.

Section 3102. Amendments to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. This section provides employees of employers with fewer than 500 employees and government employers, who have been on the job for at least 30 days, with the right take up to 12 weeks of job-protected leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act to be used for any of the following reasons:

- To adhere to a requirement or recommendation to quarantine due to exposure to or symptoms of coronavirus;
- To care for an at-risk family member who is adhering to a requirement or recommendation to quarantine due to exposure to or symptoms of coronavirus; and
- To care for a child of an employee if the child’s school or place of care has been closed, or the child-care provider is unavailable, due to a coronavirus.

After the two weeks of paid leave, employees will receive a benefit from their employers that will be no less than two-thirds of the employee’s usual pay.

Section 3103. Employment Under Multi-Employer Bargaining Agreements. The bill ensures employees who work under a multiemployer collective agreement and whose employers pay into a multiemployer plan are provided with leave.

Section 3104. Effective Date. This Act takes effect not later than 15 days after the date of bill's enactment.

DIVISION D – Emergency Unemployment Insurance Stabilization and Access Act of 2020

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Ways and Means

Section 4101. Short Title. The short title for the division is the Emergency Unemployment Insurance Stabilization and Access Act of 2020.

Section 4102. Emergency Transfers for Unemployment Compensation Administration. This section provides \$1 billion in 2020 for emergency grants to states for activities related to processing and paying unemployment insurance (UI) benefits, under certain conditions.

\$500 million would be used to provide immediate additional funding to all states for staffing, technology, systems, and other administrative costs, so long as they met basic requirements about ensuring access to earned benefits for eligible workers. Those requirements are:

- Require employers to provide notification of potential UI eligibility to laid-off workers
- Ensure that workers have at least two ways (for example, online and phone) to apply for benefits
- Notify applicants when an application is received and being processed and if the application cannot be processed, provide information to the applicant about how to ensure successful processing.

States would be required to report on the share of eligible individuals who received UI benefits and the state's efforts to ensure access within one year of receiving the funding. The funding would be distributed in the same proportions as regular UI administrative funding provided through annual appropriations.

\$500 million would be reserved for emergency grants to states which experienced at least a 10 percent increase in unemployment. Those states would be eligible to receive an additional grant, in the same amount as the initial grant, to assist with costs related to the unemployment spike, and would also be required to take steps to temporarily ease eligibility requirements that are limiting access to UI during the COVID-19 outbreak, like work search requirements, required waiting periods, and requirements to increase employer UI taxes if they have high layoff rates. Depending on the state, those actions might require changes in state law, or might just require changes in state policy. This section also provides temporary federal flexibility regarding those UI restrictions which are also in federal law.

Section 4103. Temporary Assistance for States with Advances. This section provides states with access to interest-free loans to help pay regular UI benefits through December 31, 2020, if needed.

Section 4104. Technical Assistance and Guidance for Short-Time Compensation Programs. This section requires the Secretary of Labor to provide technical assistance to states that want to set up work-sharing programs, in which employers reduce hours instead of laying employees off, and then employees receive partial unemployment benefits to offset the wage loss.

Section 4105. Full Federal Funding of Extended Unemployment Compensation for a Limited Period. For states that experience an increase of 10 percent or more in their unemployment rate (over the previous year) and comply with all the beneficiary access provisions in section 102, this section provides 100 percent federal funding for Extended Benefits, which normally require 50 percent of funding to come from states. Extended Benefits (EB) are triggered when unemployment is high in a state and provide up to an additional 26 weeks after regular UI benefits (usually 26 weeks) are exhausted. This section also suspends the financial penalty within EB for states that waive the usual one-week waiting period for benefits.

DIVISION E – Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Education and Labor

Section 5101. Short Title. The Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act.

Section 5102. The Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act. This section requires employers with fewer than 500 employees and government employers to provide employees two weeks of paid sick leave, paid at the employee’s regular rate, to quarantine or seek a diagnosis or preventive care for coronavirus; or paid at two-thirds the employee’s regular rate to care for a family member for such purposes or to care for a child whose school has closed, or child care provider is unavailable, due to the coronavirus.

- Full-time employees are entitled to 2 weeks (80 hours) and part-time employees are entitled to the typical number of hours that they work in a typical two-week period.
- The bill ensures employees who work under a multiemployer collective agreement and whose employers pay into a multiemployer plan are provided with leave.

The Act, and the requirements under the Act, expire on December 31, 2020.

DIVISION F – Health Provisions

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Education and Labor

Section 6001. Coverage of Testing for COVID-19. This section requires private health plans to provide coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing, including the cost of a provider, urgent care center and emergency room visits in order to receive testing. Coverage must be provided at no cost to the consumer.

Section 6002. Waiving Cost Sharing Under the Medicare Program for Certain Visits Relating To Testing For COVID-19. This section requires Medicare Part B to cover beneficiary cost-sharing for provider visits during which a COVID-19 diagnostic test is administered or ordered. Medicare Part B currently covers the COVID-19 diagnostic test with no beneficiary cost-sharing.

Section 6003. Waiving Cost Sharing Under the Medicare Advantage Program for Certain Visits Relating to Testing for COVID-19. This section requires Medicare Advantage to provide

coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing, including the associated cost of the visit in order to receive testing. Coverage must be provided at no cost to the beneficiary.

Section 6004. Coverage at No Cost Sharing of COVID-19 Testing Under Medicaid and CHIP. This section requires Medicaid to provide coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing, including the cost of a provider visit in order to receive testing. Coverage must be provided at no cost to the beneficiary. It would also provide states with the option to extend Medicaid eligibility to uninsured populations for the purposes of COVID-19 diagnostic testing. State expenditures for medical and administrative costs would be matched by the federal government at 100 percent.

Section 6005. Treatment of Personal Respiratory Protective Devices as Covered Countermeasures. This section requires certain personal respiratory protective devices to be treated as covered countermeasures under the PREP Act Declaration for the purposes of emergency use during the COVID-19 outbreak and ending October 1, 2024.

Section 6006. Application with Respect to TRICARE, Coverage for Veterans, and Coverage for Federal Civilians. This section ensures that individuals enrolled in TRICARE, covered veterans, and federal workers have coverage for COVID-19 diagnostic testing without cost-sharing.

Section 6007. Coverage of Testing for COVID-19 At No Cost Sharing for Indians Receiving Contract Health Services. This section ensures that American Indians and Alaskan Natives do not experience cost sharing for COVID-19 testing, including those referred for care away from an Indian Health Service or tribal health care facility.

Section 6008. Emergency FMAP Increase. This section provides a temporary increase to states' federal medical assistance percentage for the duration of the public health emergency for COVID-19. It requires states to maintain eligibility standards that are no less restrictive than the date of enactment.

Section 6009. Increase in Medicaid Allotments for Territories. This section provides an increase to the territories' Medicaid allotments for 2020 and 2021. It will ensure that territories that receive an FMAP increase under the previous section will have the necessary additional federal funds for their Medicaid programs.

Section 6010. Clarification Relating to Secretarial Authority Regarding Medicare Telehealth Services Furnished During COVID-19 Emergency Period. This section makes a technical change to the Medicare telehealth provision of the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-123) to ensure that new Medicare beneficiaries are able to access telehealth services under the emergency authority granted to the Secretary.

DIVISION G – Tax Credits For Paid Sick And Paid Family And Medical Leave

Prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Ways and Means

Section 7001. Payroll Credit for Required Paid Sick Leave. This section provides a refundable tax credit equal to 100 percent of qualified paid sick leave wages paid by an employer for each calendar quarter.

The tax credit is allowed against the tax imposed by section 3111(a) (the employer portion of Social Security taxes). Qualified sick leave wages are wages required to be paid by the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act.

The section makes a distinction between qualified sick leave wages paid with respect to employees who must self-isolate, obtain a diagnosis, or comply with a self-isolation recommendation with respect to coronavirus. For amounts paid to those employees, the amount of qualified sick leave wages taken into account for each employee is capped at \$511 per day. For amounts paid to employees caring for a family member or for a child whose school or place of care has been closed, the amount of qualified sick leave wages taken into account for each employee is capped at \$200 per day. The aggregate number of days taken into account per employee may not exceed the excess of 10 over the aggregate number of days taken into account for all preceding calendar quarters.

If the credit exceeds the employer's total liability under section 3111(a) for all employees for any calendar quarter, the excess credit is refundable to the employer. Employers may elect to not have the credit apply. To prevent a double benefit, no deduction is allowed for the amount of the credit. In addition, no credit is allowed with respect to wages for which a credit is allowed under section 45S.

The Secretary of the Treasury is given broad authority to issue regulations and guidance necessary to carry out the purposes of the section, including regulations and guidance related to avoidance, penalty waivers with respect to deposit amounts, compliance and record-keeping relief, and benefit recapture. The Social Security OASDI trust funds are held harmless by transferring funds from the General Fund. The section applies only to wages paid with respect to the period beginning on a date selected by the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary's delegate) which is during the 15-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, and ending on December 31, 2020.

Section 7002. Credit for Sick Leave for Certain Self-Employed Individuals. This section provides a refundable tax credit equal to 100 percent of a qualified sick leave equivalent amount for eligible self-employed individuals who must self-isolate, obtain a diagnosis, or comply with a self-isolation recommendation with respect to coronavirus. For eligible self-employed individuals caring for a family member or for a child whose school or place of care has been closed due to coronavirus, the section provides a refundable tax credit equal to 67 percent of a qualified sick leave equivalent amount.

The credit is allowed against income taxes and is refundable. Eligible self-employed individuals are individuals who would be entitled to receive paid leave pursuant to the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act if the individual was an employee of an employer (other than himself or herself). For eligible self-employed individuals who must self-isolate, obtain a diagnosis, or comply with a

self-isolation recommendation, the qualified sick leave equivalent amount is capped at the lesser of \$511 per day or the average daily self-employment income for the taxable year per day. For eligible self-employed individuals caring for a family member or for a child whose school or place of care has been closed due to coronavirus, the qualified sick leave equivalent amount is capped at the lesser of \$200 per day or the average daily self-employment income for the taxable year per day.

In calculating the qualified sick leave equivalent amount, an eligible self-employed individual may only take into account those days that the individual is unable to work for reasons that would entitle the individual to receive paid leave pursuant to the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act.

A self-employed individual must maintain documentation prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury to establish his or her eligibility for the credit. To prevent a double benefit, the qualified sick leave equivalent amount is proportionately reduced for any days that the individual also receives qualified sick leave wages from an employer. The section contains rules to ensure that self-employed individuals in U.S. territories may claim the credit.

The Secretary of the Treasury is given broad authority to issue regulations and guidance necessary to carry out the purposes of the section, including regulations and guidance related to avoidance and compliance and record-keeping relief. The section applies only to days occurring during the period beginning on a date selected by the Secretary of the Treasury which is during the 15-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, and ending on December 31, 2020.

Section 7003. Payroll Credit for Required Paid Family Leave. This section provides a refundable tax credit equal to 100 percent of qualified family leave wages paid by an employer for each calendar quarter.

The tax credit is allowed against the tax imposed by section 3111(a) (the employer portion of Social Security taxes). Qualified family leave wages are wages required to be paid by the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act.

The amount of qualified family leave wages taken into account for each employee is capped at \$200 per day and \$10,000 for all calendar quarters. If the credit exceeds the employer's total liability under section 3111(a) for all employees for any calendar quarter, the excess credit is refundable to the employer.

Employers may elect to not have the credit apply. To prevent a double benefit, no deduction is allowed for the amount of the credit. In addition, no credit is allowed with respect to wages for which a credit is allowed under section 45S.

The Secretary of the Treasury is given broad authority to issue regulations and guidance necessary to carry out the purposes of the section, including regulations and guidance related to avoidance, compliance and record-keeping relief, and benefit recapture. The Social Security OASDI trust funds are held harmless by transferring funds from the General Fund. The section

applies only to wages paid with respect to the period beginning on a date selected by the Secretary of the Treasury which is during the 15-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, and ending on December 31, 2020.

Section 7004. Credit for Family Leave for Certain Self-Employed Individuals. This section provides a refundable tax credit equal to 100 percent of a qualified family leave equivalent amount for eligible self-employed individuals.

The credit is allowed against income taxes and is refundable. Eligible self-employed individuals are individuals who would be entitled to receive paid leave pursuant to the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act if the individual was an employee of an employer (other than himself or herself). The qualified family leave equivalent amount is capped at the lesser \$200 per day or the average daily self-employment income for the taxable year per day. In calculating the qualified family leave equivalent amount, an eligible self-employed individual may only take into account those days that the individual is unable to work for reasons that would entitle the individual to receive paid leave pursuant to the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act.

A self-employed individual must maintain documentation prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury to establish his or her eligibility for the credit. To prevent a double benefit, the qualified sick leave equivalent amount is proportionately reduced for any days that the individual also receives qualified sick leave wages from an employer. The section contains rules to ensure that self-employed individuals in U.S. territories may claim the credit.

The Secretary of the Treasury is given broad authority to issue regulations and guidance necessary to carry out the purposes of the section, including regulations and guidance related to avoidance and compliance and record-keeping relief. The section applies only to days occurring during the period beginning on a date selected by the Secretary of the Treasury which is during the 15-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, and ending on December 31, 2020.

Section 7005. Special Rule Related to Tax on Employers. This section ensures that any wages required to be paid by reason of the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act and the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act will not be considered wages for purposes of section 3111(a). The Social Security OASDI trust funds are held harmless by transferring funds from the General Fund.

DIVISION H – Budgetary Effects

Technical budgetary provisions.



From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:03 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: INVITATION: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 12) at 2:00 p.m. ET

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Date: March 12, 2020 at 10:32:14 AM CDT
To: "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Cc: "Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO" <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>, "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>, "Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO" <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITATION: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 12) at 2:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State and Local Leaders,

On **Thursday, March 12, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time**, please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 (coronavirus) regarding President Trump issuing a proclamation under section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to restrict travel to the United States from foreign nationals who have recently been in certain European countries. Additional details can be found below. We will also provide an update on implementing mitigation strategies for communities with local COVID-transmission ([A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#)).

Briefing Call Registration on 212(f) & Community Mitigation Strategies

- **Date:** Today, Thursday, March 11
- **Time:** 2:00 PM ET (please note time zone)
- **Call-In Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Note:** You must RSVP to join the call. Upon successful registration, you will receive dial-in details to the email address you use to register. Note that multiple people cannot dial-in using the same registration information.

Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Zach

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Zach Swint
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
The White House
C: (202) 881-6717 | E: Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond to The Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety Of Americans

"Together we are putting into policy a plan to prevent, detect, treat and create a vaccine against coronavirus to save lives in America and the world. America will get it done!" – President Donald J. Trump

President Donald J. Trump signed a Presidential Proclamation, which suspends the entry of most foreign nationals who
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000347

have been in certain European countries at any point during the 14 days prior to their scheduled arrival to the United States. These countries, known as the Schengen Area, include: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. This does not apply to legal permanent residents, (generally) immediate family members of U.S. citizens, and other individuals who are identified in the proclamation.

Statement from DHS Acting Secretary Chad F. Wolf: “Protecting the American people from threats to their safety is the most important job of the President of the United States. The actions President Trump is taking to deny entry to foreign nationals who have been in affected areas will keep Americans safe and save American lives. I applaud the president for making this tough but necessary decision. While these new travel restrictions will be disruptive to some travelers, this decisive action is needed to protect the American public from further exposure to the potentially deadly coronavirus. In January and February, the Administration issued similar travel restrictions on individuals who had been in China and Iran. That action proved to be effective in slowing the spread of the virus to the U.S., while public health officials prepared. In the next 48 hours, in the interest of public health, I intend to issue a supplemental Notice of Arrivals Restriction requiring U.S. passengers that have been in the Schengen Area to travel through select airports where the U.S. Government has implemented enhanced screening procedures.”

RESTRICTING TRAVEL FROM IMPACTED AREAS: President Donald J. Trump is taking further action to curb the spread of the coronavirus to the United States from other countries.

- President Trump is issuing a proclamation under section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to restrict travel to the United States from foreign nationals who have recently been in certain European countries.
 - Section 212(f) of the INA only applies to the movement of human beings, not goods or cargo.
- The restriction applies to foreign nationals who have been in the Schengen Area, 26 countries in Europe with open borders agreements, in the last 14 days.
- Those who are exempt from these restrictions, such as American citizens, will be directed to a limited number of airports where screening can take place.
- There is extensive travel back and forth between Europe that heightens the risk here in the United States.

LOOKING OUT FOR AMERICAN BUSINESSES AND WORKERS: President Donald J. Trump is committed to protecting American businesses and workers from the impacts of coronavirus.

- The President is announcing an economic assistance package to help support businesses and workers who have been harmed by this outbreak.
- President Trump has instructed the Small Business Administration (SBA) to exercise available authority to provide loans to businesses affected by the coronavirus.
 - These loans will help overcome disruptions caused by the coronavirus.
 - The President is calling on Congress to increase funding for this program by an additional \$50 billion.
- The President will be instructing the Department of the Treasury to defer tax payments for certain individuals and businesses negatively impacted by the coronavirus.
 - This action will provide more than \$200 billion of additional liquidity to the economy.
- President Trump is calling on Congress to immediately pass payroll tax relief.
- The President announced that he will soon be taking emergency action to provide financial relief for workers who are ill, quarantined, or caring for others due to the coronavirus.
 - The President also called on Congress to take action to extend this relief for workers.

LEADING AN AGGRESSIVE, WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH: President Trump has taken unprecedented steps to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus.

- The President is leveraging all of our resources to respond to the coronavirus, bringing together government and private industry in a collaborative response.
- The Trump Administration declared a public health emergency in January to bolster response efforts.
- President Trump took early action to help curb the spread of the virus from other countries to the United States, providing important time for response and preparations.
 - In January, President Trump acted quickly to restrict travel from foreign nationals traveling from China.
 - In February, the President restricted travel for individuals recently traveling from Iran.
 - The Administration put into place mandatory screening for all travelers coming into the country from Italy and South Korea.
 - Travel advisories for severely impacted areas like Italy and South Korea have been raised to their highest level.
- Today, the President directed his Administration to make general-use face masks available to our healthcare workers.
 - The Administration’s actions will help make millions of general-use respirators available to keep healthcare workers safe and mitigate transmission of the virus.
- President Trump signed into law more than \$8 billion to fund response efforts.
- The Administration has taken bold steps to incentivize the development of therapeutics and vaccines to treat and prevent the spread of the coronavirus.
- Working across the public and private sectors, the Trump Administration continues to drastically expand testing capacity.
 - More than 1 million tests have been distributed nationwide, with another 4 million tests being shipped out by the end of the week.
 - Testing is now available in every State lab in the country and commercial labs are now deploying tests, which will help generate a dramatic increase in availability.
- The Trump Administration has released guidance on how to keep businesses, schools, community gathering places, and families safe.

- From the start, President Trump has made keeping the public informed a top priority. The Administration has announced that health plans with health savings accounts will be able to cover coronavirus testing and treatment without co-payments.

ICYMI | Vice President Pence Discusses the Coronavirus Response on the Morning Shows

Earlier this morning, Vice President Pence joined Good Morning America, The Today Show, Fox & Friends, New Day, and CBS This Morning to discuss the steps that this administration is taking to combat the coronavirus.

ON ABC's GOOD MORNING AMERICA



WATCH [HERE](#).

From very early on, President Trump took decisive action to put the health of the American people first.

“We all have known from the beginning that the coronavirus would continue to spread across this country, and it’s one of the reasons why, from very early on, President Trump took decisive action to put the health of the American people first, not only declaring a public health emergency in January, but in that same month he suspended all travel from China -- an unprecedented move -- and quarantined Americans that were returning from the region. Since that time, George, we’ve -- we’ve issued travel advisories for areas of South Korea, Italy; screened all persons coming on direct flights. But, frankly, as we watched the epicenter of the coronavirus shift from China and South Korea to Europe, the President thought it was proper for us to impose a 30-day suspension on all travel from continental Europe.”

The President, again, made another unprecedented decision in suspending all travel from Europe, because we want to stop the flow of people bringing the coronavirus here.

“The reality is that, really, just two weeks ago, in Italy, there were less than 500 cases and now there’s 12,000 cases in Italy, George. We have tens of thousands of people that travel to the United States from Europe every day. Seventy percent of new cases in the world were in Europe. And when we looked yesterday at the -- what was then the 35 states where we had cases, about 30 of them could be traced to contacts with Europe. And so the President, again, made another unprecedented decision in suspending all travel from Europe, because we essentially want -- we essentially want to stop the flow of people bringing the coronavirus here, but then continuing to surge resources, particularly into California, Washington State, New York, and other communities where we’ve seen community spread. It’s a combination of efforts that’s being driven by the top health experts in the world on our task force. But the President -- the President showed again yesterday a willingness to take decisive action on multiple levels to protect the American people.”

We want to send a very clear message to Americans that if for any reason you believe you've been exposed to the coronavirus, you should not be worried about the cost of testing or treatment.

“We’re making steady progress. We’re going to continue to make a very clear message to Americans that if for any reason you believe you’ve been exposed to the coronavirus or you have symptoms, we don’t want people to be worried about the cost of testing, to be worried about the cost of treatment... As the President made clear last night, we’re working with Congress and exploring actions the President can take to make sure that hourly wage earners know that you can stay home without risking losing a paycheck or losing your job if you feel if you feel that you’ve been exposed to the coronavirus.”

ON NBC's TODAY SHOW



WATCH [HERE](#).

From early on in this effort, we have addressed the testing issue. We made changes through the FDA that allowed for state labs and hospitals to engage in testing.

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The American people should know that President Trump has no higher priority than the health, safety and well-being of the American people.

“The American people should know that President Trump has no higher priority than the health and safety and wellbeing of the people in this country. You can go to coronavirus.gov right now to find out what every American can do to keep yourself, your family, your workplace and your school safe. But you can rest assured we’re going to focus on communities where we’ve had community spread, and the President’s action yesterday suspending travel from Europe is one more example of how he’s putting the health of America first.”

ON FOX NEWS’ FOX & FRIENDS



WATCH [HERE](#) AND [HERE](#).

The President has called this a whole-of-government approach, but he has also called this is a whole-of-America approach.

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We are working together to contain the spread of the coronavirus. And we will get through this.

“Our goal, as the coronavirus spreads in this country -- and the vast majority who would contract it will have flu-
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000350

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“I want to say to your viewers, just as the President said last night, the risk to the average American of contracting the coronavirus remains low, but we do know that seniors with serious underlying chronic health conditions are particularly vulnerable to very serious outcomes. And so we're encouraging best practices for every American. We're focusing on communities where we have community spread.”

Those with a family member who is a senior citizen should support them in engaging in good hygiene and good health practices.

“For any American that's watching today that has a family member or a loved one who's a senior citizen with a serious underlying health condition, this is a very good time to help and to support them to be able to avoid public places, and everyone around them to engage in good hygiene and good practices to protect those that are most vulnerable.”

ON CNN's NEW DAY



WATCH [HERE](#) AND [HERE](#).

We have been meeting with industry leaders in one relevant industry after another to ensure that the full resources of America are being brought to bear.

“We're not doing a travel ban as our strategy. The suspending all travel for 30 days from Europe is a part of the strategy. The other part is an aggressive mitigation strategy. I spoke to the governors of New York, Washington State, and California tomorrow -- or yesterday. CDC issued strong guidance to those areas where we have community spread. We've flowed resources. We've flowed support to those areas. And so it's a combination of strategies that the President has employed here. As he says, it's “all hands on deck,” “a whole-of-government approach,” but it's also a whole-of-America approach. We've literally been meeting with industry leaders in one relevant industry after another to ensure that the full resources of America are being brought to bear.”

Any American who is concerned about being exposed to the coronavirus, should call their doctor and get tested.

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We are making steady progress. We don't want anybody to avoid having a test because they are concerned financially.

“But make no mistake about it: We're making steady progress. We've made changes at the FDA in January, at the President's direction. And the American people can be confident we're going to continue to roll out the test. And maybe most significant on that score is that the President brought health insurance companies in last week and
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000351

they all agreed to waive the co-pays on testing. We expanded testing to Medicare and Medicaid patients. And we also expanded coverage for treatment, and health insurance companies expanded coverage for treatment. We don't want anybody to avoid having a test because they're concerned financially."

The risk to the average American remains low.

"I want people to know that the risk to contracting the coronavirus, according to all of our experts, for the average American remains low. Most people that contract it, will have flu-like symptoms and recover."

ON CBS This Morning



WATCH [HERE](#).

We are going to continue to put in every effort in place to protect the health and safety of the American people.

"The President took the unprecedented step of suspending all travel from China which was the originating country of this virus. We also established travel advisories, and we've been screening passengers on all direct flights from South Korea and Italy. But with the epicenter of this epidemic now moving from China and South Korea to Europe, yesterday the President again took the unprecedented step of suspending all travel from Europe for the next 30 days, and that in combination with our strong mitigation efforts in communities that are experiencing what our experts call community spread, areas of California, Washington State, and New York, we're going to continue to put every effort at home and with regard to these travel restrictions in place to protect the health and safety of the American people."

In the days ahead, we are going to continue to see the availability of tests at your local doctor and your local pharmacy expand.

"Testing is happening in every state lab in the country. Many university hospitals have taken the FDA test, like the University of Washington, is doing a great job expanding testing capabilities. But the biggest piece on the testing is that our commercial labs that the President brought in last week, companies like Quest and LabCorp, have already had approved a new test that they several days ago had begun to take to market which they can do in a vast and expansive way across the country. And literally in the days ahead, we're going to continue to see the availability of tests at your local doctor, ultimately at your local pharmacy, continue to expand."

When President Trump learned that 70% of the new cases this week, around the world, were in Europe, he took decisive action to protect the American people.

"Make no mistake about it: All the new cases in the world, this week, 70% of the new cases were in Europe. And the increase has been dramatic. When the President imposed the travel advisory and we began screening all flights, all passengers coming into the United States from Italy two weeks ago, there were roughly 500 coronavirus cases. Now there's 12,000, about 1,000 in Germany, about 1,000 in France. That's the reason why the President essentially said full stop, we're going to suspend all travel, and that American citizens coming home and legal residents will be funneled through 13 different airports. They'll get an initial health screening coming in. But we're going to ask everyone returning to our country to self-quarantine for 14 days."

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:03 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: INVITATION: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 12) at 2:00 p.m. ET

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Date: March 12, 2020 at 10:32:14 AM CDT
To: "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Cc: "Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO" <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>, "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>, "Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO" <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITATION: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 12) at 2:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State and Local Leaders,

On **Thursday, March 12, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time**, please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 (coronavirus) regarding President Trump issuing a proclamation under section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to restrict travel to the United States from foreign nationals who have recently been in certain European countries. Additional details can be found below. We will also provide an update on implementing mitigation strategies for communities with local COVID-transmission ([A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#)).

Briefing Call Registration on 212(f) & Community Mitigation Strategies

- **Date:** Today, Thursday, March 11
- **Time:** 2:00 PM ET (please note time zone)
- **Call-In Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Note:** You must RSVP to join the call. Upon successful registration, you will receive dial-in details to the email address you use to register. Note that multiple people cannot dial-in using the same registration information.

Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Zach

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Zach Swint
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
The White House
C: (202) 881-6717 | E: Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond to The Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety Of Americans

"Together we are putting into policy a plan to prevent, detect, treat and create a vaccine against coronavirus to save lives in America and the world. America will get it done!" – President Donald J. Trump

President Donald J. Trump signed a Presidential Proclamation, which suspends the entry of most foreign nationals who
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000353

have been in certain European countries at any point during the 14 days prior to their scheduled arrival to the United States. These countries, known as the Schengen Area, include: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. This does not apply to legal permanent residents, (generally) immediate family members of U.S. citizens, and other individuals who are identified in the proclamation.

Statement from DHS Acting Secretary Chad F. Wolf: “Protecting the American people from threats to their safety is the most important job of the President of the United States. The actions President Trump is taking to deny entry to foreign nationals who have been in affected areas will keep Americans safe and save American lives. I applaud the president for making this tough but necessary decision. While these new travel restrictions will be disruptive to some travelers, this decisive action is needed to protect the American public from further exposure to the potentially deadly coronavirus. In January and February, the Administration issued similar travel restrictions on individuals who had been in China and Iran. That action proved to be effective in slowing the spread of the virus to the U.S., while public health officials prepared. In the next 48 hours, in the interest of public health, I intend to issue a supplemental Notice of Arrivals Restriction requiring U.S. passengers that have been in the Schengen Area to travel through select airports where the U.S. Government has implemented enhanced screening procedures.”

RESTRICTING TRAVEL FROM IMPACTED AREAS: President Donald J. Trump is taking further action to curb the spread of the coronavirus to the United States from other countries.

- President Trump is issuing a proclamation under section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to restrict travel to the United States from foreign nationals who have recently been in certain European countries.
 - Section 212(f) of the INA only applies to the movement of human beings, not goods or cargo.
- The restriction applies to foreign nationals who have been in the Schengen Area, 26 countries in Europe with open borders agreements, in the last 14 days.
- Those who are exempt from these restrictions, such as American citizens, will be directed to a limited number of airports where screening can take place.
- There is extensive travel back and forth between Europe that heightens the risk here in the United States.

LOOKING OUT FOR AMERICAN BUSINESSES AND WORKERS: President Donald J. Trump is committed to protecting American businesses and workers from the impacts of coronavirus.

- The President is announcing an economic assistance package to help support businesses and workers who have been harmed by this outbreak.
- President Trump has instructed the Small Business Administration (SBA) to exercise available authority to provide loans to businesses affected by the coronavirus.
 - These loans will help overcome disruptions caused by the coronavirus.
 - The President is calling on Congress to increase funding for this program by an additional \$50 billion.
- The President will be instructing the Department of the Treasury to defer tax payments for certain individuals and businesses negatively impacted by the coronavirus.
 - This action will provide more than \$200 billion of additional liquidity to the economy.
- President Trump is calling on Congress to immediately pass payroll tax relief.
- The President announced that he will soon be taking emergency action to provide financial relief for workers who are ill, quarantined, or caring for others due to the coronavirus.
 - The President also called on Congress to take action to extend this relief for workers.

LEADING AN AGGRESSIVE, WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH: President Trump has taken unprecedented steps to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus.

- The President is leveraging all of our resources to respond to the coronavirus, bringing together government and private industry in a collaborative response.
- The Trump Administration declared a public health emergency in January to bolster response efforts.
- President Trump took early action to help curb the spread of the virus from other countries to the United States, providing important time for response and preparations.
 - In January, President Trump acted quickly to restrict travel from foreign nationals traveling from China.
 - In February, the President restricted travel for individuals recently traveling from Iran.
 - The Administration put into place mandatory screening for all travelers coming into the country from Italy and South Korea.
 - Travel advisories for severely impacted areas like Italy and South Korea have been raised to their highest level.
- Today, the President directed his Administration to make general-use face masks available to our healthcare workers.
 - The Administration’s actions will help make millions of general-use respirators available to keep healthcare workers safe and mitigate transmission of the virus.
- President Trump signed into law more than \$8 billion to fund response efforts.
- The Administration has taken bold steps to incentivize the development of therapeutics and vaccines to treat and prevent the spread of the coronavirus.
- Working across the public and private sectors, the Trump Administration continues to drastically expand testing capacity.
 - More than 1 million tests have been distributed nationwide, with another 4 million tests being shipped out by the end of the week.
 - Testing is now available in every State lab in the country and commercial labs are now deploying tests, which will help generate a dramatic increase in availability.
- The Trump Administration has released guidance on how to keep businesses, schools, community gathering places, and families safe.

- From the start, President Trump has made keeping the public informed a top priority. The Administration has announced that health plans with health savings accounts will be able to cover coronavirus testing and treatment without co-payments.

ICYMI | Vice President Pence Discusses the Coronavirus Response on the Morning Shows

Earlier this morning, Vice President Pence joined Good Morning America, The Today Show, Fox & Friends, New Day, and CBS This Morning to discuss the steps that this administration is taking to combat the coronavirus.

ON ABC's GOOD MORNING AMERICA



WATCH [HERE](#).

From very early on, President Trump took decisive action to put the health of the American people first.

“We all have known from the beginning that the coronavirus would continue to spread across this country, and it’s one of the reasons why, from very early on, President Trump took decisive action to put the health of the American people first, not only declaring a public health emergency in January, but in that same month he suspended all travel from China -- an unprecedented move -- and quarantined Americans that were returning from the region. Since that time, George, we’ve -- we’ve issued travel advisories for areas of South Korea, Italy; screened all persons coming on direct flights. But, frankly, as we watched the epicenter of the coronavirus shift from China and South Korea to Europe, the President thought it was proper for us to impose a 30-day suspension on all travel from continental Europe.”

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000357

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From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 10:06 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET
FYI, only if the Governor decides to do this, the time will be 11:00 am cst.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Date: March 4, 2020 at 8:32:08 PM CST
To: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: "Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP" <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>, "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>, "Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO" <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Governor's Senior Staff (Chief of Staff, State-Federal Director, and Scheduler),

Our Nation's Governors are invited to a **Governors-only Briefing Call (with a video teleconference option) with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 9, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. On the March 2 briefing with governors, the Vice President pledged to convene the governors for a call/teleconference on a weekly basis, and made assurances that Federal leaders will continue its close coordinating with our Nation's governors and other State and local leaders.

Note: We have made technology adjustments from the last call, and every governor will have the option to ask questions and engage in dialogue on the March 9 call. Additionally, governors will have the option to participate via video teleconference – detail below.

Briefing Call Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 9, 2020
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- **Expected Length:** 30 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state):** Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.
- **Video Teleconference Option:** Any governor who wants to participate in this briefing via video teleconference (VTC), please email Nic Pottebaum with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) by no later than Friday, March 6 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time to ensure time for proper testing.

Background

On Monday, March 2, Vice President Mike Pence today participated in a discussion with more than 50 of our Nation's governors to provide an update on the work of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, to continue coordination with governors and state and local officials to respond to and prepare for the coronavirus, and to thank governors and state and local leaders—particularly state and local health officials—for their leadership. The Vice President pledged to convene the governors for a call/teleconference on a weekly basis, and made assurances that Federal leaders will continue its close coordinating with our Nation's governors and other State and local leaders. More readout [here](#).

RSVP & Call-In/VTC Information – Deadline to RSVP is Friday, March 6 at 5:00 p.m.

To RSVP your governor, email Nic Pottebaum with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Friday, March 6 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time**. Once you RSVP your governor, you will receive a call-in information link and guidance. VTC guidance will be provided upon request.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 10:07 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET
FYI, only if the Governor decides to do this, the time will be 11:00 am cst.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Date: March 4, 2020 at 8:32:08 PM CST
To: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: "Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP" <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>, "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>, "Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO" <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
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Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2020 10:43 PM EDT
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: Latest Information - COVID-19

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Date: March 8, 2020 at 8:31:04 PM CDT
To: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: "Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO" <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>, "Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP" <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>, "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>, "Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO" <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Latest Information - COVID-19

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Our Nation's Governor's and Staff,

We look forward to having our Nation's Governors join tomorrow's call/video teleconference with the Vice President (Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET).

To receive the most the most up-to-date set of information and guidance on COVID-19, please go [HERE](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) (or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>).

This is a one-stop-shop for **What You Should Know, Situation Updates, and Information for Specific Audiences** including the [CDC's Public Health Laboratory Testing Map](#).

Latest Updates

- **FDA and CDC take action to increase access to respirators, including N95s, for health care personnel (more [here](#))**
- **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Issues New Policy to Help Expedite Availability of Diagnostics (more [here](#))**
- **Comprehensive Update on Testing Numbers (March 7, 2020 – [White House Press Briefing by FDA Commissioner Stephen M. Hahn, M.D.](#)):**
 - CDC has shipped tests sufficient to test about 75,000 individuals for COVID-19 to Public Health Laboratories. And all Public Health Laboratories that originally received a CDC test have received replacement tests. Laboratories in areas with the highest need for testing based on the outbreak have received additional tests, however, all state public health labs now have tests available to them.
 - As of March 7, the CDC test shipped to public health labs has been able to test more than 3,500 specimens from 1,583 patients.
 - Additionally, as of March 6, more than 1.1 million tests have been shipped to nonpublic health labs.
 - The manufacturer, IDT, is distributing these tests nationwide, although the first batch of tests were shipped to the states of California and Washington based on confirmed clusters in those areas.
 - IDT currently has another 400,000 tests which have undergone and passed final quality control check and we expect those tests to ship to labs on March 9.
 - Another manufacturer's tests will be undergoing a quality control check. That batch of 640,000 tests could ship as early as March 9.
 - IDT and other manufacturers believe they can scale up production so that by the end of next week tests, an additional 4 million tests could be shipped.
 - This does not include the ramp up expected by large commercial or academic labs.

The Office of the Vice President and White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance. Below, please find additional information.

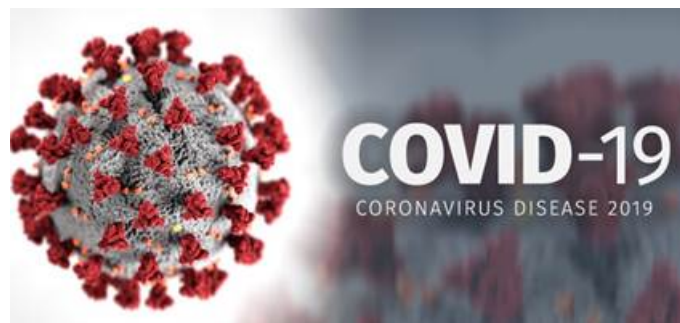
Office of the Vice President		
Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov

White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs		
Name	Cell Phone	Email
Doug Hoelscher	202-881-8950	Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
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Background & Additional Information



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: To receive the most the most up-to-date set of information and guidance on COVID-19, please go [HERE](#) (or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>).

- What You Should Know ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information: Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))

- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Responses locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities (a complete list of State & Territorial Health Department Websites can be found [here](#))
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line.

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
- Establishing the White House task force to combat the coronavirus spread. The Task Force is coordinating and marshalling the full resources and capabilities of the Federal government to respond to the coronavirus.
- Forging relationships and collaboration between the public and private sectors.
- Remained in close contact with our Nation's governors and other key stakeholders.
- *The Washington Times*: [Thanks to Trump Administration, the United States has a Coronavirus Plan of Action.](#)
- *Dr. Marc Siegel*: [Coronavirus Public Health Response Has Been Handled Well](#)

While the overall threat to the American public remains low, the President has directed the White House Task Force to take all steps to ensure the health and well-being of the American people and we are well-prepared.

- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.
- There are good tried and true hygiene practices which can be very effective to reduce the chance of getting sick.
- Travelers are encouraged to always exercise healthy travel habits when traveling and to follow appropriate guidance ([see here](#)). At this time, there are no domestic travel restrictions in the United States.
- We are working rapidly on therapeutics and vaccines and have launched the first U.S. clinical trial for an investigational antiviral.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. Between March 2nd and 5th, more than 900,000 tests were distributed across the country.
- The United States has the finest public health system in the world and knows the playbook to respond to infectious disease outbreaks.

Local, State, tribal, & Federal coordinated preparedness & response efforts.

- Federal officials have been working diligently to communicate with State, local, and tribal officials on the Federal government's efforts to prepare and respond to COVID-1.
- Our Nation's Governors have participated in-person and on conference call briefings with Federal partners on January 30, February 9, February 20 and March 2. These communications remain ongoing.
- White House, OMB, HHS, DHS, DOT, and State Department Officials met with over 40 State, county, and city health officials from over 30 States and territories to thank them for their leadership and to continue discussions on the Federal-State-Local partnership to prepare and respond to COVID-19 (February 25).
- HHS, CDC, DHS, and Federal partners have held numerous national briefing calls with State, local, tribal, private-sector, and community leaders.
- The Trump Administration is partnering with State, local, and tribal elected and appointed leaders' associations.

Recent Actions: Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))

From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 2:10 AM EDT

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>

Subject: Fwd: Fwd: Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Date: March 9, 2020 at 8:58:24 PM CDT

To: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Cc: "Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO" <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>, "Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP" <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>, "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>, "Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO" <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>

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The White House

Office of the Vice President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 9, 2020

**READOUT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT’S DISCUSSION WITH OUR NATION’S GOVERNORS ON COVID-19
COORDINATION & PREPAREDNESS**

Vice President Mike Pence today participated in a discussion with nearly 50 of our Nation’s governors to provide an update on the work of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, to continue coordination with governors and state and local officials to respond to and prepare for the coronavirus, and to thank governors and state and local leaders—particularly state and local health officials—for their important and tireless work.

The Vice President along with White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator Ambassador Deborah Birx, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Director Bob Redfield, U.S. Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command General Terrence O’Shaunessy, Office of Management and Budget Director Russ Vought, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Administrator Seema Verma, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci, and Surgeon General Jerome Adams provided a status update on the expansion of testing capabilities, increased access to respirators for health care personnel, and the importance of the supplemental funding bill. Various governors provided an update on State and local actions to respond to and prepare for the Coronavirus, including coordination across various state agencies and local governments. Participants also discussed how elderly individuals and individuals with underlying health conditions can protect themselves using common sense precautions.

The Federal supplemental bill authorizes \$7.76 billion to Federal, State and local agencies to combat the coronavirus including funds for vaccine development and medical supplies, grants for health agencies and organizations, loans for impacted small businesses, and \$500 million in waivers for Medicaid telehealth restrictions.

Governor Larry Hogan, Chair of the National Governors Association, joined the Vice President in person, and other governors joined via video teleconference or phone. The Vice President pledged that Federal leaders will continue to coordinate with our Nation’s governors and other State and local leaders.

For more information about the Coronavirus, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

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Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

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Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Shauna.Sanford@la.gov <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 10:59 AM EDT
To: Jennifer.sherman@hhs.gov <Jennifer.sherman@hhs.gov>
CC: Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: Video Script with LA Gov
Attachment(s): "image001.png", "ATT00001.htm", "COVID19 Script.docx", "ATT00002.htm"

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>
Date: March 12, 2020 at 9:48:34 AM CDT
To: "amber.channer@hhs.gov" <amber.channer@hhs.gov>
Cc: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Subject: Video Script with LA Gov

See the proposed video script attached.

Lauren Leist
Deputy Communications Director

225.342.0410 *office*

225.936.6146 *cell*
lauren.leist@la.gov
gov.louisiana.gov

Talking Points

JBE: Hello. I'm Governor John Bel Edwards, and I am joined today by U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams.

We'd like to encourage everyone out there to take every precaution necessary to prevent the spread of coronavirus also known as COVID-19.

SG Adams: Some of the steps you can take include:

- Frequent hand washing
- Covering your cough appropriately
- Avoiding close contact with others
- And staying home if you are sick

For more information from the CDC, please visit [coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

JBE: By following these recommendations, we can limit the spread of COVID-19 and stay healthy.



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR
JOHN BEL EDWARDS

From: Shauna Sanford on behalf of Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 10:59 AM EDT
To: Jennifer.sherman@hhs.gov <Jennifer.sherman@hhs.gov>
CC: Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: Video Script with LA Gov
Attachment(s): "image001.png", "ATT00001.htm", "COVID19 Script.docx", "ATT00002.htm"

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>
Date: March 12, 2020 at 9:48:34 AM CDT
To: "amber.channer@hhs.gov" <amber.channer@hhs.gov>
Cc: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Subject: Video Script with LA Gov

See the proposed video script attached.

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Deputy Communications Director

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Talking Points

JBE: Hello. I'm Governor John Bel Edwards, and I am joined today by U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams.

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For more information from the CDC, please visit [coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

JBE: By following these recommendations, we can limit the spread of COVID-19 and stay healthy.



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR
JOHN BEL EDWARDS

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 7:03 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: FYI - FW: Tomorrow: NGA Informal Discussion on Coronavirus

From: Ramos, Maribel [mailto:MRamos@nga.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 4:27 PM
To: Ramos, Maribel <MRamos@nga.org>
Cc: Becker, Melinda <mbecker@nga.org>; Perez Quinn, Susie <SPQuinn@nga.org>; Stienstra, Lauren <LStienstra@NGA.org>; Tewarson, Hemi <HTewarson@NGA.ORG>; Ott, Mary Catherine <mcott@nga.org>
Subject: Tomorrow: NGA Informal Discussion on Coronavirus

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Washington D.C. Representatives,

We would like to invite you all to an informal discussion on the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) tomorrow, Friday, February 28th at 2pm taking place in NGA's Governors Room. This discussion is in follow-up to the NGA State Coronavirus Action Network (SCAN) call we held on Wednesday, where we had over 140 participants from 33 states.

In order for NGA to best assist states and territories and ensure they are equipped with adequate resources and funding to respond to COVID-19, we would like to hear from you on the cost burden and supplemental needs to respond and contain this disease. Information shared is not for attribution. This information will help NGA in making any requests for supplemental funding for any and all costs incurred by states and territories for additional staff, resources, and/or equipment needs to rapidly respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow and please let us know if you have any questions.

Maribel Ramos | Legislative Director
Health and Human Services

and

Mary Catherine Ott | Legislative Director
Homeland Security and Public Safety & Council of Governors

The information contained in this electronic transmission, including any attachments, is for the exclusive use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain information that is privileged, proprietary, and/or confidential. If the reader of this transmission is not an intended recipient, or a person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete this message.

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 12:22 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FYI- the Governor has agreed to sign - FW: NGA Congressional Letter in Support of COVID-19 Emergency Supplemental
Attachment(s): "NGA Congressional Letter_COVID-19 .docx"

From: Ramos, Maribel [mailto:MRamos@nga.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 11:20 AM
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Subject: FW: NGA Congressional Letter in Support of COVID-19 Emergency Supplemental

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Alicia,

I wanted to check in to see if Governor Edwards would like to sign on to this letter?

Thanks,
Maribel

From: Ramos, Maribel <MRamos@nga.org>
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 5:01 PM
To: Ramos, Maribel <MRamos@nga.org>
Cc: Perez Quinn, Susie <SPQuinn@nga.org>; McBride, Bill <BMcBride@nga.org>; Solt, Ryan <rsolt@nga.org>; Ott, Mary Catherine <mcott@nga.org>; Blute, Timothy <tblute@nga.org>; Wohlschlegel, Eric <EWohlschlegel@NGA.ORG>; Nash, James <JNash@nga.org>
Subject: NGA Congressional Letter in Support of COVID-19 Emergency Supplemental

Dear Washington Representatives:

In follow-up to our discussion this afternoon at the Washington Representatives NGA Weekly Meeting, I have attached a draft letter in support of the COVID-19 emergency supplemental. As you all have seen in the media, appropriators are trying to get this done rather quickly and the measure is expected to provide as much as \$7 - \$8 billion. The House is looking to vote on the measure this week.

The draft letter is in support of the supplemental and includes language for new federal funding, as well as funding to backfill states for costs already incurred. Again, as we mentioned earlier today, we are not requesting a specific dollar amount but have included a list of overall spending buckets to try and be all-inclusive.

We would like to have as many governors, as possible, sign on to this letter. **We are requesting that you let us know if your governor will sign-on to this letter by noon, Wednesday, March 4, 2020.** If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me.

Thank you,

Maribel Ramos

The information contained in this electronic transmission, including any attachments, is for the exclusive use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain information that is privileged, proprietary, and/or confidential. If the reader of this transmission is not an intended recipient, or a person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete this message.



CHAIR
Larry Hogan
Governor of Maryland

VICE CHAIR
Andrew Cuomo
Governor of New York

March 2, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room S-230
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
U.S. Capitol Building, Room S-224
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader McCarthy:

The nation’s Governors applaud the U.S. House of Representatives for passage of the XX (H.R....) and urge the U.S. Senate to take swift action and pass the emergency supplemental request, in response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

As the nation’s Governors, the health and well-being of our residents is our primary concern. States and localities are at the forefront of public health crises, and COVID-19 is no different. As the situation evolves, states are incurring escalating costs in assisting the federal response to COVID-19. It is imperative that we have adequate resources and funding to respond to this rapidly developing public health emergency. Any appropriation must include the allocation of new federal funding for preventing and responding to COVID-19, backfill states for costs already incurred, and ensure that any monies transferred from existing programs be replenished.

Congress must assure states and territories that necessary resources will be provided to address the multitude of costs associated with a public health emergency. These include but are not limited to travel screening, isolation and quarantine related activities, transportation, lodging, increased staffing, National Guard personnel, testing and monitoring patients, public outreach, supplies, equipment, schools, and wrap-around services.

States and territories are relying on federal dollars to support state public health efforts to prevent and reduce the impact of COVID-19. We appreciate the state-federal coordination on the response thus far and look forward to working with both the Administration and Congress as the nation tackles this public health threat.

Sincerely,

From: David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 6:43 AM EDT
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
CC: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Subject: Gov. Edwards parking
GM Rafael and Omar.

I'll be the capitol this a.m. awaiting your arrival. Please keep my cell phone 225.315.6325 with you.

Let me know the make, model and plate of the vehicle that you are utilizing for special parking. Please include Alicia Williams, Senior Special Assistant to the Gov. She has us covered!

Thanks!

David Timoll
e|david.timoll@la.gov
p|225-342-2532
Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary
Louisiana Department of Health
www.twitter.com/ladepthealth
www.facebook.com/LaDeptHealth
www.youtube.com/user/MyHealthLa



From: "Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)" <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 7:51 AM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>, "Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH)" <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>, Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>, Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>, Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>, "Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH)" <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>, David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Please see the attached itinerary. Omar and I spoke yesterday regarding the changes to the press event. Let me know if there is anything I need to add.

Rafael

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Is there an updated itinerary? I spoke with OPH about the need to change our meeting around a little. The time is probably still okay, but given that we now have 6 presumptive positives, I know the Governor would want to either have some providers or potentially impacted Mayors with him.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2020, at 6:53 AM, Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

Best,
Jenn

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000384

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2020, at 5:47 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

- **3/12**
 - **Press event with Governor Edwards**
 - Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?
 - I'm sure Dr. Adams would appreciate a couple minutes alone with the Governor prior to the press event. Also, I think 30m would suffice for the press event. Happy to discuss further.
 - **Meeting with Mayor Broome**
 - I like the backgrounds of the attendees for the meeting, however I'd like to keep the meeting to 20 attendees max if possible. I also recommend trimming the meeting down to 1.5 hours rather than 2 full hours.
 - **Community walk with Dr. Eric Griggs**
 - Really like this addition. I trimmed it down to 30m. Would recommend no media because we will have coverage with the governor's press event and at the grand rounds. Dr. Griggs can promote via social media if he'd like.
 - Let us know if you think it would be a one-on-one or include med students/residents
- **3/13**
 - **Early Morning**
 - Main changes were I removed the Bacchanal visit. We're protecting the morning for media opportunities in New Orleans, which condenses the SG's availability.
 - **SSP Visit**
 - Recommend moving this to 10:00AM-10:45AM. I do think 45m is a pretty tight window for a tour and meeting. So it may feel rushed, but if we wrap up media we can add some time back if needed.
 - **OPH Leadership roundtable**
 - Is Ochsner Health System included? Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BP work. If so, I would still recommend maxing at 20 attendees total (in-person), but would want to include them.

OSG staff is 3 total:

- VADM Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General
- Lt. Dennis Anderson-Villaluz, Aide
- Rafael Campos, Division of External Engagement

Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000385

Rafael

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Thanks Rafael! We were discussing the location and think the Capitol may work best logistically. Christina, I know the Governor's Office suggested either option, so I will defer to you to confirm that choice.

We will work to firm up all other details on the press event ASAP.

I'm also attaching our edit of the proposed itinerary for the OSG visit. We are working to make a couple of the times work best for attendees (highlighted in yellow), and finalizing the day's last event on Thursday March 12. Do these events and details work for you? Of course we are able to provide any more specifics as needed, but wanted to start with this sketch.

Rafael, can you please confirm the number of people that will be traveling with the Surgeon General?

Happy to work with your office to coordinate anything else on this side.

Thanks,
Omar

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 11:45 AM
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

I've CC'd both Mia Heck and Jennifer Sherman from our public affairs team. Whenever you have a chance, please send over the write-up on the press event with Gov. Edwards taking place this Thursday, based on our conversation last week.

I spoke with the Surgeon General this morning and he perfectly fine with the briefing at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Thanks!
Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 4:06 PM
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Let's do 3:30 PM ET tomorrow. I'll send out a conference line.

Rafael

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael:

We have not coordinated with Mia. The governor's office and our LDH team are available to do a call

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000386

tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. ET or 3:30 p.m. ET. Please let me know your preference and we will get it scheduled and send out an invite.

Thank you!

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886

[<image001.jpg>](#)

[<image002.jpg>](#) [<image003.jpg>](#)[<image004.jpg>](#)

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Update,

So I was able to coordinate with Mia Heck. Tonya and Aly, you may have connected with Mia not too long ago. I was told she helped plan some work with your team when the Assistant Secretary for Health visited Louisiana. I'd be happy to schedule a call this afternoon or early tomorrow. Looks like there is a window today between 1pm-130pm ET, or tomorrow between 1230pm-230pm or after 330pm ET.

Let me know if any of those times work and I can set up a conference line.

Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Alex,

Thanks for your note.

I'm sorting some things out internally and hope to have an answer shortly. I just found out this morning that Jenn Sherman, our Director of Public Affairs at OSG, is out of the office today and tomorrow. Her deputy is helping the Assistant Secretary for Health with comm support this week. So I'm checking with the Department to see if there is someone else from comms that can take her place to help facilitate the press event on our end while she's out. Jenn returns to the office on Monday, but I'd like to finalize this sooner if possible.

I know they're pretty backed up with media request so it'll take some maneuvering on my end. I'm happy to chat with Tonya and Aly in the interim and forward any press details to a new department point of contact once I've identified them.

I apologize for the inconvenience and hope to reach back out shortly.

Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I am following up to connect you to Tonya Joiner, the Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Department of
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000387

Health. She is coordinating with the Governor's Office and so will need contact information to coordinate with you and ASPA for a potential press event.

Thanks,
Alex

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 3, 2020, at 10:13 AM, Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

So there may be some changes to the SG's availability given his involvement with the President's Coronavirus Task Force. I should know more tomorrow, but there are 3 options that I'm aware of:

1. Same schedule, but include some media opportunities for COVID-19 throughout the trip
2. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, participates in SRNT at 1:30 PM then departs back to DC.
3. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, SRNT moves his session earlier in the day so he can make an afternoon briefing in DC

I wanted to throw this on your radar for awareness. A question the team brought up was whether Gov. Edwards would be available Friday morning for some media? If so, Aly, I'd want to connect you with our public affairs team to work out those details as soon as possible, given our approval process extends outside of the department for COVID-19 activities.

Once again, I'll know more tomorrow but wanted to share.

Best,
Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 5:46 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 10:36 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: GOVERNOR-ONLY INVITE: Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Dear Governor and Governor's Senior Staff,

Our Nation's Governors are invited to a **Governors-only Briefing Call with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 2, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19.

Participation in this call is for governors only. We encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19, but the call interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.

Briefing Call Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 2, 2020
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- **Expected Length:** 30 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder:** Participation in this call is for governors only. While we are allowing governors to be joined by their relevant cabinet members and key state officials (in the room with the governor – i.e. one call-in per state), only governors will be allowed to actively participate in the briefing.

RSVP & Dial-In Information – Deadline to RSVP is Saturday, February 29 at 5:00 p.m.

To RSVP your governor, email Nic Pottebaum with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Saturday, February 29 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.** Once you RSVP your governor, you will receive call-in information and guidance.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 2:23 PM EST
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: HHS Announces Initial Funding to Jurisdictions Supporting COVID-19 Response

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Partner –

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is [announcing upcoming action](#) to provide initial resources to a limited number of state and local jurisdictions in support of our nation's response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

“State and local governments are the backbone of our public health system. They have been essential partners in the ongoing work to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the United States,” said HHS Secretary Alex Azar. “The Trump Administration is acting swiftly through every avenue we have to ensure state and local governments have the support they need to combat this outbreak.”

“CDC is committed to working with state, local, tribal and territorial public health departments to mitigate community spread of novel coronavirus in this nation,” said CDC Director Robert R. Redfield, M.D. “Our partners are on the front lines of this response and we support their efforts to increase needed public health capacity to confront the challenges this virus presents.”

Using funds provided to CDC through the HHS Secretary's Transfer, CDC will:

- Award an initial \$25 million cooperative agreement to the states and local jurisdictions who have borne the largest burden of response and preparedness activities to date. This is an initial award for those jurisdictions who require immediate assistance for activities such as monitoring of travelers, data management, lab equipment, supplies, staffing, shipping, infection control, and surge staffing. Once supplemental funding is provided, support will be provided to all states and local jurisdictions for a variety of critical public health activities.
- Award an initial \$10 million cooperative agreement to state and local jurisdictions to begin implementation of coronavirus surveillance across the U.S., building on existing influenza activities and other surveillance systems. This initial award is for a limited number of jurisdictions. Once supplemental funding is provided, additional support will be provided to all states and local jurisdictions to enhancing testing and surveillance.

CDC will use existing networks to reach out to state and local jurisdictions to access this initial funding.

For more information about COVID-19, please visit CDC's website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 2:22 PM EST
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From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 3:55 PM EDT
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: HHS Releases Funding and Other Resources for COVID-19

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The \$8.3 billion dollar Supplemental passed by Congress included [statutory language](#) which prescribed the exact formula for disbursing the money: states will receive 90% of their [2019 CDC PHEP grants](#). This marks the first tranche of funding to states from the \$8.3 billion supplemental. Today, CDC is contacting State Health Officers to move forward with awarding over \$560 million to states, localities, territories, and tribes. CDC will use existing networks to reach out to state and local jurisdictions to access this initial funding. To view the list of CDC funding actions to jurisdictions, click [here](#).

Helping Communities Know Mitigation Strategies

Yesterday, CDC released their "[Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#)." Essentially, this is a guide for communities describing possible mitigation strategies for communities dealing with transmission at three different levels: (1) None/Minimal, (2) Moderate, or (3) Substantial. Community mitigation strategies, which are non-pharmaceutical interventions, are often the most available interventions to help slow the transmission of COVID-19 in communities. The Mitigation Plans include a set of actions that persons and communities can take to slow the spread of respiratory virus infections. The Community Mitigation Plan can be found [here](#).

Guidance on Infection Control For Healthcare Workers

Yesterday, CDC released updated guidance on infection prevention and control recommendations. Healthcare workers are fighting this outbreak on the front lines, and this guidance is intended to provide assistance to healthcare settings that are handling suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. This guidance is applicable to all U.S. healthcare settings, but not for non-healthcare settings. There is separate guidance for that. The new guidance on infection control can be found [here](#).

Guidance on Laboratories

The CDC has been actively working to address the need for testing across the country. In addition to public health laboratories, private labs are doing testing. In addition to reviewing the [Updated Guidance on Evaluating and Testing Persons for Coronavirus Disease 2019](#), the CDC recently updated the [FAQ website for laboratories](#), and we encourage you to read through the site to answer preliminary questions, though we stand ready to answer other questions that you may have.

OMB Flexibilities

On March 9, 2020, OMB issued a memo that provides administrative relief for recipients and applicants of Federal financial assistance who are directly impacted by COVID-19. The grant flexibilities include 10 actions that HHS can take to provide short-term administrative and financial management relief, allowing funds to be awarded quicker and giving grantees the ability to focus on their critical response, research, or services. More information can be found [here](#).

General Preparation Information

On March 9, 2020, the White House Coronavirus Task Force released practical steps that we recommend posting and sharing to keep workplaces, school, home and commercial establishments safe. This information can be found [here](#).

As the President, the Vice President, and the entire White House team continue to stress, the COVID-19 response is a whole-of-government effort. Each department has a number of specific resources. We encourage you to explore those resources as necessary to respond to the situation in your communities.

If you have any questions on these items or other issues, please feel free to reach out.

Thanks,

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000392

Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 3:56 PM EDT
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: HHS Releases Funding and Other Resources for COVID-19

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Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000394

Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 10:04 PM EST
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: HHS Statement on Coronavirus Supplemental Request

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Partner –

Please find below HHS’s statement on the coronavirus supplemental request.

“The Administration has been effectively utilizing all available resources to protect the American people from COVID-19. Today, the White House sent a supplemental request to Congress to make \$2.5 billion available for COVID-19 response efforts, including an emergency supplemental appropriation of \$1.25 billion. HHS will also use the Secretary’s transfer authority to provide needed resources to continue the Department’s robust and multi-layered public health preparedness and response efforts – including public health surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory testing, support for state and local governments and other key partners, advanced research and development of new vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, advanced manufacturing enhancements, and support for the Strategic National Stockpile.”

Read the letter here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Coronavirus-Supplemental-Request-Letter-Final.pdf>

Please let us know if there are any questions.

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 10:42 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: HIGHLIGHTS | President Trump and Members of the Coronavirus Task Force Hold a News Conference

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State Leaders and Staff,

This evening, President Donald J. Trump and members of the Coronavirus Task Force briefed reporters on the extensive efforts underway to continue effectively combatting coronavirus. You can see the full video the news conference [here](#). Below you find highlights from that news conference.

During the news conference, Vice President Mike Pence noted the State and local partnership saying, “And we’ll also be continuing to reach out to governors, state and local officials. In fact, in the recent days, the White House met with over forty state, county and city health officials from over 30 states and territories to discuss how to respond to this -- to the potential threat of the coronavirus.”

You can find Secretary Alex Azar’s remarks at the February 25th HHS press briefing on the Administration’s response to COVID-19 [here](#).

You can find the latest information at [CDC.gov](#). CDC’s Twitter account is also a great resource to echo – you can find it here: [twitter.com/CDCgov](#).



[Source](#)

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THE PRESIDENT’S AGGRESSIVE RESPONSE

- PRESIDENT TRUMP: “Because of all we’ve done, the risk to the American people remains very low. We have the greatest experts in the world, really in the world, right here. The people that are called upon by other countries when things like this happen. We’re ready to adapt and we’re ready to do whatever we have to as the disease spreads, if it spreads.”
- VICE PRESIDENT PENCE: “President Trump’s made clear from the first days of this Administration, we have no higher priority than the safety, security, health and well-being of the American people. And from the first word of an outbreak of the coronavirus, the President took unprecedented steps to protect the American people from the spread of this disease.”

- HHS SECRETARY AZAR: “The President’s early and decisive actions – including travel restrictions – have succeeded in buying us incredibly valuable time. This has helped us contain the spread of the virus, handle the cases that we have, and prepare for the possibility that we will need to mitigate broader spread of infections within the United States. The President’s actions taken with the strong support of his scientific advisers have proven to be appropriate, wise, and well-calibrated to the situation.”

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE

- PRESIDENT TRUMP: “I’m going to be putting our Vice President Mike Pence in charge and Mike will be working with the professionals – doctors and everybody else that’s working. The team is brilliant. I spent a lot of time with the team over the last couple of weeks. But they’re totally brilliant and we’re doing really well, and Mike is going to be in charge. And Mike will report back to me.”
- VICE PRESIDENT PENCE: “My role will be to continue to bring that team together, to bring to the President the best options for action to see to the safety and well-being and health of the American people. And we’ll also be continuing to reach out to governors, state and local officials. In fact, in the recent days, the White House met with over forty state, county and city health officials from over 30 states and territories to discuss how to respond to this -- to the potential threat of the coronavirus.”
- VICE PRESIDENT PENCE: “We’ll also be working with members of Congress to ensure that the resources are available for this whole of government response and we will be working very closely with Secretary Azar and his team that have done an outstanding job communicating to the public to ensure the American people have the best information on ways to protect themselves and their families and also that the public has the most timely information on the potential threat to the American people.”
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- PRESIDENT TRUMP: “Of the fifteen people – the original fifteen, as I call them – eight of them have returned to their homes, to stay in their homes, until fully recovered. One is in the hospital. And five have fully recovered. And one is, we think in pretty good shape. And that’s in-between hospital and going home. So we have a total of -- but we have a total of fifteen people and they’re in the process of recovering, with some already having fully recovered.”

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- PRESIDENT TRUMP: “But we’re very, very ready for this – for anything – whether it’s going to be a breakout of larger proportions or whether or not we’re, you know, we’re at that very low level. And we want to keep it that way.”
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Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000398

White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 10:42 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Subject: HIGHLIGHTS | President Trump and Members of the Coronavirus Task Force Hold a News Conference

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From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 11:25 AM EDT
To: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITATION: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 12) at 2:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State and Local Leaders,

On **Thursday, March 12, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time**, please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 (coronavirus) regarding President Trump issuing a proclamation under section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to restrict travel to the United States from foreign nationals who have recently been in certain European countries. Additional details can be found below. We will also provide an update on implementing mitigation strategies for communities with local COVID-transmission ([A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#)).

Briefing Call Registration on 212(f) & Community Mitigation Strategies

- **Date:** Today, Thursday, March 11
- **Time:** 2:00 PM ET (please note time zone)
- **Call-In Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Note:** You must RSVP to join the call. Upon successful registration, you will receive dial-in details to the email address you use to register. Note that multiple people cannot dial-in using the same registration information.

Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Zach

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Zach Swint
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
The White House
C: (202) 881-6717 | E: Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond to The Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety Of Americans

"Together we are putting into policy a plan to prevent, detect, treat and create a vaccine against coronavirus to save lives in America and the world. America will get it done!" – President Donald J. Trump

President Donald J. Trump signed a Presidential Proclamation, which suspends the entry of most foreign nationals who have been in certain European countries at any point during the 14 days prior to their scheduled arrival to the United States. These countries, known as the Schengen Area, include: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. This does not apply to legal permanent residents, (generally) immediate family members of U.S. citizens, and other individuals who are identified in the proclamation.

Statement from DHS Acting Secretary Chad F. Wolf: "Protecting the American people from threats to their safety is the most important job of the President of the United States. The actions President Trump is taking to deny entry to foreign nationals who have been in affected areas will keep Americans safe and save American lives. I applaud the president for making this tough but necessary decision. While these new travel restrictions will be disruptive to some travelers, this decisive action is needed to protect the American public from further exposure to the potentially deadly coronavirus. In January and February, the Administration issued similar travel restrictions on individuals who had been in China and Iran. That action proved to be effective in slowing the spread of the virus to the U.S., while public health officials prepared. In the next 48 hours, in the interest of public health, I intend to issue a supplemental Notice of Arrivals Restriction requiring U.S. passengers that have been in the Schengen Area to travel through select airports where the U.S. Government has implemented enhanced screening procedures."

RESTRICTING TRAVEL FROM IMPACTED AREAS: President Donald J. Trump is taking further action to curb the spread of the coronavirus to the United States from other countries.

- President Trump is issuing a proclamation under section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to restrict travel to

the United States from foreign nationals who have recently been in certain European countries.

- o Section 212(f) of the INA only applies to the movement of human beings, not goods or cargo.
- The restriction applies to foreign nationals who have been in the Schengen Area, 26 countries in Europe with open borders agreements, in the last 14 days.
- Those who are exempt from these restrictions, such as American citizens, will be directed to a limited number of airports where screening can take place.
- There is extensive travel back and forth between Europe that heightens the risk here in the United States.

LOOKING OUT FOR AMERICAN BUSINESSES AND WORKERS: President Donald J. Trump is committed to protecting American businesses and workers from the impacts of coronavirus.

- The President is announcing an economic assistance package to help support businesses and workers who have been harmed by this outbreak.
- President Trump has instructed the Small Business Administration (SBA) to exercise available authority to provide loans to businesses affected by the coronavirus.
 - o These loans will help overcome disruptions caused by the coronavirus.
 - o The President is calling on Congress to increase funding for this program by an additional \$50 billion.
- The President will be instructing the Department of the Treasury to defer tax payments for certain individuals and businesses negatively impacted by the coronavirus.
 - o This action will provide more than \$200 billion of additional liquidity to the economy.
- President Trump is calling on Congress to immediately pass payroll tax relief.
- The President announced that he will soon be taking emergency action to provide financial relief for workers who are ill, quarantined, or caring for others due to the coronavirus.
 - o The President also called on Congress to take action to extend this relief for workers.

LEADING AN AGGRESSIVE, WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH: President Trump has taken unprecedented steps to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus.

- The President is leveraging all of our resources to respond to the coronavirus, bringing together government and private industry in a collaborative response.
- The Trump Administration declared a public health emergency in January to bolster response efforts.
- President Trump took early action to help curb the spread of the virus from other countries to the United States, providing important time for response and preparations.
 - o In January, President Trump acted quickly to restrict travel from foreign nationals traveling from China.
 - o In February, the President restricted travel for individuals recently traveling from Iran.
 - o The Administration put into place mandatory screening for all travelers coming into the country from Italy and South Korea.
 - o Travel advisories for severely impacted areas like Italy and South Korea have been raised to their highest level.
- Today, the President directed his Administration to make general-use face masks available to our healthcare workers.
 - o The Administration's actions will help make millions of general-use respirators available to keep healthcare workers safe and mitigate transmission of the virus.
- President Trump signed into law more than \$8 billion to fund response efforts.
- The Administration has taken bold steps to incentivize the development of therapeutics and vaccines to treat and prevent the spread of the coronavirus.
- Working across the public and private sectors, the Trump Administration continues to drastically expand testing capacity.
 - o More than 1 million tests have been distributed nationwide, with another 4 million tests being shipped out by the end of the week.
 - o Testing is now available in every State lab in the country and commercial labs are now deploying tests, which will help generate a dramatic increase in availability.
- The Trump Administration has released guidance on how to keep businesses, schools, community gathering places, and families safe.
 - o From the start, President Trump has made keeping the public informed a top priority.
- The Administration has announced that health plans with health savings accounts will be able to cover coronavirus testing and treatment without co-payments.

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Earlier this morning, Vice President Pence joined Good Morning America, The Today Show, Fox & Friends, New Day, and CBS This Morning to discuss the steps that this administration is taking to combat the coronavirus.

ON ABC's GOOD MORNING AMERICA



WATCH [HERE](#).

From very early on, President Trump took decisive action to put the health of the American people first.

“We all have known from the beginning that the coronavirus would continue to spread across this country, and it’s one of the reasons why, from very early on, President Trump took decisive action to put the health of the American people first, not only declaring a public health emergency in January, but in that same month he suspended all travel from China -- an unprecedented move -- and quarantined Americans that were returning from the region. Since that time, George, we’ve -- we’ve issued travel advisories for areas of South Korea, Italy; screened all persons coming on direct flights. But, frankly, as we watched the epicenter of the coronavirus shift from China and South Korea to Europe, the President thought it was proper for us to impose a 30-day suspension on all travel from continental Europe.”

The President, again, made another unprecedented decision in suspending all travel from Europe, because we want to stop the flow of people bringing the coronavirus here.

“The reality is that, really, just two weeks ago, in Italy, there were less than 500 cases and now there’s 12,000 cases in Italy, George. We have tens of thousands of people that travel to the United States from Europe every day. Seventy percent of new cases in the world were in Europe. And when we looked yesterday at the -- what was then the 35 states where we had cases, about 30 of them could be traced to contacts with Europe. And so the President, again, made another unprecedented decision in suspending all travel from Europe, because we essentially want -- we essentially want to stop the flow of people bringing the coronavirus here, but then continuing to surge resources, particularly into California, Washington State, New York, and other communities where we’ve seen community spread. It’s a combination of efforts that’s being driven by the top health experts in the world on our task force. But the President -- the President showed again yesterday a willingness to take decisive action on multiple levels to protect the American people.”

We want to send a very clear message to Americans that if for any reason you believe you've been exposed to the coronavirus, you should not be worried about the cost of testing or treatment.

“We’re making steady progress. We’re going to continue to make a very clear message to Americans that if for any reason you believe you’ve been exposed to the coronavirus or you have symptoms, we don’t want people to be worried about the cost of testing, to be worried about the cost of treatment... As the President made clear last night, we’re working with Congress and exploring actions the President can take to make sure that hourly wage earners know that you can stay home without risking losing a paycheck or losing your job if you feel if you feel that you’ve been exposed to the coronavirus.”

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From early on in this effort, we have addressed the testing issue. We made changes through the FDA that allowed for state labs and hospitals to engage in testing.

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000405

labs and university hospitals and hospitals to engage in testing. And I'm pleased to report every state lab in America can do testing now. Many university laboratories are doing it. Washington State – the University of Washington is doing extraordinary work. but we are literally working hour by hour to expand the testing and we think the key Savannah is going to be what we call commercial laboratories like LabCorp and Quest who are already spinning up production at the president's direction last week on tests that can be available on a broad basis in the days ahead for the American people. we're making real progress but rest assured we're going to continue to drive forward.”

The American people should know that President Trump has no higher priority than the health, safety and well-being of the American people.

“The American people should know that President Trump has no higher priority than the health and safety and wellbeing of the people in this country. You can go to coronavirus.gov right now to find out what every American can do to keep yourself, your family, your workplace and your school safe. But you can rest assured we're going to focus on communities where we've had community spread, and the President's action yesterday suspending travel from Europe is one more example of how he's putting the health of America first.”

ON FOX NEWS' FOX & FRIENDS



WATCH [HERE](#) AND [HERE](#).

The President has called this a whole-of-government approach, but he has also called this is a whole-of-America approach.

“The President, you know, he said this was a whole-of-government approach but he also said this is a whole-of-America approach. So he's brought in business leaders from nursing homes; yesterday, banking; hospitals, and the rest. But one of the things we did that's most important on testing was the President brought in the leaders of the top commercial laboratories in the country who, as we speak, have already approved a test that is being spun up. It's being sent out to market. Quest, LabCorp, the largest commercial laboratories in the country, are working very closely with our administration. We're clearing the red tape out of the way. That's going to be the way that, in the days ahead, we're going to -- we're going to have broad-based testing available all across the country.”

We are working together to contain the spread of the coronavirus. And we will get through this.

“Our goal, as the coronavirus spreads in this country -- and the vast majority who would contract it will have flu-like symptoms and recover. Our goal nonetheless is to hold down that overall number as much as possible. And we will do that with the continuing cooperation of American families, schools, businesses, and states. And that's the vision President Trump has. All of us working together will get through this.”

We are focusing on supporting efforts at the state and local level in Washington State, and in California. CDC issued strong guidelines for those communities about public activities, large gatherings and at schools. We will continue simply to follow the data on this.

“Make no mistake about it: We are also focusing on supporting efforts at the state and local level in California, in Washington State, and in California. CDC issued very strong guidelines for those communities about public activities, large gatherings, schools. And we'll continue simply to follow the data on this and make strong recommendations where we have what's known as “community spread. But for every American, right now, as the President said last night, it's a good time to use common sense. Wash your hands often. Clean, you know, often-used surfaces. All that information is available at Coronavirus.gov. So we're going to try and mitigate the spread in this country but also prevent, through the President's decisive action last night, people from bringing the coronavirus into the United States any further from Europe.”

We are encouraging best practices for every American. We are focusing on communities where we have community spread.

“I want to say to your viewers, just as the President said last night, the risk to the average American of contracting the coronavirus remains low, but we do know that seniors with serious underlying chronic health conditions are particularly vulnerable to very serious outcomes. And so we're encouraging best practices for every American. We're focusing on communities where we have community spread.”

Those with a family member who is a senior citizen should support them in engaging in good hygiene and good health practices.

“For any American that's watching today that has a family member or a loved one who's a senior citizen with a serious underlying health condition, this is a very good time to help and to support them to be able to avoid public places, and everyone around them to engage in good hygiene and good practices to protect those that are most vulnerable.”

ON CNN's NEW DAY



WATCH [HERE](#) AND [HERE](#).

We have been meeting with industry leaders in one relevant industry after another to ensure that the full resources of America are being brought to bear.

“We're not doing a travel ban as our strategy. The suspending all travel for 30 days from Europe is a part of the strategy. The other part is an aggressive mitigation strategy. I spoke to the governors of New York, Washington State, and California tomorrow -- or yesterday. CDC issued strong guidance to those areas where we have community spread. We've flowed resources. We've flowed support to those areas. And so it's a combination of strategies that the President has employed here. As he says, it's “all hands on deck,” “a whole-of-government approach,” but it's also a whole-of-America approach. We've literally been meeting with industry leaders in one relevant industry after another to ensure that the full resources of America are being brought to bear.”

Any American who is concerned about being exposed to the coronavirus, should call their doctor and get tested.

“Anyone who's looking on today who might be concerned that they were exposed to coronavirus or have symptoms should call their doctor. Their doctor, with any question, can call their state laboratory and be able to find out how they can have a test processed.”

We are making steady progress. We don't want anybody to avoid having a test because they are concerned financially.

“But make no mistake about it: We're making steady progress. We've made changes at the FDA in January, at the President's direction. And the American people can be confident we're going to continue to roll out the test. And maybe most significant on that score is that the President brought health insurance companies in last week and they all agreed to waive the co-pays on testing. We expanded testing to Medicare and Medicaid patients. And we also expanded coverage for treatment, and health insurance companies expanded coverage for treatment. We don't want anybody to avoid having a test because they're concerned financially.”

The risk to the average American remains low.

“I want people to know that the risk to contracting the coronavirus, according to all of our experts, for the average American remains low. Most people that contract it, will have flu-like symptoms and recover.”

ON CBS This Morning



WATCH [HERE](#).

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000407

We are going to continue to put in every effort in place to protect the health and safety of the American people.

“The President took the unprecedented step of suspending all travel from China which was the originating country of this virus. We also established travel advisories, and we've been screening passengers on all direct flights from South Korea and Italy. But with the epicenter of this epidemic now moving from China and South Korea to Europe, yesterday the President again took the unprecedented step of suspending all travel from Europe for the next 30 days, and that in combination with our strong mitigation efforts in communities that are experiencing what our experts call community spread, areas of California, Washington State, and New York, we're going to continue to put every effort at home and with regard to these travel restrictions in place to protect the health and safety of the American people.”

In the days ahead, we are going to continue to see the availability of tests at your local doctor and your local pharmacy expand.

“Testing is happening in every state lab in the country. Many university hospitals have taken the FDA test, like the University of Washington, is doing a great job expanding testing capabilities. But the biggest piece on the testing is that our commercial labs that the President brought in last week, companies like Quest and LabCorp, have already had approved a new test that they several days ago had begun to take to market which they can do in a vast and expansive way across the country. And literally in the days ahead, we're going to continue to see the availability of tests at your local doctor, ultimately at your local pharmacy, continue to expand.”

When President Trump learned that 70% of the new cases this week, around the world, were in Europe, he took decisive action to protect the American people.

“Make no mistake about it: All the new cases in the world, this week, 70% of the new cases were in Europe. And the increase has been dramatic. When the President imposed the travel advisory and we began screening all flights, all passengers coming into the United States from Italy two weeks ago, there were roughly 500 coronavirus cases. Now there's 12,000, about 1,000 in Germany, about 1,000 in France. That's the reason why the President essentially said full stop, we're going to suspend all travel, and that American citizens coming home and legal residents will be funneled through 13 different airports. They'll get an initial health screening coming in. But we're going to ask everyone returning to our country to self-quarantine for 14 days.”

From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
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To: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
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WATCH [HERE](#) AND [HERE](#).

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“Our goal, as the coronavirus spreads in this country -- and the vast majority who would contract it will have flu-like symptoms and recover. Our goal nonetheless is to hold down that overall number as much as possible. And we will do that with the continuing cooperation of American families, schools, businesses, and states. And that's the vision President Trump has. All of us working together will get through this.”

We are focusing on supporting efforts at the state and local level in Washington State, and in California. CDC issued strong guidelines for those communities about public activities, large gatherings and at schools. We will continue simply to follow the data on this.

“Make no mistake about it: We are also focusing on supporting efforts at the state and local level in California, in Washington State, and in California. CDC issued very strong guidelines for those communities about public activities, large gatherings, schools. And we'll continue simply to follow the data on this and make strong recommendations where we have what's known as “community spread. But for every American, right now, as the President said last night, it's a good time to use common sense. Wash your hands often. Clean, you know, often-used surfaces. All that information is available at Coronavirus.gov. So we're going to try and mitigate the spread in this country but also prevent, through the President's decisive action last night, people from bringing the coronavirus into the United States any further from Europe.”

We are encouraging best practices for every American. We are focusing on communities where we have community spread.

“I want to say to your viewers, just as the President said last night, the risk to the average American of contracting the coronavirus remains low, but we do know that seniors with serious underlying chronic health conditions are particularly vulnerable to very serious outcomes. And so we're encouraging best practices for every American. We're focusing on communities where we have community spread.”

Those with a family member who is a senior citizen should support them in engaging in good hygiene and good health practices.

“For any American that's watching today that has a family member or a loved one who's a senior citizen with a serious underlying health condition, this is a very good time to help and to support them to be able to avoid public places, and everyone around them to engage in good hygiene and good practices to protect those that are most vulnerable.”

ON CNN's NEW DAY



WATCH [HERE](#) AND [HERE](#).

We have been meeting with industry leaders in one relevant industry after another to ensure that the full resources of America are being brought to bear.

“We're not doing a travel ban as our strategy. The suspending all travel for 30 days from Europe is a part of the strategy. The other part is an aggressive mitigation strategy. I spoke to the governors of New York, Washington State, and California tomorrow -- or yesterday. CDC issued strong guidance to those areas where we have community spread. We've flowed resources. We've flowed support to those areas. And so it's a combination of strategies that the President has employed here. As he says, it's “all hands on deck,” “a whole-of-government approach,” but it's also a whole-of-America approach. We've literally been meeting with industry leaders in one relevant industry after another to ensure that the full resources of America are being brought to bear.”

Any American who is concerned about being exposed to the coronavirus, should call their doctor and get tested.

“Anyone who's looking on today who might be concerned that they were exposed to coronavirus or have symptoms should call their doctor. Their doctor, with any question, can call their state laboratory and be able to find out how they can have a test processed.”

We are making steady progress. We don't want anybody to avoid having a test because they are concerned financially.

“But make no mistake about it: We're making steady progress. We've made changes at the FDA in January, at the President's direction. And the American people can be confident we're going to continue to roll out the test. And maybe most significant on that score is that the President brought health insurance companies in last week and they all agreed to waive the co-pays on testing. We expanded testing to Medicare and Medicaid patients. And we also expanded coverage for treatment, and health insurance companies expanded coverage for treatment. We don't want anybody to avoid having a test because they're concerned financially.”

The risk to the average American remains low.

“I want people to know that the risk to contracting the coronavirus, according to all of our experts, for the average American remains low. Most people that contract it, will have flu-like symptoms and recover.”

ON CBS This Morning



WATCH [HERE](#).

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000413

We are going to continue to put in every effort in place to protect the health and safety of the American people.

“The President took the unprecedented step of suspending all travel from China which was the originating country of this virus. We also established travel advisories, and we've been screening passengers on all direct flights from South Korea and Italy. But with the epicenter of this epidemic now moving from China and South Korea to Europe, yesterday the President again took the unprecedented step of suspending all travel from Europe for the next 30 days, and that in combination with our strong mitigation efforts in communities that are experiencing what our experts call community spread, areas of California, Washington State, and New York, we're going to continue to put every effort at home and with regard to these travel restrictions in place to protect the health and safety of the American people.”

In the days ahead, we are going to continue to see the availability of tests at your local doctor and your local pharmacy expand.

“Testing is happening in every state lab in the country. Many university hospitals have taken the FDA test, like the University of Washington, is doing a great job expanding testing capabilities. But the biggest piece on the testing is that our commercial labs that the President brought in last week, companies like Quest and LabCorp, have already had approved a new test that they several days ago had begun to take to market which they can do in a vast and expansive way across the country. And literally in the days ahead, we're going to continue to see the availability of tests at your local doctor, ultimately at your local pharmacy, continue to expand.”

When President Trump learned that 70% of the new cases this week, around the world, were in Europe, he took decisive action to protect the American people.

“Make no mistake about it: All the new cases in the world, this week, 70% of the new cases were in Europe. And the increase has been dramatic. When the President imposed the travel advisory and we began screening all flights, all passengers coming into the United States from Italy two weeks ago, there were roughly 500 coronavirus cases. Now there's 12,000, about 1,000 in Germany, about 1,000 in France. That's the reason why the President essentially said full stop, we're going to suspend all travel, and that American citizens coming home and legal residents will be funneled through 13 different airports. They'll get an initial health screening coming in. But we're going to ask everyone returning to our country to self-quarantine for 14 days.”

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 7:02 PM EDT
Subject: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State and Local Leaders –

On **Wednesday, March 11, at 1:00 PM ET**, please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 (coronavirus). If you would like to join, registration instructions and additional background information are below. Please feel free to share this invitation with your county and/or municipal colleagues as well as public health officials.

Briefing Call Registration

Date: Wednesday, March 11

Time: 1:00 PM ET (please note time zone)

Call-In Registration: [CLICK HERE](#)

Note: You must RSVP to join the call. Upon successful registration, you will receive dial-in details to the email address you use to register. Note that multiple people cannot dial-in using the same registration information.

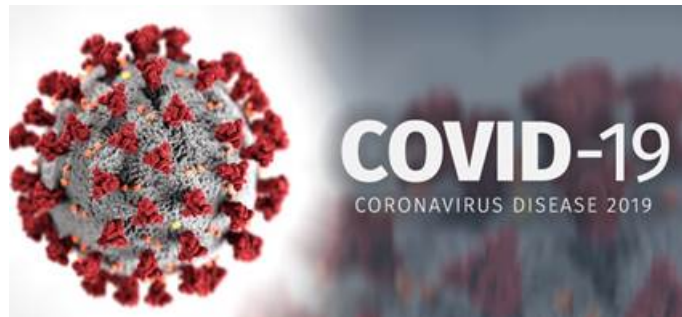
Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance. As a reminder, WH IGA is the primary liaison between the White House and the country's State and local elected officials and Tribal Governments.

Sincerely,

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Olivia Imhoff
Deputy Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
C: 202-881-7466

Background & Additional Information



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: **The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#). The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live: [HERE](#). You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.**

- What You Should Know ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000415

- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information: Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittany@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000416

addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
- Establishing the White House task force to combat the coronavirus spread. The Task Force is coordinating and marshalling the full resources and capabilities of the Federal government to respond to the coronavirus.
- Forging relationships and collaboration between the public and private sectors.
- Remained in close contact with our Nation's governors and other key stakeholders.
- *The Washington Times*: [Thanks to Trump Administration, the United States has a Coronavirus Plan of Action](#).
- *Dr. Marc Siegel*: [Coronavirus Public Health Response Has Been Handled Well](#)

While the overall threat to the American public remains low, the President has directed the White House Task Force to take all steps to ensure the health and well-being of the American people and we are well-prepared.

- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.
- There are good tried and true hygiene practices which can be very effective to reduce the chance of getting sick.
- Travelers are encouraged to always exercise healthy travel habits when traveling and to follow appropriate guidance ([see here](#)). At this time, there are no domestic travel restrictions in the United States.
- We are working rapidly on therapeutics and vaccines and have launched the first U.S. clinical trial for an investigational antiviral.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. Between March 2nd and 5th, more than 900,000 tests were distributed across the country.
- The United States has the finest public health system in the world and knows the playbook to respond to infectious disease outbreaks.

Local, State, tribal, & Federal coordinated preparedness & response efforts.

- Federal officials have been working diligently to communicate with State, local, and tribal officials on the Federal government's efforts to prepare and respond to COVID-1.
- Our Nation's Governors have participated in-person and on conference call briefings with Federal partners on January 30, February 9, February 20 and March 2. These communications remain ongoing.
- White House, OMB, HHS, DHS, DOT, and State Department Officials met with over 40 State, county, and city health officials from over 30 States and territories to thank them for their leadership and to continue discussions on the Federal-State-Local partnership to prepare and respond to COVID-19 (February 25).
- HHS, CDC, DHS, and Federal partners have held numerous national briefing calls with State, local, tribal, private-sector, and community leaders.
- The Trump Administration is partnering with State, local, and tribal elected and appointed leaders' associations.

Recent Actions: Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:33 PM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 13) at 7:30 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State and Local Leaders,

Please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 preparedness, response, and mitigation efforts **TONIGHT (Friday, March 13) at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time.**

Important Note: *Call-in lines will be limited due to quick around to setting up the briefing call. State and local leaders (especially staff) working in the same office are encouraged to dial-in using one call-in line to maximize the number of people who can join (e.g., governors staff in the same location are encouraged to call-in using one call-in registration).*

Briefing Call Registration

- **Date:** TODAY, Friday, March 13
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time (please note time zone)
- **Call-In Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Note:** You must RSVP to join the call. Upon successful registration, you will receive dial-in details to the email address you use to register. Note that multiple people cannot dial-in using the same registration information.

Press Advisory – President Donald J. Trump Directs FEMA Support Under Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 (PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION HERE)

The federal government continues to take aggressive and proactive steps to address the COVID-19 threat as the health and safety of the American people remain a top priority.

Today, President Trump [declared](#) a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”). This increases federal support to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in its role as the lead federal agency for the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response. As a result of the President’s decisive, unprecedented action, FEMA is directed to assist state, local, tribal, territorial governments and other eligible entities with the health and safety actions they take on behalf of the American public. Today’s declaration does not make direct financial assistance available to individuals.

The emergency declaration does not change measures authorized under other federal statutes and HHS remains the lead federal agency directing the federal response to COVID-19. FEMA actions will be in support of HHS and in coordination with state, tribal and territorial governments. Eligible emergency protective measures taken at the direction or guidance of public health officials in response to this emergency, and not supported by the authorities of another federal agency, will be reimbursed strictly under the FEMA Public Assistance program. FEMA assistance will be provided at a 75 percent Federal cost share. Reimbursable activities typically include emergency protective measures such as the activation of State Emergency Operations Centers, National Guard costs, law enforcement and other measures necessary to protect public health and safety.

Presidential Message to the Congress on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak (March 13, 2020) (PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE HERE)

“Pursuant to section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), I hereby report that I have exercised my authority to declare that the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the United States constitutes a national emergency. This declaration invokes section 1135 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1320b–5, to allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to exercise the authority under that section to temporarily waive or modify certain requirements of the Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children’s Health Insurance programs and of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Rule throughout the duration of the public health emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.”

Memorandum on Expanding State-Approved Diagnostic Tests (FULL MEMORANDUM HERE)

“By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows: It is the policy of the United States to take proactive measures to prepare for and respond to public health threats, including the public health emergency involving Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), which was declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (the “Secretary”) on January 31, 2020, pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d). Our response must include heightened coordination among Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies, and we must offer States the flexibility they need to care for their citizens. In accordance with this principle, the Food and Drug Administration, in coordination with the State of New York, allowed the State flexibility in expediting State-approved COVID-19 testing. Should additional States request flexibility to authorize laboratories within the State to develop and perform tests used to detect COVID-19, the Secretary

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000418

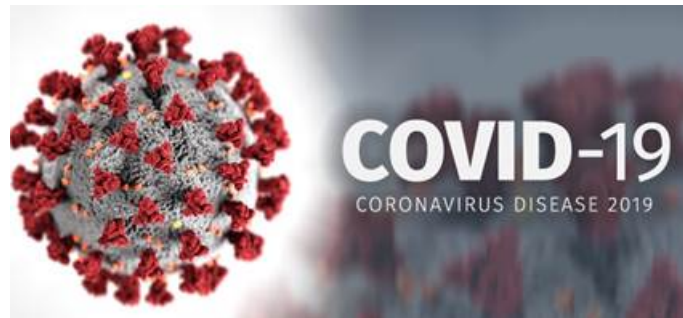
shall take appropriate action, consistent with law, to facilitate the request.”

Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information



Background

Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Since the beginning of the outbreak, President Trump has taken unprecedented steps – including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy – to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response ([President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond To the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans](#)). The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk to the average American remains low. All agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information

- The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website ([here](#))
- HHS/CDC Community Framework for Mitigation ([here](#))
- Guidance for families, businesses, schools and others ([here](#)).
- The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live ([here](#))
- You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

What You Need To Know

- What You Should Know - How COVID-19 Spreads, Symptoms, etc. ([here](#))
- Situation Summary ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information

Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))
- U.S. Food & Drug Administration ([here](#))

- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- U.S. Election Assistance Commission ([here](#))

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- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips

- Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.
- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Proactively sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information such as HHS/CDC [guidance for families, businesses, and schools](#).
- Reviewing Federal guidance such as the HHS/CDC [Community Mitigation Framework](#).
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

Recent Task Force Actions

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- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- Remarks by President Trump in Address to the Nation (March 11) ([transcript/video](#))
- Remarks by President Trump and Vice President Pence at a Coronavirus Briefing with Health Insurers (March 10) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness (March 9) ([readout](#))
- Remarks by Vice President Pence in a Coronavirus Briefing with Cruise Line Executives and Port Directors (March 7) ([transcript](#))
- Remarks by President Trump After Tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (March 5) ([transcript](#))
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
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CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
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The federal government continues to take aggressive and proactive steps to address the COVID-19 threat as the health and safety of the American people remain a top priority.

Today, President Trump [declared](#) a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”). This increases federal support to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in its role as the lead federal agency for the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response. As a result of the President’s decisive, unprecedented action, FEMA is directed to assist state, local, tribal, territorial governments and other eligible entities with the health and safety actions they take on behalf of the American public. Today’s declaration does not make direct financial assistance available to individuals.

The emergency declaration does not change measures authorized under other federal statutes and HHS remains the lead federal agency directing the federal response to COVID-19. FEMA actions will be in support of HHS and in coordination with state, tribal and territorial governments. Eligible emergency protective measures taken at the direction or guidance of public health officials in response to this emergency, and not supported by the authorities of another federal agency, will be reimbursed strictly under the FEMA Public Assistance program. FEMA assistance will be provided at a 75 percent Federal cost share. Reimbursable activities typically include emergency protective measures such as the activation of State Emergency Operations Centers, National Guard costs, law enforcement and other measures necessary to protect public health and safety.

Presidential Message to the Congress on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak (March 13, 2020) (PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE HERE)

“Pursuant to section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), I hereby report that I have exercised my authority to declare that the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the United States constitutes a national emergency. This declaration invokes section 1135 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1320b–5, to allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to exercise the authority under that section to temporarily waive or modify certain requirements of the Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children’s Health Insurance programs and of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Rule throughout the duration of the public health emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.”

Memorandum on Expanding State-Approved Diagnostic Tests (FULL MEMORANDUM HERE)

“By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows: It is the policy of the United States to take proactive measures to prepare for and respond to public health threats, including the public health emergency involving Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), which was declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (the “Secretary”) on January 31, 2020, pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d). Our response must include heightened coordination among Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies, and we must offer States the flexibility they need to care for their citizens. In accordance with this principle, the Food and Drug Administration, in coordination with the State of New York, allowed the State flexibility in expediting State-approved COVID-19 testing. Should additional States request flexibility to authorize laboratories within the State to develop and perform tests used to detect COVID-19, the Secretary

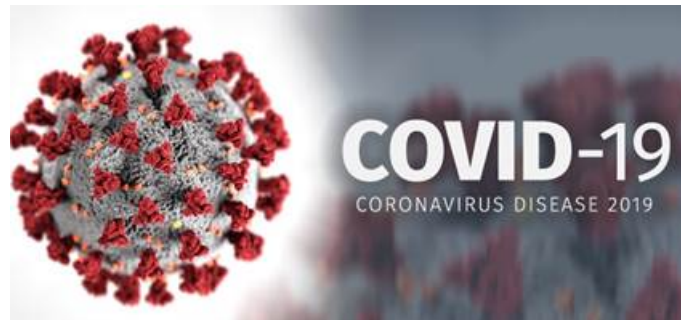
shall take appropriate action, consistent with law, to facilitate the request.”

Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information



Background

Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Since the beginning of the outbreak, President Trump has taken unprecedented steps – including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy – to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response ([President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond To the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans](#)). The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk to the average American remains low. All agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information

- The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website ([here](#))
- HHS/CDC Community Framework for Mitigation ([here](#))
- Guidance for families, businesses, schools and others ([here](#)).
- The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live ([here](#))
- You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

What You Need To Know

- What You Should Know - How COVID-19 Spreads, Symptoms, etc. ([here](#))
- Situation Summary ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information

Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))
- U.S. Food & Drug Administration ([here](#))

- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- U.S. Election Assistance Commission ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittany@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips

- Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.
- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Proactively sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information such as HHS/CDC [guidance for families, businesses, and schools](#).
- Reviewing Federal guidance such as the HHS/CDC [Community Mitigation Framework](#).
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

Recent Task Force Actions

Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- Remarks by President Trump in Address to the Nation (March 11) ([transcript/video](#))
- Remarks by President Trump and Vice President Pence at a Coronavirus Briefing with Health Insurers (March 10) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness (March 9) ([readout](#))
- Remarks by Vice President Pence in a Coronavirus Briefing with Cruise Line Executives and Port Directors (March 7) ([transcript](#))
- Remarks by President Trump After Tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (March 5) ([transcript](#))
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President’s Discussion with our Nation’s Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 12:51 PM EDT
To: Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>; Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

I wanted to check in on this invitation and see if the Governor would be able to join. Let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Zach Swint
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
The White House
C: (202) 881-6717 | E: Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:09 PM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET



Governor's Senior Staff (Chief of Staff, State-Federal Director, and Scheduler),

Our Nation's Governors are invited to a **Governors-only Briefing Call (with a video teleconference option) with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 16, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. Eastern Time (Note Time Change from Previous Weeks)** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19.

Briefing Call/VTC Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 16, 2020
- **Time:** **11:30 a.m.** Eastern Time (**Note Time Change From Previous Week**)
- **Expected Length:** 30-45 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state):** Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.
- **Video Teleconference Option:** Any governor who wants to participate in this briefing via video teleconference (VTC), indicate interest in the RSVP.

RSVP & Call-In/VTC Information – Deadline to RSVP is Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m. ET

To RSVP your governor, email Zach Swint with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time**. Once you RSVP your governor, you will receive a call-in information link and guidance. VTC guidance will be provided upon request.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

Please note that under Florida law correspondence sent to the Governor's Office, which is not confidential or exempt pursuant to chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes, is a public record made available upon request.

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:09 PM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

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Governor's Senior Staff (Chief of Staff, State-Federal Director, and Scheduler),

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Briefing Call/VTC Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 16, 2020
- **Time:** 11:30 a.m. Eastern Time (**Note Time Change From Previous Week**)
- **Expected Length:** 30-45 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state):** Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.
- **Video Teleconference Option:** Any governor who wants to participate in this briefing via video teleconference (VTC), indicate interest in the RSVP.

RSVP & Call-In/VTC Information – Deadline to RSVP is Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m. ET

To RSVP your governor, email Zach Swint with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time**. Once you RSVP your governor, you will receive a call-in information link and guidance. VTC guidance will be provided upon request.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 9:31 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Governor's Senior Staff (Chief of Staff, State-Federal Director, and Scheduler),

Our Nation's Governors are invited to a **Governors-only Briefing Call (with a video teleconference option) with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 9, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. On the March 2 briefing with governors, the Vice President pledged to convene the governors for a call/teleconference on a weekly basis, and made assurances that Federal leaders will continue its close coordinating with our Nation's governors and other State and local leaders.

Note: We have made technology adjustments from the last call, and every governor will have the option to ask questions and engage in dialogue on the March 9 call. Additionally, governors will have the option to participate via video teleconference – detail below.

Briefing Call Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 9, 2020
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- **Expected Length:** 30 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state):** Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.
- **Video Teleconference Option:** Any governor who wants to participate in this briefing via video teleconference (VTC), please email Nic Pottebaum with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) by no later than Friday, March 6 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time to ensure time for proper testing.

Background

On Monday, March 2, Vice President Mike Pence today participated in a discussion with more than 50 of our Nation's governors to provide an update on the work of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, to continue coordination with governors and state and local officials to respond to and prepare for the coronavirus, and to thank governors and state and local leaders—particularly state and local health officials—for their leadership. The Vice President pledged to convene the governors for a call/teleconference on a weekly basis, and made assurances that Federal leaders will continue its close coordinating with our Nation's governors and other State and local leaders. More readout [here](#).

RSVP & Call-In/VTC Information – Deadline to RSVP is Friday, March 6 at 5:00 p.m.

To RSVP your governor, email Nic Pottebaum with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Friday, March 6 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time**. Once you RSVP your governor, you will receive a call-in information link and guidance. VTC guidance will be provided upon request.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director

White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2020 9:30 PM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Latest Information - COVID-19

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Our Nation's Governor's and Staff,

We look forward to having our Nation's Governors join tomorrow's call/video teleconference with the Vice President (Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET).

To receive the most the most up-to-date set of information and guidance on COVID-19, please go [HERE](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) (or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>).

This is a one-stop-shop for **What You Should Know, Situation Updates, and Information for Specific Audiences** including the [CDC's Public Health Laboratory Testing Map](#).

Latest Updates

- **FDA and CDC take action to increase access to respirators, including N95s, for health care personnel** (more [here](#))
- **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Issues New Policy to Help Expedite Availability of Diagnostics** (more [here](#))
- **Comprehensive Update on Testing Numbers (March 7 ,2020 – [White House Press Briefing by FDA Commissioner Stephen M. Hahn, M.D.](#)):**
 - CDC has shipped tests sufficient to test about 75,000 individuals for COVID-19 to Public Health Laboratories. And all Public Health Laboratories that originally received a CDC test have received replacement tests. Laboratories in areas with the highest need for testing based on the outbreak have received additional tests, however, all state public health labs now have tests available to them.
 - As of March 7, the CDC test shipped to public health labs has been able to test more than 3,500 specimens from 1,583 patients.
 - Additionally, as of March 6, more than 1.1 million tests have been shipped to nonpublic health labs.
 - The manufacturer, IDT, is distributing these tests nationwide, although the first batch of tests were shipped to the states of California and Washington based on confirmed clusters in those areas.
 - IDT currently has another 400,000 tests which have undergone and passed final quality control check and we expect those tests to ship to labs on March 9.
 - Another manufacturer's tests will be undergoing a quality control check. That batch of 640,000 tests could ship as early as March 9.
 - IDT and other manufacturers believe they can scale up production so that by the end of next week tests, an additional 4 million tests could be shipped.
 - This does not include the ramp up expected by large commercial or academic labs.

The Office of the Vice President and White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance. Below, please find additional information.

Office of the Vice President		
Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov

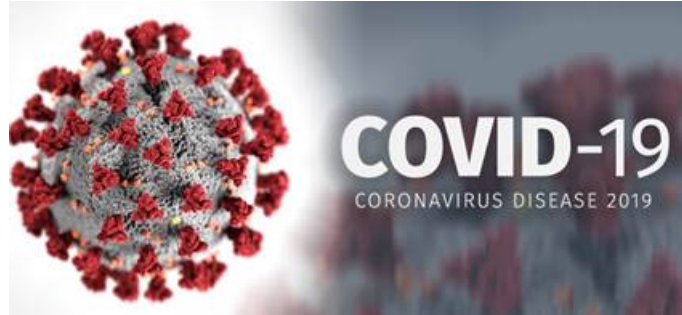
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs		
Name	Cell Phone	Email
Doug Hoelscher	202-881-8950	Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

Background & Additional Information



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: To receive the most up-to-date set of information and guidance on COVID-19, please go [HERE](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) (or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>).

- What You Should Know ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information: Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittany@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)

- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Responses locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities (a complete list of State & Territorial Health Department Websites can be found [here](#))
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line.

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
- Establishing the White House task force to combat the coronavirus spread. The Task Force is coordinating and marshalling the full resources and capabilities of the Federal government to respond to the coronavirus.
- Forging relationships and collaboration between the public and private sectors.
- Remained in close contact with our Nation's governors and other key stakeholders.
- *The Washington Times*: [Thanks to Trump Administration, the United States has a Coronavirus Plan of Action.](#)
- *Dr. Marc Siegel*: [Coronavirus Public Health Response Has Been Handled Well](#)

While the overall threat to the American public remains low, the President has directed the White House Task Force to take all steps to ensure the health and well-being of the American people and we are well-prepared.

- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.
- There are good tried and true hygiene practices which can be very effective to reduce the chance of getting sick.
- Travelers are encouraged to always exercise healthy travel habits when traveling and to follow appropriate guidance ([see here](#)). At this time, there are no domestic travel restrictions in the United States.
- We are working rapidly on therapeutics and vaccines and have launched the first U.S. clinical trial for an investigational antiviral.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. Between March 2nd and 5th, more than 900,000 tests were distributed across the country.
- The United States has the finest public health system in the world and knows the playbook to respond to infectious disease

outbreaks.

Local, State, tribal, & Federal coordinated preparedness & response efforts.

- Federal officials have been working diligently to communicate with State, local, and tribal officials on the Federal government's efforts to prepare and respond to COVID-19.
- Our Nation's Governors have participated in-person and on conference call briefings with Federal partners on January 30, February 9, February 20 and March 2. These communications remain ongoing.
- White House, OMB, HHS, DHS, DOT, and State Department Officials met with over 40 State, county, and city health officials from over 30 States and territories to thank them for their leadership and to continue discussions on the Federal-State-Local partnership to prepare and respond to COVID-19 (February 25).
- HHS, CDC, DHS, and Federal partners have held numerous national briefing calls with State, local, tribal, private-sector, and community leaders.
- The Trump Administration is partnering with State, local, and tribal elected and appointed leaders' associations.

Recent Actions: Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))

From: EOCWATCH <DHHEOC40@LA.GOV>

Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2020 9:39 AM EDT

To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Ashley Peak <Ashley.Peak@LA.GOV>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Cindy Rives <Cindy.Rives@la.gov>; David Schultz <David.Schultz1@LA.GOV>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>; EOCWATCH <DHHEOC40@LA.GOV>; Frank Welch <Frank.Welch@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Joseph Kanter <Joseph.Kanter@la.gov>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>; Mark A Thomas <Mark.Thomas@LA.GOV>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Michelle Miley <Michelle.Miley@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Pam Diez <Pam.Diez@LA.GOV>; Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

Subject: LDH EOC SitRep 03/14/2020

Attachment(s): "COVID-19 Summary_031420_0730.docx"

Please see attached COVID-19 SitRep for 03/14/2020.

EOC Watch Desk

eocwatch@la.gov

225.354.3570

Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) Daily Summary | 3/14/20 at 0730

Table 1: US Case Counts

United States		Updated	3/14/20 at 0700
CDC Case Counts			
Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths
1,629	414	41	5

Source: CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>

Note: For consistency, the national case counts reported by the Louisiana Department of Health will follow the counts reported daily, M-F, by the CDC. This information might be different from reports by news organizations that update more frequently.

Table 2: Louisiana Testing and Results

Louisiana	3/14/20 at 0700		
Updated	Laboratory Testing		
	Number of Persons Under Investigation (PUI) Tests Negative	Number of Presumptive Positive Persons	CDC Confirmed Cases
New Results (on 3/13)	30	18	2
Cumulative Results (as of 3/14 at 0700)	91	51	2

Source: OPH Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section and OPH Laboratory

Parish	Count of COVID-19 ID
Bossier	1
Caddo	1
Jefferson	7
Orleans	36
St. Charles	1
St. John the Baptist	1
St. Tammany	2
Terrebonne	2
Grand Total	51

Table 3: General Information Line

General Information Line Calls on 3/13/20 from 0800 to 1630	
Calls	Cumulative Count
87	893

Note: Bureau of Community Preparedness staffs the general information line Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm. The phone number for this line is 855-523-2652.

Calls = Number of calls received and answered during the Operational Period of 8 to 4:30 pm.

Voice messages received outside of regular business hours are returned and captured in the call count the following day.

Table 4: LA 211 Phone Calls

211 Calls on 3/13/20 from 0700 to 1900	
Calls	Cumulative Count
1467	1658

Note: LA 211 is operational 24/7 to answer calls from the public.

Key Messages

Department of Health shared guidance with providers that recommends COVID-19 testing for any patient with fever, respiratory symptoms and a negative influenza test.

All patients suspected (and undergoing testing) for COVID-19 should remain hospitalized if needed or isolate at home until they receive their test results. If test results are positive, patients should continue to be isolated until cleared by a physician or public health official.

Providers should use commercial labs for any specimens collected with the exception of high-priority patients. The state public health lab will continue to test samples of high-priority patients who meet the following criteria:

Hospitalized patients with a severe respiratory illness with no other known cause.

Suspected outbreak of COVID-19 among associated individuals with recent onset of similar fever and lower respiratory symptoms.

Recent fever and lower respiratory symptoms in a healthcare worker with direct contact to a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 case.

Suspected COVID-19 in a patient associated with a high-risk exposure setting such as a long-term care facility or a correctional facility.

For initial diagnostic testing for COVID-19, the State of Louisiana now recommends collecting and testing a single nasopharyngeal (NP) swab, or a nose swab.

Click [here](#) for the health alert message shared with providers.

Headlines

[Why are Louisiana schools closed for a month? With coronavirus it's about flattening 'the curve'](#) | The Advocate

[Louisiana schools to close for a month; gatherings of 250 or more not allowed](#) | WWL-TV

[Louisiana launches statewide call network to answer questions related to coronavirus](#) | WAFB-TV

[Northeast Louisiana events canceled amid COVID-19 concerns](#) | New Star

[Louisiana now has 36 coronavirus cases; schools will close until April 13](#) | WDSU-TV

[President declares national emergency to combat coronavirus](#) | NBC News

[Louisiana Governor moves primary because of coronavirus](#) | Associated Press

[What's happening in life feels surreal: emergency measures](#) | Associated Press

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2020 12:27 AM EST
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
CC: Michelle Miley <Michelle.Miley@LA.GOV>
Subject: LDH February Cabinet Brief
Attachment(s): "LDH February Cabinet Brief.docx"

Hi Alicia:

Please see the attached February Cabinet Brief. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Tonya

TONYA OZENE JOINER

Chief of Staff

Office of the Secretary

Tonya.joiner@la.gov

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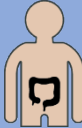





LDH February Cabinet Report

Please contact Tonya Joiner (tonya.joiner@la.gov) for any further details.

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Medicaid Expansion Impact		
	468,415	Health Insurance Adults enrolled in Medicaid Expansion as of January 2, 2020
	75% 363,131	Doctor Visits Percentage of adults who had a doctor's office visit during the year*/** Adults who visited a doctor and received new patient or preventive healthcare services*
	81,266 916	Breast Cancer Women who've gotten screening or diagnostic breast imaging* Women diagnosed with breast cancer as a result of this imaging*
	46,802 14,615 641	Colon Cancer Adults who received colon cancer screening* Adults with colon polyps removed: colon cancer averted* Adults diagnosed with colon cancer as a result of this screening*
	18,062	Newly Diagnosed Diabetes Adults newly diagnosed and now treated for Diabetes*
	49,348	Newly Diagnosed Hypertension Adults newly diagnosed and now treated for Hypertension*
	101,321 26,233	Mental Health Adults receiving specialized outpatient mental health services* Adults receiving inpatient mental health services at a psychiatric facility*

*Statistics as of January 6, 2020

**Reported as a modified version of the Adults' Access to Ambulatory or Preventive Care (AAP) HEDIS® measure which includes the percentage of Medicaid Expansion eligibles enrolled at least 11 of 12 months of the year ending 4 months prior to report date who had an ambulatory or preventive care visit during the year.



20,029
21,730
17,917

Substance Use

Adults receiving specialized substance use outpatient services*
 Adults receiving specialized substance use residential services*
 Adults receiving medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder*

MAJOR ITEMS OF NOTE

- CMS is still reviewing for approval the emergency MCO contracts and accompanying rate certification; however, LDH received guidance from CMS leadership that allowed us to draw down federal funds in order to make the first payment to MCOs in early February.
- All eight Department of Corrections facilities are in their second month of treating incarcerated persons with hepatitis C.
- The Louisiana Special Education Center/Central Louisiana Supports and Services Center transition was effective as of January 27 and all job descriptions have been affirmed by Civil Service.
- It has recently come to LDH's attention from the Louisiana Department of Insurance that the Social Security Administration may be recouping Medicare Part B premiums from individuals affected by the LaMEDS-Medicare Buy-In issue. LDH is investigating and in the process of scheduling a call with CMS and SSA to discuss the issue.
- LDH's Bureau of Infectious Disease, Bureau of Community Preparedness, Emergency Response, and OPH Laboratory are collaborating with federal partners to prepare an epidemiologic surveillance and response plan related to the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). To date, there are no cases nor persons under investigation in Louisiana. However, public health professionals are preparing our staff and the public health system for a case, if one is identified in the future.
- OAAS, has completed offering the 500 legislatively approved Community Choices Waiver slots to individuals receiving no formal home and community based services. OAAS is currently in the process of assessing and developing comprehensive plans of care for all individuals that have accepted a CCW slot. As of February 3, OAAS has certified 94 individuals in CCW waiver slots. As of February 3, 5,846 individuals on the Waitlist for Community Choices Waiver (meaning 5,846 are waiting with no formal services).

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Hepatitis C

Our most recent data indicates that between July 15, 2019 and December 31, 2019:

- 2,916 persons have accessed treatment for HCV through Medicaid
- 2,780 persons have started treatment for HCV through Medicaid for the first time
- 1,870 persons who have accessed treatment have completed it
- 1,886 persons have accessed treatment because of Medicaid Expansion

Provider training efforts continue and there are now active Hep C Provider Champions cohorts in Regions 1, 2 & 7, with cohorts set to begin in March and April in Regions 4 and 5, respectively.

Within the Department of Corrections, all 8 facilities are in their second month of treating incarcerated persons with hepatitis C. In addition, integrated hepatitis C screening recently concluded at Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women and Hunt Correctional Center.

Multiple evaluation efforts are underway in partnership with LSUHSD, Johns Hopkins University and economists at MIT and Boston University. These evaluations will allow LDH to quantify the improvements in health outcomes and the fiscal benefit of this elimination effort.

Taking Aim at Cancer in Louisiana (TACL)

TACL's Board elected Greg Sonnenfeld of Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport as Chairperson during the annual meeting in January. Board members discussed how to continue collaborating with the Department of Health after Dr. Gee's departure and defining a role for Dr. Gee's continued participation. The United Health Foundation grant that established TACL officially ended on January 31. TACL's Leadership submitted the final report demonstrating TACL's successes and plans for sustainability going forward.

Community Partnership Program

The Office of Community Partnerships and Health Equity (OCPHE) is running full steam ahead with the operationalization of agency-wide health equity protocols and practices. Internally, meetings with all LDH Office/Program/Bureau leads have been completed and training preparations are underway for all staffers. Trainings will focus on the plan's logistics and themes; cultural competency; social determinants of health; and demystifying the "isms" (racism, sexism, etc), which silo the work and service delivery of LDH.

Externally, OCPHE is proud to be partnering with stakeholders in the application of a technical assistance grant from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This partnership supports the efforts of the second phase of the Health Equity plan, which includes engaging stakeholders and building a strong community advisory board.

OCPHE has also been supporting the Denka - St. James, efforts - ensuring proper community engagement.

Finally, OCPHE is also collaborating with the Louisiana Center for Health Equity in planning the 2020 Health Summit: Advancing Health Equity for Children and Families.

Louisiana Special Education Center

LSEC/ CLSSC transition was effective as of January 27 and all job descriptions have been affirmed by Civil Service. Position transfers from LSEC to CLSSC are complete and all staff are in place with exception of normal vacancies. On January 7, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by LDH representatives and given to DOE for signing on their end. Work continues with Transition team relative to Policy/Procedure, Quality Initiatives and Name Change on legal and public documents. Finally, the new license is in effective as of this report.

MEDICAID

Medicaid Managed Care RFP

LDH remains under a stay, issued by OSP, and has stopped all actions associated with the award of the new contracts pending the outcome of the protests at the administrative level. LDH received approval from OSP to advance to emergency contracts with the current (5) MCOs effective January 1 to avoid any breaks in service. The contracts have been executed and OSP has approved the contracts. However, Medicaid is still awaiting approval from CMS, which is the final approval step. CMS is still reviewing for approval the contracts and accompanying rate certification; however, LDH received guidance from CMS leadership that allowed us to draw down federal funds in order to make the first payment to MCOs in early February. Additionally, the Chief Procurement Officer rendered a decision on the protest filed by the two plans that were not selected for an award that suggested the procurement be cancelled. LDH and the four MCOs selected for an award filed appeals to the Commissioner of Administration requesting an overturn of the Chief Procurement Officer's decision. The appeal is pending with the Commissioner.

LaMEDS Update

Wage Checks

In January, LDH presented policy options to the Governor's Office for tweaking the wage verification process to reduce churn while continuing to enhance program integrity. As a result of these discussions, Medicaid will (1) enhance its data matching process starting in February so that the LWC data match used for the quarterly wage checks and the LWC wage interface in LaMEDS used at application and renewal both key only on the social security number data element, and (2) starting in May conduct wage verifications quarterly using the prior 12 months of wage data for eligibility determination on income. We believe "evening out" small increases in income by averaging monthly income over twelve months rather than three would substantially reduce churn.

Medicare Buy-In

Medicaid continues to investigate LaMEDS defects related to the Medicare Buy-In program (which LDH reviewed with Matthew Block and the Commissioner in January). 24,000 members who were identified as still enrolled in Medicare Buy-in after they were determined ineligible and sent a closure notice. 21,000 were corrected with CMS and removed from the program with a closure effective date of November 30, 2019, and sent a letter notifying them that their Medicare premium will now be their responsibility. 2,900 cases are still being reviewed because we have no proof of a closure notice being sent. If proof of closure isn't found, we will send these individuals a closure notice and close them in February. It has recently come to LDH's attention from LDI that SSA may be recouping Medicare Part B premiums from individuals affected by this issue and is investigating the issue. We are in the process of scheduling a call with CMS and SSA to discuss the issue.

Nursing Home Payments

Medicaid continues to address billing and payment concerns raised by individual nursing homes and the Louisiana Nursing Home Association (LNHA) resulting from LaMEDS. Medicaid has re-prioritized resources to focus on reviewing and working outstanding long-term care (LTC) denied claims as part of an overall effort to return millions of dollars to LTC/nursing home providers resulting from system/worker errors that have backlogged over time. Medicaid is also working closely with Mark Berger/LNHA to communicate new LaMEDS defects that affect his constituents and support him with the appropriate communications to members and providers.

Dental MCO Procurement

The dental program is operating under an emergency contract with MCNA for one year, through June 30, 2020, to ensure continuation of services while Medicaid works through the Dental RFP process to secure new contract(s). Medicaid released the RFP/solicitation on June 6, with responses due August 6. LDH received three proposals and the evaluation team has finalized its scoring and made a recommendation on awards. The evaluation documents were sent to OSP for review and concurrence of the award recommendation, which is still pending. Medicaid anticipates negotiating contract(s) upon receipt of concurrence from OSP; however, the continued delay from OSP with concurring in the award recommendation and any protest to the award notice has jeopardized Medicaid's ability to start operations on July 1, 2020 under the new contracts. Medicaid's deadline to begin preparations for open enrollment in order to have a July 1, 2020 contract start date has passed. We have since developed scenarios for starting the contract and the subsequent open enrollment period based upon when OSP concurs and the protest period ends.

Medicaid Community Engagement Pilot

Medicaid continues to compile a report of the pilot results and findings to date, along with recommendations for broader statewide application. Medicaid, the LDH Policy Director, the Office of Public Health, and Governor's Office are collaborating to discuss ideas for a potential second pilot effort in the Lafayette region in coordination with existing Community HealthWays pilot efforts.

Medicaid Leadership Hiring Status

At the direction of the administration, Medicaid has paused efforts to recruit and hire for the Medicaid Director and Chief Operating Officer positions.

OFFICE OF ADULT AND AGING SERVICES

Waitlist Reduction Project

As of February 7, Office of Aging and Adult Service (OAAS) has completed 1,018 in-home assessments for Long-Term Personal Care Services (LT-PCS), 555 individuals have been approved to begin receiving LT-PCS services (meaning 555 individuals now have in home support), 311 individuals were denied services for not meeting functional program eligibility, and 514 individuals have declined services.

OAAS, has completed offering the 500 legislatively approved Community Choices Waiver slots to individuals receiving no formal home and community based services. OAAS is currently in the process of assessing and developing comprehensive plans of care for all individuals that have accepted a CCW slot. As of February 3, OAAS has certified 94 individuals in CCW waiver slots.

As of February 3, 5,846 individuals on the Waitlist for Community Choices Waiver (meaning 5,846 are waiting with no formal services).

OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

HOPE Council Report

HOPE Council End of Year Report Finalized, approved by the HOPE Advisory Council and LDH and has been submitted to the Governor's Drug Policy Board, Legislature, etc.

High in Plain Sight Training

The OBH Prevention Team participated in the "HIGH IN PLAIN SIGHT" Training with Officer Jermaine Galloway on Friday, January 17. Over 200 individuals were in attendance with representatives to include law enforcement, educators, parents, prevention providers, coalition members, and others who have an interest in preventing youth and adult substance abuse and learning more about the drug culture.

OFFICE OF CITIZENS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Outreach Program

OCDD is in the process of developing an Outreach Team. Purpose of the Outreach Team is to expand OCDD's presence and reach in the State of Louisiana by developing a targeted communication strategy that relies on the creation/leveraging of resource material such as training, educational and awareness modules, videos, and documents. The team will also be responsible for the development of an outward facing OCDD newsletter and a Bi-annual stakeholder summit.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Bureau of Family Health

OPH-BFH Data Accomplishments

OPH-Bureau of Family Health's Data to Action Team has published a new data brief, Louisiana Fathers: An Analysis of the Fathers of Children Born in Louisiana from 2013-2018. This brief analyzes the paternal information on Louisiana birth certificates and is the first brief looking at the data we collect about Louisiana Fathers.

The Louisiana Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) has been participating in a supplemental data collection study around opioids. Opioid Supplement data from the 5-month 2019 data collection period are now available for people to request (using the data request form). The PRAMS team is also planning to release a data brief of an analysis of this mini-dataset. The 2017 PRAMS Surveillance Report has also been published and is available online with key findings about Louisiana mothers' experiences before, during, and after pregnancy.

Bureau of Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease/Epidemiology

IDEpi has initiated an epidemiologic surveillance and response plan related to the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) that originated in Wuhan, China in December 2019. IDEpi has worked with the Bureau of Community Preparedness to distribute important health alerts to healthcare providers throughout Louisiana in order to rapidly detect any suspect cases of 2019-nCoV. IDEpi's 24/7 hotline is currently addressing approximately 50 inquiries per day from providers requesting guidance with patient evaluation. IDEpi has also provided infection control guidance to healthcare facilities so that further spread of illness within the healthcare facility can be prevented if a case is detected. Plans and resources are in place to track patients under investigation as well as confirmed cases and to monitor contacts as necessary.

In accordance with CDC guidance that became effective February 3, IDEpi has begun receiving notifications of travelers returning to Louisiana that have been in mainland China within 14 days of their return (this does not include Hubei province- there are stricter restrictions for these travelers and they will be quarantined out of state). IDEpi provides prevention and control guidance to all returning travelers and supervises daily self-monitoring for fever and respiratory symptoms for 14 days following their return. If symptoms develop, OPH will coordinate with healthcare providers/facilities to facilitate laboratory testing and ensure infection control measures are in place to prevent disease transmission.

As of February 11 Louisiana has no patients under investigation or confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV.

Immunization Program

Health Heroes is a private company providing immunizations in the school setting. Louisiana Immunization Program staff heard about this vendor on June 13, 2019. OPH Leadership approved a pilot project for one parish this flu season on July 1, 2019. Flu vaccinations for Caddo parish were completed within 17 weeks from the initial meeting. This included identifying a medical director, securing a site for vaccine storage, obtaining school board agreement, coordinating with schools for parental/guardian permission for vaccination. This public private partnership was so successful, additional parishes were invited to participate. 6,621 flu vaccines were given to students at 244 schools in 5 parishes at no cost to their families, no cost to the schools and at no cost to the State.

Bureau of Community Preparedness

OPH Bureau of Community Preparedness (BCP) is working proactively to protect the state of Louisiana and prevent sustained spread of the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). To date, there are no cases nor persons under investigation in Louisiana. However, public health professionals are preparing our staff and the public health system for a case, if one is identified in the future. BCP is collecting and sharing information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organization with local, regional, and state partners including primary care providers, hospitals, and EMS. BCP has disseminated information via the Health Alert Network to health care providers around the state with current recommendations for screening and testing for 2019-nCoV, as well as to EMS providers regarding proper protection procedures. BCP is participating in and holding frequent calls with staff to remain apprised of the latest updates. BCP is sharing messages and guidance with partners and the public as it becomes available. Additionally, BCP has established a toll free hotline for the public to ask general questions regarding 2019-nCoV. This line is manned from 8:00 – 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

OPH Laboratory

The lab is gearing up for Coronavirus testing for the 2019-nCoV epidemic. CDC sent a kit for testing. SOP was written and validation of the method will begin shortly.

The Environmental Lab is exploring the possibility of locating a water testing laboratory in Alexandria. Possible locations have been studied including space at the Alexandria Public Health Unit as well as several vacant locations for possible leasing. Work has begun to obtain contract workers for this lab.

STATE HEALTH OFFICER, CHIEF ENGINEER, & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Drinking Water Program

Act 263 - Act 263 of 2017 Regular Legislative Session, tasked LDH to evaluate the issues and conditions of drinking water treatment and distribution through the evaluation of sanitary survey results for each water utility system by 2020. LDH was tasked to submit interim progress reports yearly until final report submission. The ultimate goal is to develop recommendations collaboratively with stakeholders, technical experts, water utility system owners, operators, community members and legislators from areas with known public water quality

issues. On February 7, the 2019 Legislative Report was formally submitted to the Senate and House Health and Welfare Committees. The submission reflects the final report of a three year project.

Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN) Grant: This grant provides non-competitive federal funds to states to conduct voluntary lead testing in schools and child care programs. On February 4, EPA issued the grant award to the Drinking Water Program. The program will begin the process of notifying daycares and schools of the testing available. On February 10, EHS issued notices to approximately 1600 child care facilities providing information on the WIIN Grant program. The electronic notices are being followed up with printed documents for multiple methods of awareness.

St. Joseph Water System - Environmental Health Services (EHS) conducted bi-weekly conference calls for 8 months with the St. Joseph Water System operator, Fiscal Administrator, mayor and other critical stakeholders to ensure visibility of the operational changes attempted at the plant. The system remains out of compliance with the AO.

Environmental Exposures

On February 10, LDH conducted internal huddle on Denka for status report. Status: EPA has not yet issued grant funds – but intends to. LSU has submitted several invoices which LDH will pay for invoices while waiting for grant funds. Dr. Joseph Kanter, Assistant State Health Officer, was identified as LDH Project Lead going forward.

Emergency Preparedness

Readiness for ESF8 response is highly contingent upon contracts. Surge contracts are critical as they provide medical personnel to assist in shelters, in specialized emergency operations centers such as the EMS Tactical Operations Center (TOC), at Transportation Triage centers, and other specific operations. Renewal of surge ambulances are pending finalization with vendors. The Request for Proposals (RFP) which solicits paramedic support for specific operations is currently in review at DOA. Delays in review were experienced and were attributed to the Cyber-attack in November 2019.

On January 15-16, a local, state and federal Coordination Workshop was conducted on the Pre-Storm Medical Institution Evacuation Plan (MIEP). The primary intent was to prepare Lakefront Airport site for Hurricane Season in the event a pre-storm evacuation of multiple hospitals was required. The objectives included: diagramming the Workflow process of Patient movement; determine system interface between At-Risk Registry (state), TRACES (DOD), and the Federal Patient Movement Coordination Group (PMCG). Attendees included representatives from HHS, VA, FEMA, AMR, DOD, TRACES, TRANSCOM, as well as local hospital representatives and the ESF8 Network.

On February 6, LDH participated in GOHSEP's Statewide Exercise Master Scenario of Events List (MSEL) Sync Meeting was conducted with all participating Emergency Support Function Agencies to synchronize the various missions and injects that will take place during the 2020 Statewide Exercise.

Emergency Response

Weekly conference calls are being conducted with OPH to monitor changes in policy, prevention, and response for 2019 Novel Coronavirus. On Feb 5, the Governor requested a meeting with LDH and GOHSEP on 2019 n-CoV. Dr. Billioux provided a briefing on the background, current status, known/unknowns about the novel virus. As of February 5 there were no PUIs in Louisiana. In preparation for the Governor's meeting with DHHS in DC, he requested a 1 pager of requests from DHHS. A 1 pager was submitted covering: 1) timely communication on travelers; 2) clear guidance on when to take people out of isolation; 3) lab testing/related issues; and 4) that DHHS work with vendors to increase production of PPE and medical supplies to meet real and anticipated needs. There was some discussion of when to convene UCG. Current thought was that UCG will be convened once we see a PUI. In the interim, Gov Office PIO will be reaching out to GOHSEP PIO and LDH PIO.

On January 10, two Chempack Buffer Packs were accessed by Region 2 after Hospital stocks of pralidoxime [2-PAM, (2-pyridine aldoxime methyl chloride)] were exhausted. A buffer pack from Region 4 was accessed to provide additional antidote support for the same poisoned patient.

On January 11 – 14 severe storms impacted multiple parishes particularly in Region 7 area. Medical infrastructure remained intact; but with some reports of intermittent and short-term power outages. There were four (4) storm-related deaths (1 Caddo, 3 Bossier) confirmed by OPH Vital Records and respective coroners.

On February 4, the Louisiana Office of Public Health (OPH) detected mumps in several students at LSU Baton Rouge. OPH requested healthcare providers in the Baton Rouge area and other schools of higher learning to be alert for mumps. Hospitals in the Region 2 area were notified by ESF8 Network. By February 11, there were 11 positive cases, 8 negative and 6 pending results. LSU established a Point of Distribution (POD) to distribute vaccines. Approximately 60 vaccination were provided at the POD in addition to the 50 provided at the School Health Clinic.

On February 5, the Office of Public Health (OPH) saw a large surge of cases of Norovirus in Region 5. Cases have been from Calcasieu parish and Vernon Parish, but could involve other areas. ESF8 Network sent out notices to Region 5 hospitals and Region 6 hospitals. OPH/EPI have been working with the at-risk regions to conduct epidemiological investigation.

LDH MEDIA COVERAGE

Key Headlines from the Louisiana Department of Health Office of the Secretary

- [Louisiana Gov. Edwards taps interim health secretary](#)

Medicaid

- [Louisiana Medicaid managed care contract awards thrown out](#)
- [Stephanie Grace: Jeff Landry got it wrong on Medicaid expansion and opioids, study shows](#)
- [Seniors complain new computer system kicking them off Medicaid](#)
- [Report: Louisiana would lose \\$4 billion, risk coverage for 900,000 if ACA repealed; skeptics call prediction 'doom and gloom'](#)
- [Health department, winning bidders appeal decision to scrap multi-billion-dollar Medicaid contracts](#)
- [Medicaid recipients upset about unexpected deductions in Social Security checks](#)

Flu

- [Office of Public Health reminds people of the importance of hand washing](#)
- [Crowds, Carnival can be contagious; protect yourself from flu, doctor says](#)

Coronavirus

- [Louisiana monitoring Chinese coronavirus after confirmed US case](#)
- [Louisiana doctors on lookout for symptoms amid deadly coronavirus outbreak in China](#)
- [Flu more concerning than coronavirus, local experts say](#)

Public Health

- [Third vaping death in Louisiana has been reported; 35 total cases of lung injuries](#)
- [LSU confirms five students have mumps](#)

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 7:46 PM EDT

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>

CC: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>; Chancely Courson <Chancely.Courson@la.gov>

Subject: Meeting in New Orleans Tomorrow

All, we are planning a joint mini UCG/press briefing with the City of New Orleans on Friday, March 13. I have some basic details sketched out below. We will try to keep the attendee list tight. The details I have below are very basic. In addition, we will issue a joint media advisory with the City tomorrow morning to announce the press conference.

I know Jim is talking to their OEP Director and I'm in touch with their comms director. We would need to keep our list of attendees tight as well.

Joint Command Briefing with Gov. John Bel Edwards and Mayor Latoya Cantrell on COVID-19

1 p.m.

Location: New Orleans EOC / City Hall

Joint Press Conference

3 p.m.

Location: Mayor's Press Room

Thank you, Christina

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 8:39 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Meeting Readout -- White House Discussion with State, County, & City Public Health Officials on COVID-19

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good Evening,

Today, the White House met with over 40 State, county, and city health officials from over 30 States and territories to thank them for their leadership and to continue discussions on the Federal-State-Local partnership to prepare and respond to COVID-19. Below is a readout from that meeting.

White House Press Pool Report

Today, the White House met with over 40 State, county, and city health officials from over 30 States and territories to thank them for their leadership and to continue discussions on the Federal-State-Local partnership to prepare and respond to COVID-19. The discussion focused on the importance of the public health partnership at various levels of government and underscored the importance community preparedness. The Trump Administration thanks State and local public health officials for their hard work and service, and looks forward to the continued partnership.

Federal agencies with individuals in attendance at the meeting included: the White House, Domestic Policy Council, Office of Management & Budget, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), and the U.S. Department of State. States and territories that were expected to be in attendance included: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Nevada, North Carolina, Northern Mariana Islands, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, Washington, and West Virginia.

Social Media from the Meeting



[Source](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 8:42 PM EST

Subject: Meeting Readout -- White House Discussion with State, County, & City Public Health Officials on COVID-19

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

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States and territories that were expected to be in attendance included: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Nevada, North Carolina, Northern Mariana Islands, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, Washington, and West Virginia.

Social Media from the Meeting:



[Source](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 6:35 PM EST

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jay Dardenne <Jay.Dardenne@LA.GOV>

CC: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Jacques Berry <Jacques.Berry@la.gov>

Subject: Message to all State Employees for Tuesday

Attachment(s): "MESSAGE TO STATE EMPLOYEES_march2.docx"

We did not get this message out to all state employees today, but my hope is that we can share it between 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. tomorrow. I have made some minor updates, but LDH has signed off as the subject matter experts. This information very closely mirrors the information in other messaging.

If you have any edits or concerns, please let me know before 9 a.m. tomorrow morning. Thanks, Christina

MESSAGE TO STATE EMPLOYEES
MARCH 2, 2020 DRAFT

As you have undoubtedly seen in media reports, there have been confirmed cases of COVID-19, commonly called coronavirus, in several states, with six deaths in the United States. I wanted to take a moment to update state employees on the situation in Louisiana and on the steps you can take to prevent the spread of illness.

Though we do not currently have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in Louisiana, it is important to be prepared, which is what we have been doing since the outbreak in mainland China. Already in Louisiana, the Department of Health has been communicating on a very regular basis with health providers and doctors to proactively share information about symptoms and also guidance about when someone needs to be tested. We have the capability to test for coronavirus at the Office of Public Health's State Laboratory and we will be transparent with the public if we have a confirmed case in Louisiana, which we currently do not.

The same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu put you in a good position for any respiratory illness, including COVID-19: cover your cough, wash your hands often and well, and stay home when you're sick.

If you have recently traveled to China, South Korea, Iran, Italy or Japan within the previous 14 days and experience fever, cough or another kind of illness, contact your health care provider as soon as possible and tell them your symptoms and about your recent travel.

In addition, it is still flu season and your chances of getting the flu are higher than of getting coronavirus. It is still a good idea to get a flu shot if you have not already done so or to take a flu antiviral if it is prescribed.

Yesterday we held the first Unified Command Group meeting about coronavirus to ensure our state agencies are coordinating and communicating effectively across departments about this illness. In addition, we have created a COVID-19 Task Force to lead Louisiana's planning for different scenarios relating to the spread of coronavirus. It will offer guidance to state agencies, businesses and organizations.

As an initial step, the COVID-19 Task Force is recommending that all state agencies review and update their Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) that were developed statewide in 2012 under GOHSEP direction to take coronavirus into account.

For updates on the state's response to the coronavirus situation, visit LDH.louisiana.gov/Coronavirus.

Thank you for all of your hard work on behalf of the people of Louisiana. Together, we will work to keep the people of Louisiana healthy and to prevent the spread of illness in our state.

Sincerely,

Governor John Bel Edwards

From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 07, 2020 12:29 PM EST

To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>

Subject: National Briefing 2 PM EST - Coronavirus Task Force

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Please join us at 2 PM EST at www.hhs.gov/live for a national press briefing from the Coronavirus Task Force. *Link will be live shortly before the event.*

□

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**Friday,
February
7, 2020**

Today, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will host a press briefing by members of President Trump's Coronavirus Task Force.

2:00 PM EST: Press Conference Begins. www.HHS.gov/live

###

Follow [@SecAzar](https://twitter.com/SecAzar) on Twitter, like [HHS on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/HHS), and sign up for [HHS Email Updates](#)

Darcie Johnston, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
(202) 853-0582

From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 07, 2020 12:31 PM EST

To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>

Subject: National Briefing 2 PM EST - Coronavirus Task Force

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Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
(202) 853-0582

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Sent: Friday, February 07, 2020 12:33 PM EST
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
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Darcie Johnston, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
(202) 853-0582

From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2020 5:39 PM EST
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Subject: Please Register - COVID 19- National Call, Feb. 14th

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

State and Local Leaders,

Please join us for a national briefing call **TOMORROW, Friday, February 14 at 1:45 p.m. Eastern Time** on the President's Coronavirus Task Force (**Please register, see link below**). The national briefing call will include updates from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) along with our Federal partners at U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of Transportation, and the State Department. This national briefing call will provide an update from the Federal government and our ongoing partnership with State and local jurisdictions.

Additional Information

- You can find more information and resources at the CDC website here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/>.
- ICYMI – USA Today: Our Coronavirus Response Is Protecting Americans (see full Op-Ed below)

Briefing Call Details

Date: Friday, February 14

Time: 1:45 p.m. Eastern Time

Call-In Information: [LINK](#) (Participants will receive instructions on accessing the conference after RSVPing to the link)

Thanks,

Darcie Johnston, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
(202) 853-0582

ICYMI - Our Coronavirus Response Is Protecting Americans

USA Today

By Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and HHS Secretary Alex Azar

February 11, 2020

Link to op-ed [here](#).

The first duty of the federal government is to keep our citizens safe. Since the United States first became aware on Dec. 30 of what has become known as the novel coronavirus, America's public health officials have closely monitored the situation, worked to understand the virus and taken steps to limit Americans' exposure to it.

Our task force is ensuring that our whole of government, layered, public health plan has the resources necessary to protect Americans. We've treated the sick, and traced back their travel history and contacts to minimize the spread of the virus. We've worked swiftly to screen and safely receive American travelers returning from China, and bar foreign travelers who have recently visited the epicenter of the outbreak.

Consistent with the World Health Organization International Health Regulations, our travel restrictions were intentionally devised to complement the Chinese government's policy of isolating approximately 50 million of its own citizens in Hubei province. Other nations, such as Italy and South Korea, have taken similar measures.

Our efforts in China

Thus far, the United States has only had 12 confirmed cases of the virus. We were saddened to hear last week that one American, a 60-year-old woman in Wuhan, China, has died. But we're undeterred in our vigilance to protect our people. And we're mobilizing resources around the world to help other nations fight the disease, too. This is American altruism at its finest.

Let's start with our efforts focused on the country where the virus first appeared — China. In the words of President Donald Trump, "We're offering them tremendous help." During the first week of January, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention made an offer of assistance in order to understand the disease and help bolster response efforts.

The Department of Health and Human Services subsequently provided to the WHO a list of world-class medical professionals ready to deploy their skills in China and learn from China's efforts to combat this new coronavirus. In the last week of January, Secretary Azar personally extended an offer of help to Health Minister Ma Xiaowei; Secretary Pompeo did the same with Chinese State Councilor Yang Jiechi. We hope the mission will commence immediately, whether bilaterally or under the auspices of the WHO.

We've also facilitated the delivery of vast amounts of medical supplies to the Chinese people. Just last week, the State Department helped transport 17.8 tons of relief supplies to Hubei. And more assistance will continue to be offered — the United States is prepared to spend up to \$100 million in existing State and U.S. Agency for International Development funds to assist China and other impacted countries to contain and combat the virus.

While State managed the logistics, the donations themselves were provided by Samaritan's Purse, Boeing, Intermountain Healthcare and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and coordinated by a nongovernmental organization called Project HOPE. Time and again, when

diseases and disasters strike, the American people have stepped up to help citizens of other countries without being asked. Our robust charitable giving and enthusiastic civil society groups are channeling the American people's concern for their fellow man.

Cooperation with other nations

Then there are America's actions to help the citizens of other countries, beyond China. CDC staff based in more than 60 countries are working closely with ministries of health and other health partners, often in conjunction with their colleagues at the State Department and other federal agencies.

For instance, the United States has made coronavirus test kits available to 191 qualified laboratories around the world; so far, labs from 36 countries have put in orders. We've deployed staff to train health professionals in 15 hospitals in Vietnam. In Kenya, health experts at the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, as part of our Infectious Diseases Task Force, engaged the government early on to recommend best practices in airport screening and public health.

Our quick and effective reaction abroad is facilitated by partnerships that America has carefully nurtured over decades — long before the latest outbreak.

We believe our actions will slow the transmission of the virus to and within the United States and other countries, solidify our ties of friendship with our allies and partners, and help save lives by giving us more time to refine preparedness measures and better understand the virus.

We all hope that our concerted efforts will control the virus and cause it to subside. But the world doesn't need to wait for that day to see how America remains a force for good throughout the globe.

From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2020 5:38 PM EST
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Subject: Please Register - COVID 19- National Call, Feb. 14th

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Darcie Johnston, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
(202) 853-0582

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From: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>

Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 3:46 PM EDT

To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>

CC: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>

Subject: PLEASE REVIEW - CONFIDENTIAL

Attachment(s): "NEWS RELEASE-COVID-19 testing DRAFT.docx"

Please see attached our working draft. Please review asap.

Thanks,

Aly

NEWS RELEASE
March 10, 2020

Health officials confirms two new presumptive positive COVID-19 cases in Louisiana as state increases testing for the virus

BATON ROUGE, La. – The Louisiana Department of Health reported two new presumptive positive cases of COVID-19, commonly referred to as coronavirus, both residents of and hospitalized in Orleans Parish. At this time, there are three known cases of the illness in the state, all in Orleans Parish.

Gov. Edwards said, “Currently, we have three presumptive positive cases of coronavirus in Louisiana, all in the New Orleans area. While we investigate these cases, we cannot disclose any additional information about these patients at this time.

The presumptive positive tests will be sent to the CDC for final confirmation of COVID-19. Louisiana will move forward as if the tests are actual positives and take actions to contain the illness and assess the risk of spread.

Additional tests will be administered to determine if more people have been infected after the Department’s epidemiology team performs an investigation of close contacts.

“At this point in our investigation we believe the first presumptive positive announced yesterday is not travel-related and was community acquired,” said Dr. Alex Billioux, Assistant Secretary of the Office of Public Health.

LOUISIANA RAMPS UP TESTING

This comes as the state has increased testing for the virus.

In the four days since receiving more test kits from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Louisiana Department of Health has tested more than four times as many people for the virus.

With 35 tests of Persons Under Investigation (PUI) now completed, only three have been confirmed presumptive positive in Louisiana. This compares to five completed tests as of Friday, March 6.

Health officials expected that increased testing for COVID-19 would lead to confirmation of a case in the state. The Department has updated its COVID-19 website to include this new information about testing and will update it daily. The website is www.ldh.la.gov/coronavirus.

Gov. John Bel Edwards said Louisiana is following the CDC’s guidance and testing three groups of people – those who have traveled to certain areas and have symptoms, those who have had close contact with someone confirmed to have COVID-19 and have symptoms, and people with an unexplained acute respiratory illness.

“The virus has been confirmed in our neighboring states. Since people travel to Louisiana from other states where cases have been confirmed, and because people travel from other countries where there are cases, it was just a matter of time before we had our first case here,” said Gov. Edwards.

The recent testing by the state laboratory run by LDH's Office of Public Health include samples from people who went to their doctor or to a hospital and had symptoms consistent with COVID-19, cough, headache, or lower respiratory illness. Some patients had recently traveled to a geographic area with known COVID-19 activity, while others did not have such a travel history.

In other instances, the Office of Public Health is using the tests for surveillance purposes. This is done using existing disease surveillance infrastructure that includes several hospitals and clinics throughout Louisiana. For COVID-19 surveillance, when patients are treated for respiratory illnesses, but are not diagnosed with influenza, swabbed samples are sent to the State public health lab where the COVID-19 test is done. Following CDC guidance, a sampling of cases from each site are sent the lab. This is a proven and effective system for the early detection of diseases, allowing health officials to take the appropriate next steps.

For all people who have symptoms and who are being tested, they and their healthcare provider are being advised on precautions to take to prevent spreading the illness to others. Precautions include self-isolation at home or in an isolation room at the hospital.

As of today, some commercial labs are equipped to conduct COVID-19 testing. With these private labs now ready to test, healthcare providers will start sending their samples to those labs.

Positive tests will then be sent to the State public health lab for verification. Appropriate treatment and precautions will immediately be put in place for any positive commercial test before that test is confirmed by the State lab, and the public will be notified.

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

State officials encourage Louisianans to take the following proactive steps to protect the health of themselves and those around them:

- Cover your cough.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, or with a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoiding close contact (within six feet) with those who are sick.

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. CDC believes at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

From: Guillot, Jerry <guillotj@legis.la.gov>

Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2020 5:27 PM EDT

To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>; bnungesser@crt.la.gov <bnungesser@crt.la.gov>; Kyle Ardoin <kyle.ardoin@sos.la.gov>; landryj@ag.louisiana.gov <landryj@ag.louisiana.gov>; jschroder@treasury.la.gov <jschroder@treasury.la.gov>; drstrain@ldaf.la.gov <drstrain@ldaf.la.gov>; jdonelon@ldi.la.gov <jdonelon@ldi.la.gov>; John White <John.White@la.gov>; Jay Dardenne <Jay.Dardenne@LA.GOV>; barabara.goodson@la.gov <barabara.goodson@la.gov>; Marketa Walters <Marketa.Walters@LA.GOV>; Don Pierson <Don.Pierson@LA.GOV>; Chuck Brown <Chuck.Brown@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Mark A Thomas <Mark.Thomas@LA.GOV>; Keith Waddell <Keith.Waddell@la.gov>; Thomas Harris <Thomas.Harris@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Leblanc <jmleblanc@corrections.state.la.us>; mgmyer@corrections.state.la.us <mgmyer@corrections.state.la.us>; Kevin Reeves <Kevin.Reeves@la.gov>; Mike Noel <Mike.Noel@la.gov>; Butch Browning <Butch.Browning@la.gov>; Kimberly Lewis Robinson (Secretary of LDR) <Kimberly.Robinson@LA.GOV>; Shawn Wilson <Shawn.Wilson@LA.GOV>; Joey Strickland <Joey.Strickland@LA.GOV>; Jack Montoucet <JMontoucet@wlf.la.gov>; Ava Dejoie <ADejoie@lwc.la.gov>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Daryl Purpera <DPurpera@LLA.La.gov>; John Carpenter (LEGIS) <carpenterj@legis.la.gov>; Bienvenu, Chrissy <bienvenu@legis.la.gov>; Mallory Waller <wallerm@lsli.org>

CC: Cortez, Sen. Page (Chamber Laptop) <pcortez@legis.la.gov>; Eldridge, Jill <eldridgej@legis.la.gov>; Dixon, Yolanda <dixon@legis.la.gov>; Schexnayder, Rep. Clay (Chamber Laptop) <cschexnayder@legis.la.gov>; Mancuso, Cindy <mancusoc@legis.la.gov>; Fontenot, Michelle <fontenom@legis.la.gov>

Subject: Policies regarding access to the Capitol Building and the legislative areas

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

On behalf of the Senate President and House Speaker, this is to advise that as of Monday, March 16, the following procedures will be in force at the State Capitol Building on each day, whether or not the legislature is in session:

(1) Certain doors to the building will be disabled to enter and will only be available to exit the building. This includes the doors at the bottom of the external stairs with direct access to the basement in the front (south) of the building and the door at the bottom of the stair with direct access to the Senate basement on the southwest side of the building. (The door with direct access to the Senate basement on the northwest side of the building will remain available.)

(2) At each entrance will be an employee of the State Fire Marshal's office to forehead test the temperature of everyone seeking entry into the building.

(3) All prospective entrants are encouraged to be prepared for those screening measures. Those planning to enter the capitol should perform a self-screening in anticipation of their entrance. This self-screening should include taking your temperature at home and asking yourself the questions below. If you answer, "yes," to any of the questions, your access to the building may be restricted.

Have I had any recent foreign travel? If yes, where?

Have I experienced fever and symptoms of lower respiratory illness (e.g., cough and/or shortness of breath) in the last 14 days?

Have I been in the vicinity of a person with possible COVID-19 infection?

Has a family member or close contact been in the vicinity of a person with possible COVID-19 infection?

Have I been in close contact with a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 patient?

(4) Everyone seeking to enter the State Capitol will be tested for their temperature at the designated entrances.

Those tested with a temperature of less than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Centigrade) will be given a colored sticker to wear while in the building (the color will change each day).

Those tested with a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Centigrade) or higher will be denied entry into the building.

Regarding access to the House and Senate chambers when in session:

(1) Floor access, including the areas on each side and rear of each chamber, will be limited to legislators and legislative staff only and press.

(2) The balcony in each chamber will be available for the public, lobbyists, state officials and employees, and family members of legislators. Seating in the balcony will be limited to every other seat so that proper distance can be had between individuals.

Regarding access to the House and Senate committee rooms:

During meetings, seating will be limited to every other chair in the audience. If necessary and available, a meeting with an overflow may be streamed in another committee room.

The observation deck will be closed until April 9.

The House dining hall (cafeteria) will continue service.

Jerry Guillot
Chief of Staff
Louisiana Senate

From: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:18 PM EDT

To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>

CC: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

Subject: Protocol for public reporting going forward

Dear team:

As discussed on our call just now, please find below the working protocol for public reporting on COVID-19.

- 7:30/8AM Daily SITREP is circulated
- Going forward all updates on case count will be shared on our website two times per day, at 9AM and 4:30PM. Information that will be shared:
 - Total # PUI tests
 - # deaths (with location)
 - # confirmed (with location)
 - # presumptive positive (with location)
 - # negative
 - Additional updates on presumptive positive/confirmed cases
- LDH/GO will release a press statement only when there are major developments, i.e., in the case of a confirmed cluster or death. In the case of death, there will also be a press conference.
- LDH will work with GO on notifying parish presidents on a case-by-case basis for now.

Let me know if I'm missing anything.

Thanks all,
Aly

From: Planning, Mark <mark.planning@hq.doe.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 4:14 PM EST
To: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Chancely Courson <Chancely.Courson@la.gov>; Carter, Brittany S. <carter.brittany@epa.gov>; Pasko, Michael <michael.pasko@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: DWH 10 Itinerary - Final

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Thanks, Doug. Mark, would it be helpful to set up a call? Mark

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>
Date: Thursday, Mar 05, 2020, 4:08 PM
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>, Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Chancely Courson <Chancely.Courson@la.gov>, Carter, Brittany S. <carter.brittany@epa.gov>, Planning, Mark <mark.planning@hq.doe.gov>, Pasko, Michael <michael.pasko@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: DWH 10 Itinerary - Final

Hi Mark,

I would encourage you all to work with EPA and DOE on this event. Their IGA team members are cc'd.

Thanks for flagging.

Sincerely,
Doug

From: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 4:16 PM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>; Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Chancely Courson <Chancely.Courson@la.gov>
Subject: FW: DWH 10 Itinerary - Final

Good afternoon. As discussed a couple of weeks ago, we are in the planning stages of the 10 year anniversary for the Deep Water Horizon Anniversary for the morning of April 20, 2020. Given the COVID-19 event, the President and Vice President may not be able to commit on his participation, but wanted to provide the agenda.

Any indication of their participation would be appreciation as we are in the middle of planning for the event.

Thank you.

Mark

Mark A. Cooper
Chief of Staff



(225) 342-7188 office

This message does not originate from a known Department of Energy email system.
Use caution if this message contains attachments, links or requests for information.

From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 12:43 PM EST
To: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: [INVITATION] Call with HHS and DHS on COVID-19

I received a call and I gave them Jimmy Guidry's name.

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 20, 2020, at 7:46 AM, Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@la.gov> wrote:

I have asked Jimmy Guidry to participate as the State Health Officer.

Stephen R. Russo
Louisiana Department of Health
Interim Secretary

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 5:28 PM
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: [INVITATION] Call with HHS and DHS on COVID-19
Importance: High

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) [<mailto:Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 4:36 PM
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: [INVITATION] Call with HHS and DHS on COVID-19
Importance: High

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Governor –

The HHS Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs invites you to a 30 minute Governor-only call **TOMORROW**, February 20, 2020, with Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, Homeland Security Acting Deputy Secretary Ken Cuccinelli, CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield, NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci, and other HHS officials for an update on the Administration's COVID-19 response. Given the extensive number of recent actions, members of President's Coronavirus Task Force would like to update you on current initiatives and answer questions that you may have.

This invite is primarily for the Governor. We encourage that any Governor be joined by the respective Governor's State Health Officer, Homeland Security Advisor, and/or the State Emergency Manager.

We strongly encourage your Governor to try to participate. Only the individuals identified above are invited to join this call.

Please note: this invite is NOT transferrable. Any exception to the above policy is unlikely, and confirmation of a potential surrogate will be confirmed tomorrow after 11 am at the earliest, though not guaranteed.

See below for call-in details.

Date: Thursday, February 20, 2020
Time: 2:30 PM – 3:00 PM
Phone Line: 888-282-0368
Passcode: 3433934

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
202-853-0582

From: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 8:59 AM EST
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: RE: [INVITATION] Call with HHS and DHS on COVID-19

Alicia,

Dr. Guidry verified he could participate but erroneously thought the call was for today instead of yesterday. I apologize on behalf of LDH if this error caused any issues during the call.

Stephen R. Russo
Louisiana Department of Health
Interim Secretary

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 11:43 AM
To: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Cc: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000469

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
202-853-0582

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Sincerely,
Darcie

Darcie L. Johnston
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
202-853-0582

From: Alicia Williams (GOV)
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2020 4:47 PM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Call on Monday

This will just be a call. Let me know what number to call into.

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Sunday, March 8, 2020 1:19 PM
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Cc: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: Call on Monday

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Alicia,

Apologies for not sending this on Friday – thank you for following up.

Thank you for your Governor's RSVP to the Governors-Only Call/VTC regarding COVID-19 preparedness and response efforts with Vice President Mike Pence on for Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

To receive call-in information, please complete this [LINK](#).

Audio Option: Every governor has the option to join the briefing by phone (please complete the link above to receive that call-in information). We have made technology adjustments from the last call, and every governor will have the option to ask questions and engage in dialogue on the March 9 call.

Video Teleconference (VTC) Option: Any governor who wants to participate in this briefing via video teleconference (VTC), please let me know by no later than Friday, March 6 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time to ensure time for proper testing.

- *Locating a VTC:* Governors typically can join the briefing by VTC by going to their State Emergency Operations Center or a VTC location in a state building (sometimes one is located in State Capitol). Contact your state emergency manager if you are not aware of a VTC location.
- *Testing:* The White House will work with you and your team along with FEMA to identify that location and ensure proper testing prior to the briefing.
- *Alternative:* There are few instance where a state does not have access to a VTC and the White House and FEMA are prepared to identify an alternative.

As a reminder this briefing is for Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state). Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 8, 2020 2:14 PM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Call on Monday

Let me know if you will be sending anything regarding the call tmw.

Thanks
Alicia Williams
Senior Special Assistant to the Governor



225.342.8006

225.936.4640 c

alicia.williams@la.gov

gov.louisiana.gov

From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2020 8:18 PM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: Call on Monday

I completed the link and got a call in nbr

Sent from my iPhone

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Alicia - Zach will call you to explain. The link gives you the call in info.

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Sent: Sunday, March 8, 2020 1:19 PM
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Cc: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: Call on Monday

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Apologies for not sending this on Friday – thank you for following up.

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Thanks

Alicia Williams

Senior Special Assistant to the Governor

<image001.png>

225.342.8006

225.936.4640 c

alicia.williams@la.gov

gov.louisiana.gov

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To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
CC: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: Call on Monday
Attachment(s): "image001.png"

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000478

Subject: Call on Monday

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Senior Special Assistant to the Governor

<image001.png>

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OFFICE *of the* GOVERNOR
JOHN BEL EDWARDS

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225.936.4640 c
alicia.williams@la.gov
gov.louisiana.gov

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000481

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) on behalf of Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2020 8:18 PM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
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<image001.png>

225.342.8006

225.936.4640 c

alicia.williams@la.gov

gov.louisiana.gov

Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 5:54 PM EST

To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>; Hughes, Rep. Jason (Chamber Laptop) <jhughes@legis.la.gov>

CC: Bagley, Rep. Larry (Chamber Laptop) <lbagley@legis.la.gov>; Bagley, Rep. Larry (District Office) <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: Caronavirus

Rep Hughes,

The Governor is also calling a meeting of the Unified Command Group (UCG) Monday

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH)

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Best,
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From: Hughes, Rep. Jason (Chamber Laptop) <jhughes@legis.la.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 4:45 PM

To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>; Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>

Cc: Bagley, Rep. Larry (Chamber Laptop) <lbagley@legis.la.gov>; Bagley, Rep. Larry (District Office) <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>

Subject: Caronavirus

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Lauren and Adam,

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Thanks,
Jason

Jason Hughes
State Representative, District 100
Louisiana House of Representatives

Committee Assignments: Ways and Means~Health and Welfare~Judiciary
~Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay~Select Committee on Homeland Security

From: Adam Eitmann

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:29 AM EST

To: Hughes, Rep. Jason (Chamber Laptop) <jhughes@legis.la.gov>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>

CC: Bagley, Rep. Larry (Chamber Laptop) <lbagley@legis.la.gov>; Bagley, Rep. Larry (District Office) <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

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Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 4:58 PM

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000486

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Unedited

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Cc: Bagley, Rep. Larry (Chamber Laptop) <lbagley@legis.la.gov>; Bagley, Rep. Larry (District Office) <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>

Subject: Caronavirus

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Lauren and Adam,

I am starting to get a lot of communications from residents of my District regarding Caronavirus. Specifically, they are asking if Louisiana is prepared to handle. The last thing I want to see is widespread panic from the public, but naturally, they are right to be concerned. Can you please share any preparedness plans? Also, is there any proactive public relations campaign taking place advising residents how to potentially prevent spread of the virus? Any information you can share would be helpful.

Thanks,
Jason

Jason Hughes
State Representative, District 100
Louisiana House of Representatives

Committee Assignments: Ways and Means~Health and Welfare~Judiciary
~Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay~Select Committee on Homeland Security

From: Hughes, Rep. Jason (Chamber Laptop) <jhughes@legis.la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 5:58 PM EST
To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
CC: Bagley, Rep. Larry (Chamber Laptop) <lbagley@legis.la.gov>; Bagley, Rep. Larry (District Office) <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Caronavirus

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Many thanks, Adam.

Jason

Jason Hughes
State Representative, District 100
Louisiana House of Representatives

Committee Assignments: Ways and Means~Health and Welfare~Judiciary
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Subject: RE: Caronavirus

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Subject: RE: Caronavirus

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Our team has been in close communication with the Gov's office on our broader plan around Coronavirus. We are working on something that you can share with your constituents when they inquire, and we are hoping to have it ready for you early next week. We will send it around to all the legislators and your legislative assistants because I know you will likely get more questions.

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000490

Jason Hughes
State Representative, District 100
Louisiana House of Representatives

Committee Assignments: Ways and Means~Health and Welfare~Judiciary
~Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay~Select Committee on Homeland Security

From: Hughes, Rep. Jason (Chamber Laptop) <jhughes@legis.la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 5:52 PM EST
To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>; Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
CC: Bagley, Rep. Larry (Chamber Laptop) <lbagley@legis.la.gov>; Bagley, Rep. Larry (District Office) <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Caronavirus

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Great! Thanks so much, Lauren! Much appreciated.

Jason

Jason Hughes
State Representative, District 100
Louisiana House of Representatives

Committee Assignments: Ways and Means~Health and Welfare~Judiciary
~Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay~Select Committee on Homeland Security

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CC: Bagley, Rep. Larry (Chamber Laptop) <lbagley@legis.la.gov>; Bagley, Rep. Larry (District Office) <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
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Jason Hughes
State Representative, District 100
Louisiana House of Representatives

Committee Assignments: Ways and Means~Health and Welfare~Judiciary
~Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay~Select Committee on Homeland Security

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:24 AM EST

To: Hughes, Rep. Jason (Chamber Laptop) <jhughes@legis.la.gov>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>

CC: Bagley, Rep. Larry (Chamber Laptop) <lbagley@legis.la.gov>; Bagley, Rep. Larry (District Office) <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: Caronavirus

Rep. Hughes,

I wanted to share some more information with you regarding our COVID-19 (also known as coronavirus). This morning the Governor held a meeting of the Unified Command Group (UCG) with state agency heads to make sure that every agency is preparing and coordinating with local, state and federal partners. The Governor has been briefed by LDH and GOHSEP regularly regarding the virus and our preparations. It is important to note that currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Louisiana. The nearest case is in Texas and this person remains in isolation. While the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) now expects there to be "community spread" in certain regions of the United States, the immediate threat to the United States and Louisiana remains low.

LDH has put together online resources for the public at ldh.louisiana.gov/Coronavirus. Members of the public with questions about coronavirus, should contact the Coronavirus General Information Line at 1-855-523-2652 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please encourage your constituents and others to use official sources, like LDH or the CDC, for actual information about the illness. If you hear troubling rumors, please pass them along so we can work with LDH's team to make sure we are communicating effectively and dispelling any mistruths.

The bigger threat to Louisiana remains the flu; we still are experiencing very high levels of that virus. It is not too late to get a flu shot. There are actions we all can take as individuals to be prepared for COVID-19. They are the same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu - cover your cough, wash your hands often and well, and stay home when you're sick.

Please let me know if you have any more questions or if there are any additional resources we can provide.

Thank you,

Adam

From: Hughes, Rep. Jason (Chamber Laptop) [mailto:jhughes@legis.la.gov]

Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 4:58 PM

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Subject: RE: Caronavirus

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State Representative, District 100

Louisiana House of Representatives

Committee Assignments: Ways and Means~Health and Welfare~Judiciary

~Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay~Select Committee on Homeland Security

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Cc: Bagley, Rep. Larry (Chamber Laptop) <lbagley@legis.la.gov>; Bagley, Rep. Larry (District Office) <bagleyl@legis.la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

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Jason Hughes
State Representative, District 100
Louisiana House of Representatives

Committee Assignments: Ways and Means~Health and Welfare~Judiciary
~Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay~Select Committee on Homeland Security

From: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 11:16 AM EST

To: Cindy Rives <Cindy.Rives@la.gov>

CC: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Kimberly Humbles <Kimberly.Humbles@LA.GOV>

Subject: RE: RE: CONFIDENTIAL COVID 19

To my knowledge, all we have is the initial document sent over last night on the federal side, minus transportation and lodging numbers.

Stephen R. Russo
Louisiana Department of Health
Interim Secretary

From: Cindy Rives <Cindy.Rives@la.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 10:03 AM

To: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

Cc: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Kimberly Humbles <Kimberly.Humbles@LA.GOV>

Subject: Re: CONFIDENTIAL COVID 19

Thanks. Please share the two proposals so the budget folks will have for their awareness.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 3, 2020, at 9:54 AM, Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@la.gov> wrote:

Folks:

I want to insure we are all on the same page in regards to the budget, both at the federal and state level. For one, we have the federal "ask" that we put together numbers for a possible federal funding opportunity. In order to do this, I believe we should focus on what we currently have and the NGA letter (which includes transportation and lodging cost). Second, on the state level, I believe we should focus on what supplemental appropriation we would need for treatment, testing, lodging, transportation, etc. This would be included in an early supplemental bill.

Stephen R. Russo
Louisiana Department of Health
Interim Secretary

From: Cindy Rives <Cindy.Rives@la.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 11:03 AM EST
To: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
CC: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Kimberly Humbles <Kimberly.Humbles@LA.GOV>
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Stephen R. Russo
Louisiana Department of Health
Interim Secretary

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 8:44 AM EST
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
CC: Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: CONFIRMATION (LA) -- Governor-Only Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Alicia,

We have **updated** the phone number to dial-in. The access code is still the same. I apologize for the change. **Please confirm you received this update.**

- **Phone Number for Governor Dial-In Only:** 800-320-4330 (Note: this phone number will not start working until 6:00 a.m. ET on March 2)
- **Access Code for Governor Only:** 986695#
- **Testing & Troubleshooting:** Governors' staff may contact the FEMA Operations Center (540-542-2171) to conduct a test at least one hour prior to connecting to the call.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO
Sent: Sunday, March 1, 2020 7:12 PM
To: 'Alicia.Williams@la.gov' <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Cc: Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: CONFIRMATION (LA) -- Governor-Only Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET

Note: This email and its content is not for sharing or distribution outside of a governor and governor's senior staff. Each governor is permitted only one dial-in per state (no exceptions). Please read this email carefully, and please confirm receipt of email and instructions.



Alicia,

Your Governor is **CONFIRMED** to participate in the **Governors-only Briefing Call with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 2, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19.

Briefing Call Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 2, 2020
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- **Expected Length:** 30 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence, HHS Secretary Azar, and additional Senior Administration Officials
- **Governors-Only Participation:** Participation in this call is for governors only. While we are allowing governors to be joined by their relevant cabinet members and key state officials (in the room with the governor – i.e. one call-in per state), only governors will be allowed to actively participate in the briefing.

Call-In Information – ONLY ONE DIAL-IN PER STATE (NO EXCEPTIONS)

Please read carefully and do NOT share or distribute the call-in information. The call line has limited lines and we are permitting only one call-in per state. All relevant cabinet members and key state officials must join their governor in the same room to ensure you are using the access code only once per state. **If your state dials-in using the same access code as the governor, you may prevent your governor from participating in the call as lines are limited.**

- **Phone Number for Governor Dial-In Only:** 888-600-5819 (Note: this phone number will not start working until 6:00 a.m. ET on March 2)
 - **Access Code for Governor Only:** 986695#
 - **Testing & Troubleshooting:** Governors' staff may contact the FEMA Operations Center (540-542-2171) to conduct a test at least one hour prior to connecting to the call.
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Thanks,
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--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:50 AM EDT
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
CC: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications
Attachment(s): "Drafted Louisiana Itinerary - v6 RC Edits.docx"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Please see the attached itinerary. Omar and I spoke yesterday regarding the changes to the press event. Let me know if there is anything I need to add.

Rafael

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Is there an updated itinerary? I spoke with OPH about the need to change our meeting around a little. The time is probably still okay, but given that we now have 6 presumptive positives, I know the Governor would want to either have some providers or potentially impacted Mayors with him.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2020, at 6:53 AM, Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

Best,
Jenn

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2020, at 5:47 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

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LA.GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000501

Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

- **3/12**
 - **Press event with Governor Edwards**
 - § Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?
 - § I'm sure Dr. Adams would appreciate a couple minutes alone with the Governor prior to the press event. Also, I think 30m would suffice for the press event. Happy to discuss further.
 - **Meeting with Mayor Broome**
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- **3/13**
 - **Early Morning**
 - Main changes were I removed the Bacchanal visit. We're protecting the morning for media opportunities in New Orleans, which condenses the SG's availability.
 - **SSP Visit**
 - Recommend moving this to 10:00AM-10:45AM. I do think 45m is a pretty tight window for a tour and meeting. So it may feel rushed, but if we wrap up media we can add some time back if needed.
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 - § Is Ochsner Health System included? Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BP work. If so, I would still recommend maxing at 20 attendees total (in-person), but would want to include them.

OSG staff is 3 total:

- VADM Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General
- Lt. Dennis Anderson-Villaluz, Aide
- Rafael Campos, Division of External Engagement

Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

Rafael

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We will work to firm up all other details on the press event ASAP.

I'm also attaching our edit of the proposed itinerary for the OSG visit. We are working to make a couple of the times work best for attendees (highlighted in yellow), and finalizing the day's last event on Thursday March 12. Do these events and details work for you? Of course we are able to provide any more specifics as needed, but wanted to start with this sketch.

Rafael, can you please confirm the number of people that will be traveling with the Surgeon General?

Happy to work with your office to coordinate anything else on this side.

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Omar

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To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000502

Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>

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Hi all,

I've CC'd both Mia Heck and Jennifer Sherman from our public affairs team. Whenever you have a chance, please send over the write-up on the press event with Gov. Edwards taking place this Thursday, based on our conversation last week.

I spoke with the Surgeon General this morning and he perfectly fine with the briefing at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Thanks!
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Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael:

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Thank you!

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886

<[image001.jpg](#)>

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Update,

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000503

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I apologize for the inconvenience and hope to reach back out shortly.

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I am following up to connect you to Tonya Joiner, the Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Department of Health. She is coordinating with the Governor's Office and so will need contact information to coordinate with you and ASPA for a potential press event.

Thanks,
Alex

Sent from my iPhone

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000504

Once again, I'll know more tomorrow but wanted to share.

Best,
Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 5:46 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
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<image002.jpg>

DRAFT ITINERARY

U.S. Surgeon General Vice Admiral Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH

LOUISIANA

March 12 - 13, 2020

Thursday March 12:

09:15 AM – 09:45 AM One on One Discussion with Governor John Bel Edwards (State Capitol 4th floor, Governor's office 900 North 3rd Street; Baton Rouge, Louisiana)

- Opportunity to chat about the status of COVID-19 in Louisiana prior to press event

09:45 AM – 10:15 AM Press Event with Governor John Bel Edwards (State Capitol 4th floor, Governor's office 900 North 3rd Street; Baton Rouge, Louisiana)

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19
- Mayor Cantrell (New Orleans) will be invited, as will Jefferson Parish President Cynthia Lee-Sheung and Mayor Broome (Baton Rouge)
- Media Opportunity? Yes, **plus key healthcare stakeholders from BR area hospitals**

10:30 AM – 11:45 AM Meeting with Mayor Broome of Baton Rouge (Mayor's Office 222 St Louis St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 Room 801)

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19, hypertension
- Format: Roundtable discussion with Mayor's staff and FQHC providers, BR area Hospital CEOs. Recommend 20 meeting attendees max.
- Media Opportunity? **No**

12:00 PM **Travel to Xavier University of Louisiana** (1 Drexel Dr, New Orleans, LA 70125)

- 80 miles/Approximately 1.5 hour drive

02:00 PM – 03:00 PM Xavier University of Louisiana

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19, substance abuse and misuse
- Attendees: Dr. C. Reynold Verret, Xavier University President
- Format: Roundtable discussion with leadership

03:15 PM – 04:15 PM Xavier University of Louisiana

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19, substance abuse and misuse, health equity
- Format: Grand rounds
- Media Opportunity? **Yes**

05:00 PM – 05:30 PM Community Walk with Dr. Eric Griggs (weather permitting) (Lafitte Greenway, New Orleans, LA – Walk start: 222 N. Roman St, New Orleans LA 70119)

- "Doc Griggs" is an outspoken advocate for community health and physical activity, championing the use of public greenspaces in urban areas such as the Lafitte Greenway.
- Media Opportunity? **No. Dr. Griggs can promote via social media**

- **Additional attendees are 4-5 med school residents/fellows and members of the community that participate in the walk – will confirm details.**

Friday, March 13:

08:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Morning Media Opportunities (TBD)

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Onsite visit to CrescentCare (New Orleans FQHC with Syringe Service Program) (1631 Elysian Fields Ave, New Orleans, LA 70117

- Attendees: Dr. Billioux, Louisiana OPH STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program Staff, Noel Twilbeck (CrescentCare CEO) and staff
- Format: facility/program tour and roundtable on HIV/HCV elimination and SSPs

11:00 AM—12:15 PM Potential visit with Richard Milani.

12:30 PM

Arrival at Hilton New Orleans Riverside (Hilton New Orleans Riverside, 2 Poydras St, New Orleans, LA, 70130)

01:30 PM – 03:00 PM SGR Cessation Keynote

- OSG Priorities: Tobacco cessation
- Format: Keynote presentation

03:30 PM--04:30 PM Meet with Mayor LaToya Cantrell of New Orleans (New Orleans City Hall) (1300 Perdido St, New Orleans, LA 70112

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19
- Format: Roundtable discussion with Mayor Cantrell and New Orleans Health Department Commissioner Dr. Jennifer Avegno
- Media Opportunity? **No.**

04:30 PM

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 5:10 PM EDT
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
CC: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications
Attachment(s): "Drafted Louisiana Itinerary - v3 RC Edits.docx"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

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Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

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Thanks,

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000508

Omar

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To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

DRAFT ITINERARY

U.S. Surgeon General Vice Admiral Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH
LOUISIANA
March 12 - 13, 2020

Thursday March 12:

09:15 AM – 09:30 AM One on One Discussion with Governor John Bel Edwards (Governor's Capitol Office, 4th floor 900 North Third Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802)

- **Opportunity to chat briefly about the status of COVID-19 in Louisiana prior to press event**

09:30 AM – 10:00 AM Press Event with Governor John Bel Edwards (Governor's Capitol Office, 4th floor 900 North Third Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802)

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19
- Media Opportunity? Yes

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM Meeting with Mayor Broome of Baton Rouge (Mayor's Office 222 St Louis St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 Room 801)

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19, hypertension
- Format: Roundtable discussion with Mayor, City staff and FQHC providers, BR area Hospital CEOs. **Recommend 20 meeting attendees max.**
- Media Opportunity? **No**

12:00 PM **Travel to Xavier University of Louisiana** (1 Drexel Dr, New Orleans, LA 70125)

- 80 miles/Approximately 1.5 hour drive

02:00 PM – 03:00 PM Xavier University of Louisiana

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19, substance abuse and misuse
- Attendees: Dr. C. Reynold Verret, Xavier University President
- Format: Roundtable discussion with leadership

03:15 PM – 04:15 PM Xavier University of Louisiana

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19, substance abuse and misuse, health equity
- Format: Grand rounds
- Media Opportunity? **Yes**

05:00 PM – 05:30 PM Community Walk with Dr. Eric Griggs (weather permitting) (Lafitte Greenway, New Orleans, LA)

- "Doc Griggs" is an outspoken advocate for community health and physical activity, championing the use of public greenspaces in urban areas such as the Lafitte Greenway.
- Media Opportunity? **No.**
 - **Dr. Griggs can promote via social media**
- **One-on-one or additional attendees?**

Friday, March 13:

08:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Morning Media Opportunities (TBD)

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM

Onsite visit to CrescentCare (New Orleans FQHC with Syringe Service Program) (1631 Elysian Fields Ave, New Orleans, LA 70117)

- Attendees: Louisiana OPH STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program Staff, Noel Twilbeck, CrescentCare CEO and staff
- Format: facility/program tour and roundtable on HIV/HCV elimination and SSPs
- **45m may be tight/rushed to include a tour and roundtable discussion. If the morning media opportunities end early we can possibly add an additional 15m**

11:00 AM—12:15 PM OPH Leadership and Management Roundtable (Benson Tower room 1800, 1450 Poydras St, New Orleans LA 70113)

- Attendees: OPH Leadership (20 people on site, roughly 20 more via teleconference)
- Format: This is a recurring leadership meeting with a regular deep dive topic, which will be replaced with a visit from the SG. Remarks from OSG and brief presentation from highlighted OPH Programs (*Hep C elimination, maternal mortality, Community Health/Economic convening*) to the SG.
- **Does this include Ochsner Health System is the list of attendees?**
 - **If not, I would like to include them. However, I still recommend capping the total in-person attendees to 20.**
 - **Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BP work. He also stated they were based in the same building so it would be feasible.**

12:30 PM

Arrival at Hilton New Orleans Riverside (Hilton New Orleans Riverside, 2 Poydras St, New Orleans, LA, 70130)

01:30 PM – 03:00 PMSGRC Cessation Keynote

- OSG Priorities: Tobacco cessation
- Format: Keynote presentation

3:30 PM--4:30 PM

Meet with Mayor LaToya Cantrell of New Orleans (New Orleans City Hall) (1300 Perdido St, New Orleans, LA 70112)

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19

FOR-INTERNAL-USE-ONLY

- Format: Roundtable discussion with Mayor Cantrell and New Orleans Health Department Commissioner Dr. Jennifer Avegno
- Media Opportunity? **No**.

DRAFT

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 12:44 PM EDT
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
CC: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

I've CC'd both Mia Heck and Jennifer Sherman from our public affairs team. Whenever you have a chance, please send over the write-up on the press event with Gov. Edwards taking place this Thursday, based on our conversation last week.

I spoke with the Surgeon General this morning and he perfectly fine with the briefing at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Thanks!
Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 4:06 PM
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Let's do 3:30 PM ET tomorrow. I'll send out a conference line.

Rafael

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael:

We have not coordinated with Mia. The governor's office and our LDH team are available to do a call tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. ET or 3:30 p.m. ET. Please let me know your preference and we will get it scheduled and send out an invite.

Thank you!

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886



From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Update,

So I was able to coordinate with Mia Heck. Tonya and Aly, you may have connected with Mia not too long ago. I was told she helped plan some work with your team when the Assistant Secretary for Health visited Louisiana. I'd be happy to schedule a call this afternoon or early tomorrow. Looks like there is a window today between 1pm-130pm ET, or tomorrow between 1230pm-230pm or after 330pm ET.

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000515

Let me know if any of those times work and I can set up a conference line.

Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Alex,

Thanks for your note.

I'm sorting some things out internally and hope to have an answer shortly. I just found out this morning that Jenn Sherman, our Director of Public Affairs at OSG, is out of the office today and tomorrow. Her deputy is helping the Assistant Secretary for Health with comm support this week. So I'm checking with the Department to see if there is someone else from comms that can take her place to help facilitate the press event on our end while she's out. Jenn returns to the office on Monday, but I'd like to finalize this sooner if possible.

I know they're pretty backed up with media request so it'll take some maneuvering on my end. I'm happy to chat with Tonya and Aly in the interim and forward any press details to a new department point of contact once I've identified them.

I apologize for the inconvenience and hope to reach back out shortly.

Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I am following up to connect you to Tonya Joiner, the Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Department of Health. She is coordinating with the Governor's Office and so will need contact information to coordinate with you and ASPA for a potential press event.

Thanks,
Alex

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 3, 2020, at 10:13 AM, Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

So there may be some changes to the SG's availability given his involvement with the President's Coronavirus Task Force. I should know more tomorrow, but there are 3 options that I'm aware of:

1. Same schedule, but include some media opportunities for COVID-19 throughout the trip
2. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, participates in SRNT at 1:30 PM then departs back to DC.
3. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, SRNT moves his session earlier in the day so he can make an afternoon briefing in DC

I wanted to throw this on your radar for awareness. A question the team brought up was whether Gov. Edwards would be available Friday morning for some media? If so, Aly, I'd want to connect you with our public affairs team to work out those details as soon as possible, given our approval process extends outside of the department for COVID-19 activities.

Once again, I'll know more tomorrow but wanted to share.

Best,
Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000516

Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 5:46 PM

To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>

Subject: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!

Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Assistant Secretary

Office of Public Health

Louisiana Department of Health

628 North 4th Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov

Office: 225-342-6188

Cell: 225-726-0599

<image001.png>

<image002.jpg>

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 5:01 PM EDT
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
CC: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>; Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Thank you!

From: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) [mailto:Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 2:19 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>; Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

A few edits in red to Dr. Adams' name/title.

PUBLIC SCHEDULE LANGUAGE:

Gov. John Bel Edwards will join **Vice Admiral** Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH, U.S. Surgeon General, and local elected officials and health stakeholders for a discussion of Louisiana's response to COVID-19 tomorrow. Following this meeting, Gov. Edwards and Surgeon General Adams will conduct a media briefing.

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 3:12 PM
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>; Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

To follow up on our call, this is the language we would propose for the Governor's public schedule/media advisory for this evening and then language for his press conference later today. Does this look okay? We don't have to finalize until around 4:45 p.m. CST.

This is the livestream link for all of our press conferences: [Facebook.com/LouisianaGov](https://www.facebook.com/LouisianaGov)

PUBLIC SCHEDULE LANGUAGE:

Gov. John Bel Edwards will join United States Surgeon General Jerome M. Adams, MD, and local elected officials and health stakeholders for a discussion of Louisiana's response to COVID-19 tomorrow. Following this meeting, Gov. Edwards and Surgeon General Adams will conduct a media briefing.

9:45 AM Joint Media Briefing on COVID-19 (Open Media)
Governor's Press Room (Fourth Floor)
Louisiana State Capitol
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

TALKING POINTS FOR 5:30 p.m. PRESSER:

In closing, I would like to make one announcement about tomorrow. We will be joined by the United States Surgeon General, Dr. Jerome Adams for a meeting about our response to COVID-19 in Louisiana.

Do not be alarmed: the Surgeon General was already planning a trip here to Louisiana. That said, we are going to take the opportunity to talk about COVID-19 and for him to get a briefing on how things are going here. We will also include several local officials and health care stakeholders.

We will have a joint press conference tomorrow morning after our meeting and my office will have more details about that tonight.

I am thankful for the Surgeon General and the many federal officials who have provided information and support to the state and I know that tomorrow's discussion will be a fruitful one.

From: Christina Stephens
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:47 PM
To: 'Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH)' <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Yes. I am free until around 2:15 CST today if it is possible to get on a call. We have a Unified Command Group meeting beginning at 3 p.m. and we will be getting ready for that.

Thanks, Christina

From: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Checking in...

Would it be possible to setup a quick call this afternoon to discuss tomorrow morning? I spoke with Dr. Adams and he was wondering if your local state health officials might want to/be able to join the meeting with the SG and Governor. SG is very interested in getting a deeper dive on the current situation in LA before the media availability.

Happy to talk through options, etc. I know Rafael is in-flight right now...

Also checking in on the status for media.

2:30 pm EST and 4:30 pm EST are my best windows today, but can make other windows work.

Jenn

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:50 AM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Please see the attached itinerary. Omar and I spoke yesterday regarding the changes to the press event. Let me know if there is anything I need to add.

Rafael

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Is there an updated itinerary? I spoke with OPH about the need to change our meeting around a little. The time is probably still okay, but given that we now have 6 presumptive positives, I know the Governor would want to either have some providers or potentially impacted Mayors with him.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2020, at 6:53 AM, Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000519

Best,
Jenn

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2020, at 5:47 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

- **3/12**
 - **Press event with Governor Edwards**
 - § Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?
 - § I'm sure Dr. Adams would appreciate a couple minutes alone with the Governor prior to the press event. Also, I think 30m would suffice for the press event. Happy to discuss further.
 - **Meeting with Mayor Broome**
 - § I like the backgrounds of the attendees for the meeting, however I'd like to keep the meeting to 20 attendees max if possible. I also recommend trimming the meeting down to 1.5 hours rather than 2 full hours.
 - **Community walk with Dr. Eric Griggs**
 - § Really like this addition. I trimmed it down to 30m. Would recommend no media because we will have coverage with the governor's press event and at the grand rounds. Dr. Griggs can promote via social media if he'd like.
 - § Let us know if you think it would be a one-on-one or include med students/residents
- **3/13**
 - **Early Morning**
 - Main changes were I removed the Bacchanal visit. We're protecting the morning for media opportunities in New Orleans, which condenses the SG's availability.
 - **SSP Visit**
 - Recommend moving this to 10:00AM-10:45AM. I do think 45m is a pretty tight window for a tour and meeting. So it may feel rushed, but if we wrap up media we can add some time back if needed.
 - **OPH Leadership roundtable**
 - § Is Ochsner Health System included? Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BP work. If so, I would still recommend maxing at 20 attendees total (in-person), but would want to include them.

OSG staff is 3 total:

- VADM Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General
- Lt. Dennis Anderson-Villaluz, Aide
- Rafael Campos, Division of External Engagement

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000520

Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

Rafael

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Thanks Rafael! We were discussing the location and think the Capitol may work best logistically. Christina, I know the Governor's Office suggested either option, so I will defer to you to confirm that choice.

We will work to firm up all other details on the press event ASAP.

I'm also attaching our edit of the proposed itinerary for the OSG visit. We are working to make a couple of the times work best for attendees (highlighted in yellow), and finalizing the day's last event on Thursday March 12. Do these events and details work for you? Of course we are able to provide any more specifics as needed, but wanted to start with this sketch.

Rafael, can you please confirm the number of people that will be traveling with the Surgeon General?

Happy to work with your office to coordinate anything else on this side.

Thanks,
Omar

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 11:45 AM
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

I've CC'd both Mia Heck and Jennifer Sherman from our public affairs team. Whenever you have a chance, please send over the write-up on the press event with Gov. Edwards taking place this Thursday, based on our conversation last week.

I spoke with the Surgeon General this morning and he perfectly fine with the briefing at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Thanks!
Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 4:06 PM
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Let's do 3:30 PM ET tomorrow. I'll send out a conference line.

Rafael

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000521

Hi Rafael:

We have not coordinated with Mia. The governor's office and our LDH team are available to do a call tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. ET or 3:30 p.m. ET. Please let me know your preference and we will get it scheduled and send out an invite.

Thank you!

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886

[<image001.jpg>](#)

[<image002.jpg>](#) [<image003.jpg>](#)[<image004.jpg>](#)

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
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Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Update,

So I was able to coordinate with Mia Heck. Tonya and Aly, you may have connected with Mia not too long ago. I was told she helped plan some work with your team when the Assistant Secretary for Health visited Louisiana. I'd be happy to schedule a call this afternoon or early tomorrow. Looks like there is a window today between 1pm-130pm ET, or tomorrow between 1230pm-230pm or after 330pm ET.

Let me know if any of those times work and I can set up a conference line.

Rafael

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Hi Alex,

Thanks for your note.

I'm sorting some things out internally and hope to have an answer shortly. I just found out this morning that Jenn Sherman, our Director of Public Affairs at OSG, is out of the office today and tomorrow. Her deputy is helping the Assistant Secretary for Health with comm support this week. So I'm checking with the Department to see if there is someone else from comms that can take her place to help facilitate the press event on our end while she's out. Jenn returns to the office on Monday, but I'd like to finalize this sooner if possible.

I know they're pretty backed up with media request so it'll take some maneuvering on my end. I'm happy to chat with Tonya and Aly in the interim and forward any press details to a new department point of contact once I've identified them.

I apologize for the inconvenience and hope to reach back out shortly.

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Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000522

Hi Rafael,

I am following up to connect you to Tonya Joiner, the Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Department of Health. She is coordinating with the Governor's Office and so will need contact information to coordinate with you and ASPA for a potential press event.

Thanks,
Alex

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 3, 2020, at 10:13 AM, Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov> wrote:

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Hi all,

So there may be some changes to the SG's availability given his involvement with the President's Coronavirus Task Force. I should know more tomorrow, but there are 3 options that I'm aware of:

1. Same schedule, but include some media opportunities for COVID-19 throughout the trip
2. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, participates in SRNT at 1:30 PM then departs back to DC.
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I wanted to throw this on your radar for awareness. A question the team brought up was whether Gov. Edwards would be available Friday morning for some media? If so, Aly, I'd want to connect you with our public affairs team to work out those details as soon as possible, given our approval process extends outside of the department for COVID-19 activities.

Once again, I'll know more tomorrow but wanted to share.

Best,
Rafael

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Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
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Hi Rafael,

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000523

<image002.jpg>

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 3:12 PM EDT

To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>

CC: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>; Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

To follow up on our call, this is the language we would propose for the Governor's public schedule/media advisory for this evening and then language for his press conference later today. Does this look okay? We don't have to finalize until around 4:45 p.m. CST.

This is the livestream link for all of our press conferences: [Facebook.com/LouisianaGov](https://www.facebook.com/LouisianaGov)

PUBLIC SCHEDULE LANGUAGE:

Gov. John Bel Edwards will join United States Surgeon General Jerome M. Adams, MD, and local elected officials and health stakeholders for a discussion of Louisiana's response to COVID-19 tomorrow. Following this meeting, Gov. Edwards and Surgeon General Adams will conduct a media briefing.

9:45 AM Joint Media Briefing on COVID-19 (Open Media)
Governor's Press Room (Fourth Floor)
Louisiana State Capitol
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

TALKING POINTS FOR 5:30 p.m. PRESSER:

In closing, I would like to make one announcement about tomorrow. We will be joined by the United States Surgeon General, Dr. Jerome Adams for a meeting about our response to COVID-19 in Louisiana.

Do not be alarmed: the Surgeon General was already planning a trip here to Louisiana. That said, we are going to take the opportunity to talk about COVID-19 and for him to get a briefing on how things are going here. We will also include several local officials and health care stakeholders.

We will have a joint press conference tomorrow morning after our meeting and my office will have more details about that tonight.

I am thankful for the Surgeon General and the many federal officials who have provided information and support to the state and I know that tomorrow's discussion will be a fruitful one.

From: Christina Stephens

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:47 PM

To: 'Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH)' <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>

Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Yes. I am free until around 2:15 CST today if it is possible to get on a call. We have a Unified Command Group meeting beginning at 3 p.m. and we will be getting ready for that.

Thanks, Christina

From: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:37 PM

To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

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Checking in...

Would it be possible to setup a quick call this afternoon to discuss tomorrow morning? I spoke with Dr. Adams and he was wondering if your local state health officials might want to/be able to join the meeting with the SG and Governor. SG is very interested in getting a deeper dive on the current situation in LA before the media availability.

Happy to talk through options, etc. I know Rafael is in-flight right now...

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000525

Also checking in on the status for media.

2:30 pm EST and 4:30 pm EST are my best windows today, but can make other windows work.

Jenn

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:50 AM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Please see the attached itinerary. Omar and I spoke yesterday regarding the changes to the press event. Let me know if there is anything I need to add.

Rafael

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Is there an updated itinerary? I spoke with OPH about the need to change our meeting around a little. The time is probably still okay, but given that we now have 6 presumptive positives, I know the Governor would want to either have some providers or potentially impacted Mayors with him.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2020, at 6:53 AM, Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

Best,
Jenn

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2020, at 5:47 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000526

Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

- **3/12**
 - **Press event with Governor Edwards**
 - § Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?
 - § I'm sure Dr. Adams would appreciate a couple minutes alone with the Governor prior to the press event. Also, I think 30m would suffice for the press event. Happy to discuss further.
 - **Meeting with Mayor Broome**
 - § I like the backgrounds of the attendees for the meeting, however I'd like to keep the meeting to 20 attendees max if possible. I also recommend trimming the meeting down to 1.5 hours rather than 2 full hours.
 - **Community walk with Dr. Eric Griggs**
 - § Really like this addition. I trimmed it down to 30m. Would recommend no media because we will have coverage with the governor's press event and at the grand rounds. Dr. Griggs can promote via social media if he'd like.
 - § Let us know if you think it would be a one-on-one or include med students/residents
- **3/13**
 - **Early Morning**
 - Main changes were I removed the Bacchanal visit. We're protecting the morning for media opportunities in New Orleans, which condenses the SG's availability.
 - **SSP Visit**
 - Recommend moving this to 10:00AM-10:45AM. I do think 45m is a pretty tight window for a tour and meeting. So it may feel rushed, but if we wrap up media we can add some time back if needed.
 - **OPH Leadership roundtable**
 - § Is Ochsner Health System included? Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BP work. If so, I would still recommend maxing at 20 attendees total (in-person), but would want to include them.

OSG staff is 3 total:

- VADM Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General
- Lt. Dennis Anderson-Villaluz, Aide
- Rafael Campos, Division of External Engagement

Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

Rafael

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Thanks Rafael! We were discussing the location and think the Capitol may work best logistically. Christina, I know the Governor's Office suggested either option, so I will defer to you to confirm that choice.

We will work to firm up all other details on the press event ASAP.

I'm also attaching our edit of the proposed itinerary for the OSG visit. We are working to make a couple of the times work best for attendees (highlighted in yellow), and finalizing the day's last event on Thursday March 12. Do these events and details work for you? Of course we are able to provide any more specifics as needed, but wanted to start with this sketch.

Rafael, can you please confirm the number of people that will be traveling with the Surgeon General?

Happy to work with your office to coordinate anything else on this side.

Thanks,
Omar

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000527

Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 11:45 AM
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

I've CC'd both Mia Heck and Jennifer Sherman from our public affairs team. Whenever you have a chance, please send over the write-up on the press event with Gov. Edwards taking place this Thursday, based on our conversation last week.

I spoke with the Surgeon General this morning and he perfectly fine with the briefing at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Thanks!
Rafael

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Let's do 3:30 PM ET tomorrow. I'll send out a conference line.

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Update,

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000528

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I wanted to throw this on your radar for awareness. A question the team brought up was whether Gov. Edwards would be available Friday morning for some media? If so, Aly, I'd want to connect

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000529

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Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
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Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

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Jenn

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Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:50 AM
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Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Please see the attached itinerary. Omar and I spoke yesterday regarding the changes to the press event. Let me know if there is anything I need to add.

Rafael

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Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:42 AM
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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000531

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Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886

[<image001.jpg>](#)

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Hi Rafael,

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000535

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000540

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

From: Christina Stephens

Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 5:46 PM EDT

To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>

CC: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 4:10 PM

To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

· **3/12**

○ **Press event with Governor Edwards**

§ Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?

§ I'm sure Dr. Adams would appreciate a couple minutes alone with the Governor prior to the press event. Also, I think 30m would suffice for the press event. Happy to discuss further.

○ **Meeting with Mayor Broome**

§ I like the backgrounds of the attendees for the meeting, however I'd like to keep the meeting to 20 attendees max if possible. I also recommend trimming the meeting down to 1.5 hours rather than 2 full hours.

○ **Community walk with Dr. Eric Griggs**

§ Really like this addition. I trimmed it down to 30m. Would recommend no media because we will have coverage with the governor's press event and at the grand rounds. Dr. Griggs can promote via social media if he'd like.

§ Let us know if you think it would be a one-on-one or include med students/residents

· **3/13**

○ **Early Morning**

· Main changes were I removed the Bacchanal visit. We're protecting the morning for media opportunities in New Orleans, which condenses the SG's availability.

○ **SSP Visit**

· Recommend moving this to 10:00AM-10:45AM. I do think 45m is a pretty tight window for a tour and meeting. So it may feel rushed, but if we wrap up media we can add some time back if needed.

○ **OPH Leadership roundtable**

§ Is Ochsner Health System included? Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BP work. If so, I would still recommend maxing at 20 attendees total (in-person), but would want to include them.

OSG staff is 3 total:

- VADM Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General
- Lt. Dennis Anderson-Villaluz, Aide
- Rafael Campos, Division of External Engagement

Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for your help on this!

Rafael

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000542

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We will work to firm up all other details on the press event ASAP.

I'm also attaching our edit of the proposed itinerary for the OSG visit. We are working to make a couple of the times work best for attendees (highlighted in yellow), and finalizing the day's last event on Thursday March 12. Do these events and details work for you? Of course we are able to provide any more specifics as needed, but wanted to start with this sketch.

Rafael, can you please confirm the number of people that will be traveling with the Surgeon General?

Happy to work with your office to coordinate anything else on this side.

Thanks,
Omar

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>

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To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>

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Hi all,

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I spoke with the Surgeon General this morning and he perfectly fine with the briefing at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Thanks!
Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)

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To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Let's do 3:30 PM ET tomorrow. I'll send out a conference line.

Rafael

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 1:58 PM

To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael:

We have not coordinated with Mia. The governor's office and our LDH team are available to do a call tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. ET or 3:30 p.m. ET. Please let me know your preference and we will get it scheduled and send out an invite.

Thank you!

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 10:06 AM
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Update,

So I was able to coordinate with Mia Heck. Tonya and Aly, you may have connected with Mia not too long ago. I was told she helped plan some work with your team when the Assistant Secretary for Health visited Louisiana. I'd be happy to schedule a call this afternoon or early tomorrow. Looks like there is a window today between 1pm-130pm ET, or tomorrow between 1230pm-230pm or after 330pm ET.

Let me know if any of those times work and I can set up a conference line.

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From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)
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To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Alex,

Thanks for your note.

I'm sorting some things out internally and hope to have an answer shortly. I just found out this morning that Jenn Sherman, our Director of Public Affairs at OSG, is out of the office today and tomorrow. Her deputy is helping the Assistant Secretary for Health with comm support this week. So I'm checking with the Department to see if there is someone else from comms that can take her place to help facilitate the press event on our end while she's out. Jenn returns to the office on Monday, but I'd like to finalize this sooner if possible.

I know they're pretty backed up with media request so it'll take some maneuvering on my end. I'm happy to chat with Tonya and Aly in the interim and forward any press details to a new department point of contact once I've identified them.

I apologize for the inconvenience and hope to reach back out shortly.

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Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I am following up to connect you to Tonya Joiner, the Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Department of Health. She is coordinating with the Governor's Office and so will need contact information to coordinate with you and ASPA for a potential press event.

Thanks,
Alex

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 3, 2020, at 10:13 AM, Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov> wrote:

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Hi all,

So there may be some changes to the SG's availability given his involvement with the President's Coronavirus Task Force. I should know more tomorrow, but there are 3 options that I'm aware of:

1. Same schedule, but include some media opportunities for COVID-19 throughout the trip
2. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, participates in SRNT at 1:30 PM then departs back to DC.
3. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, SRNT moves his session earlier in the day so he can make an afternoon briefing in DC

I wanted to throw this on your radar for awareness. A question the team brought up was whether Gov. Edwards would be available Friday morning for some media? If so, Aly, I'd want to connect you with our public affairs team to work out those details as soon as possible, given our approval process extends outside of the department for COVID-19 activities.

Once again, I'll know more tomorrow but wanted to share.

Best,
Rafael

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Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 5:46 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
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Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

From: Christina Stephens on behalf of Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 1:29 PM EST
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
CC: Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hello! I am free at both of those times listed tomorrow for a call.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 5, 2020, at 11:24 AM, Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov> wrote:

Please see the email below the General's team with times to schedule a call to discuss press event and mtg with Governor.

Please let me know your availability and I am happy to coordinate.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)" <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Date: March 5, 2020 at 10:06:04 AM CST
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>, Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>, Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
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Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

From: Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:42 AM EDT
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
CC: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Is there an updated itinerary? I spoke with OPH about the need to change our meeting around a little. The time is probably still okay, but given that we now have 6 presumptive positives, I know the Governor would want to either have some providers or potentially impacted Mayors with him.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2020, at 6:53 AM, Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

Best,
Jenn

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2020, at 5:47 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

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To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael:

We have not coordinated with Mia. The governor's office and our LDH team are available to do a call tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. ET or 3:30 p.m. ET. Please let me know your preference and we will get it scheduled and send out an invite.

Thank you!

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886

<[image001.jpg](#)>

<[image002.jpg](#)> <[image003.jpg](#)><[image004.jpg](#)>

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Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 10:06 AM
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Update,

So I was able to coordinate with Mia Heck. Tonya and Aly, you may have connected with Mia not too long ago. I was told she helped plan some work with your team when the Assistant Secretary for Health visited Louisiana. I'd be happy to schedule a call this afternoon or early tomorrow. Looks like there is a window today between 1pm-130pm ET, or tomorrow between 1230pm-230pm or after 330pm ET.

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Thanks,
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Sent from my iPhone

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Hi Rafael,

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000552

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Have a great weekend!

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Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Assistant Secretary

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Louisiana Department of Health

628 North 4th Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov

Office: 225-342-6188

Cell: 225-726-0599

<image001.png>

<image002.jpg>

From: Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 1:29 PM EST
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
CC: Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hello! I am free at both of those times listed tomorrow for a call.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 5, 2020, at 11:24 AM, Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov> wrote:

Please see the email below the General's team with times to schedule a call to discuss press event and mtg with Governor.

Please let me know your availability and I am happy to coordinate.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)" <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Date: March 5, 2020 at 10:06:04 AM CST
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000554

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Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000555

Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billieux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

From: David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 11:29 AM EDT
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Did you get what you need?

David Timoll
e|david.timoll@la.gov
p|225-342-2532
Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary
Louisiana Department of Health
www.twitter.com/ladepthealth
www.facebook.com/LaDeptHealth
www.youtube.com/user/MyHealthLa



From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 7:42 AM
To: "Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH)" <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: "Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)" <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>, Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>, Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>, Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>, Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>, "Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH)" <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>, David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Is there an updated itinerary? I spoke with OPH about the need to change our meeting around a little. The time is probably still okay, but given that we now have 6 presumptive positives, I know the Governor would want to either have some providers or potentially impacted Mayors with him.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2020, at 6:53 AM, Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

Best,
Jenn

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2020, at 5:47 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 4:10 PM

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000557

To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

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Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

- 3/12
 - **Press event with Governor Edwards**
 - Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?
 - I'm sure Dr. Adams would appreciate a couple minutes alone with the Governor prior to the press event. Also, I think 30m would suffice for the press event. Happy to discuss further.
 - **Meeting with Mayor Broome**
 - I like the backgrounds of the attendees for the meeting, however I'd like to keep the meeting to 20 attendees max if possible. I also recommend trimming the meeting down to 1.5 hours rather than 2 full hours.
 - **Community walk with Dr. Eric Griggs**
 - Really like this addition. I trimmed it down to 30m. Would recommend no media because we will have coverage with the governor's press event and at the grand rounds. Dr. Griggs can promote via social media if he'd like.
 - Let us know if you think it would be a one-on-one or include med students/residents
- 3/13
 - **Early Morning**
 - Main changes were I removed the Bacchanal visit. We're protecting the morning for media opportunities in New Orleans, which condenses the SG's availability.
 - **SSP Visit**
 - Recommend moving this to 10:00AM-10:45AM. I do think 45m is a pretty tight window for a tour and meeting. So it may feel rushed, but if we wrap up media we can add some time back if needed.
 - **OPH Leadership roundtable**
 - Is Ochsner Health System included? Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BP work. If so, I would still recommend maxing at 20 attendees total (in-person), but would want to include them.

OSG staff is 3 total:

- VADM Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General
- Lt. Dennis Anderson-Villaluz, Aide
- Rafael Campos, Division of External Engagement

Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

Rafael

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 1:20 PM
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Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Thanks Rafael! We were discussing the location and think the Capitol may work best logistically. Christina, I know the Governor's Office suggested either option, so I will defer to you to confirm that choice.

We will work to firm up all other details on the press event ASAP.

I'm also attaching our edit of the proposed itinerary for the OSG visit. We are working to make a couple of the times work best for attendees (highlighted in yellow), and finalizing the day's last event on Thursday March 12. Do these events and details work for you? Of course we are able to provide any more specifics as needed, but wanted to start with this sketch.

Rafael, can you please confirm the number of people that will be traveling with the Surgeon General?

Happy to work with your office to coordinate anything else on this side.

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000558

Thanks,
Omar

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To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

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Hi all,

I've CC'd both Mia Heck and Jennifer Sherman from our public affairs team. Whenever you have a chance, please send over the write-up on the press event with Gov. Edwards taking place this Thursday, based on our conversation last week.

I spoke with the Surgeon General this morning and he perfectly fine with the briefing at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Thanks!
Rafael

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Let's do 3:30 PM ET tomorrow. I'll send out a conference line.

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Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Jenn, we are working hard on this and are just about ready to loop you in for review. We have gone ahead and invited the local officials to attend the premeeting at 9:15 with Governor Edwards and a small group representing hospital providers (4-5). We think this will be an excellent opportunity for the SG to hear about what's happening in each locale where we have a presumptive positive case (now up to 6). To recap, the pre-meeting would be attended by: 4 parish/municipal leaders (with some staff) and 4-5 hospital execs, along with the SG and Governor.

I can make either of those windows work to touch base on a call, but I will defer to Christina with our Governor's Office comms for her availability—such as it is these days!

Thanks Jenn,
Omar

From: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Checking in...

Would it be possible to setup a quick call this afternoon to discuss tomorrow morning? I spoke with Dr. Adams and he was wondering if your local state health officials might want to/be able to join the meeting with the SG and Governor. SG is very interested in getting a deeper dive on the current situation in LA before the media availability.

Happy to talk through options, etc. I know Rafael is in-flight right now...

Also checking in on the status for media.

2:30 pm EST and 4:30 pm EST are my best windows today, but can make other windows work.

Jenn

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:50 AM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Please see the attached itinerary. Omar and I spoke yesterday regarding the changes to the press event. Let me know if there is anything I need to add.

Rafael

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Is there an updated itinerary? I spoke with OPH about the need to change our meeting around a little. The time is probably still okay, but given that we now have 6 presumptive positives, I know the Governor would want to either have some providers or potentially impacted Mayors with him.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2020, at 6:53 AM, Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov> wrote:
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000562

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

Best,
Jenn

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2020, at 5:47 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 4:10 PM

To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

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Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

- **3/12**
 - **Press event with Governor Edwards**
 - § Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?
 - § I'm sure Dr. Adams would appreciate a couple minutes alone with the Governor prior to the press event. Also, I think 30m would suffice for the press event. Happy to discuss further.
 - **Meeting with Mayor Broome**
 - § I like the backgrounds of the attendees for the meeting, however I'd like to keep the meeting to 20 attendees max if possible. I also recommend trimming the meeting down to 1.5 hours rather than 2 full hours.
 - **Community walk with Dr. Eric Griggs**
 - § Really like this addition. I trimmed it down to 30m. Would recommend no media because we will have coverage with the governor's press event and at the grand rounds. Dr. Griggs can promote via social media if he'd like.
 - § Let us know if you think it would be a one-on-one or include med students/residents
- **3/13**
 - **Early Morning**
 - Main changes were I removed the Bacchanal visit. We're protecting the morning for media opportunities in New Orleans, which condenses the SG's availability.
 - **SSP Visit**
 - Recommend moving this to 10:00AM-10:45AM. I do think 45m is a pretty tight window for a tour and meeting. So it may feel rushed, but if we wrap up media we can add some time back if needed.
 - **OPH Leadership roundtable**
 - § Is Ochsner Health System included? Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BB work. If so, I would still recommend

maxing at 20 attendees total (in-person), but would want to include them.

OSG staff is 3 total:

- VADM Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General
- Lt. Dennis Anderson-Villaluz, Aide
- Rafael Campos, Division of External Engagement

Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

Rafael

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>

Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 1:20 PM

To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Thanks Rafael! We were discussing the location and think the Capitol may work best logistically. Christina, I know the Governor's Office suggested either option, so I will defer to you to confirm that choice.

We will work to firm up all other details on the press event ASAP.

I'm also attaching our edit of the proposed itinerary for the OSG visit. We are working to make a couple of the times work best for attendees (highlighted in yellow), and finalizing the day's last event on Thursday March 12. Do these events and details work for you? Of course we are able to provide any more specifics as needed, but wanted to start with this sketch.

Rafael, can you please confirm the number of people that will be traveling with the Surgeon General?

Happy to work with your office to coordinate anything else on this side.

Thanks,
Omar

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 11:45 AM

To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

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Hi all,

I've CC'd both Mia Heck and Jennifer Sherman from our public affairs team. Whenever you have a chance, please send over the write-up on the press event with Gov. Edwards taking place this Thursday, based on our conversation last week.

I spoke with the Surgeon General this morning and he perfectly fine with the briefing at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Thanks!
Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)

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To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Let's do 3:30 PM ET tomorrow. I'll send out a conference line.

Rafael

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael:

We have not coordinated with Mia. The governor's office and our LDH team are available to do a call tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. ET or 3:30 p.m. ET. Please let me know your preference and we will get it scheduled and send out an invite.

Thank you!

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886

<[image001.jpg](#)>

<[image002.jpg](#)> <[image003.jpg](#)><[image004.jpg](#)>

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Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

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Update,

So I was able to coordinate with Mia Heck. Tonya and Aly, you may have connected with Mia not too long ago. I was told she helped plan some work with your team when the Assistant Secretary for Health visited Louisiana. I'd be happy to schedule a call this afternoon or early tomorrow. Looks like there is a window today between 1pm-130pm ET, or tomorrow between 1230pm-230pm or after 330pm ET.

Let me know if any of those times work and I can set up a conference line.

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Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Alex,

Thanks for your note.

I'm sorting some things out internally and hope to have an answer shortly. I just found out this morning that Jenn Sherman, our Director of Public Affairs at OSG, is out of the office today and tomorrow. Her deputy is helping the Assistant Secretary for Health with comm support this week. So I'm checking with the Department to see if there is someone else from comms that can take her place to help facilitate the press event on our end while she's out. Jenn returns to the office on Monday, but I'd like to finalize this sooner if possible.

I know they're pretty backed up with media request so it'll take some maneuvering on my end. I'm happy to chat with Tonya and Aly in the interim and forward any press details to a new department point of contact once I've identified them.

I apologize for the inconvenience and hope to reach back out shortly.

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From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
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To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I am following up to connect you to Tonya Joiner, the Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Department of Health. She is coordinating with the Governor's Office and so will need contact information to coordinate with you and ASPA for a potential press event.

Thanks,
Alex

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 3, 2020, at 10:13 AM, Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov> wrote:

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Hi all,

So there may be some changes to the SG's availability given his involvement with the President's Coronavirus Task Force. I should know more tomorrow, but there are 3 options that I'm aware of:

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I wanted to throw this on your radar for awareness. A question the team brought up was whether Gov. Edwards would be available Friday morning for some media? If so, Aly, I'd want to connect you with our public affairs team to work out those details as soon as possible, given our approval process extends outside of the department for COVID-19 activities.

Once again, I'll know more tomorrow but wanted to share.

Best,
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To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
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We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000566

Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billieux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

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Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 1:19 PM EDT
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Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications
Attachment(s): "Drafted Louisiana Itinerary - Louisiana Edits.docx"

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000568

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Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
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Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
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<image002.jpg>

DRAFT ITINERARY

U.S. Surgeon General Vice Admiral Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH
LOUISIANA
March 12 - 13, 2020

Thursday March 12:

09:15 AM – 10:00 AM **Press Event with Governor John Bel Edwards** (Governor's Capitol Office, 4th floor 900 North Third Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802)

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19
- Media Opportunity? Yes

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Meeting with Mayor Broome of Baton Rouge (Mayor's Office 222 St Louis St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 Room 801)**

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19, hypertension
- Format: Roundtable discussion with Mayor, City staff and FQHC providers, BR area Hospital CEOs (approximately 25 healthcare industry attendees)
- Media Opportunity? Possibly (not planned)

12:00 PM **Travel to Xavier University of Louisiana** (1 Drexel Dr, New Orleans, LA 70125)

02:00 PM – 03:00 PM **Xavier University of Louisiana**

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19, substance abuse and misuse
- Attendees: Dr. C. Reynold Verret, Xavier University President
- Format: either a one-on-one meeting or roundtable discussion with leadership

03:00 PM – 04:00 PM **Xavier University of Louisiana**

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19, substance abuse and misuse, health equity
- Format: Grand rounds

05:00 PM – 06:00 PM **Community Walk with Dr. Eric Griggs (weather permitting)** (Lafitte Greenway, New Orleans, LA)

- "Doc Griggs" is an outspoken advocate for community health and physical activity, championing the use of public greenspaces in urban areas such as the Lafitte Greenway.
- Media Opportunity? Possibly (not currently planned)

Friday, March 13:

08:45 AM – 09:30 AM

Onsite visit to CrescentCare (New Orleans FQHC with Syringe Service Program) (1631 Elysian Fields Ave, New Orleans, LA 70117)

- Attendees: Louisiana OPH STD/HIV/Hepatitis Program Staff, Noel Twilbeck, CrescentCare CEO and staff
- Format: facility/program tour and roundtable on HIV/HCV elimination and SSPs

10:00 AM—10:45 AM OPH Leadership and Management Roundtable (Benson Tower room 1800, 1450 Poydras St, New Orleans LA 70113)

- Attendees: OPH Leadership (20 people on site, roughly 20 more via teleconference)
- Format: This is a recurring leadership meeting with a regular deep dive topic, which will be replaced with a visit from the SG. Remarks from OSG and brief presentation from highlighted OPH Programs (*Hep C elimination, maternal mortality, Community Health/Economic convening*) to the SG.

11:00 AM—12:00PM Visit with 504HealthNet (Bacchanal Restaurant) (600 Poland Ave, New Orleans, LA 70117)

- Attendees: Tiffany Netters, ED of 504HealthNet (association of New Orleans area FQHCs)
- Format: visit at the restaurant during open hours with Ms. Netters and restaurant owner. Roundtable discussion on topics of private sector engagement in a service-centered economy. This restaurant is an example put forth by Ms. Netters as an exemplary employer for promoting the health/healthcare access for its employees.

12:30 PM

Arrival at Hilton New Orleans Riverside

Hilton New Orleans Riverside
2 Poydras St, New Orleans, LA, 70130

01:30 PM – 03:00 PMSGRCessation Keynote

- OSG Priorities: Tobacco cessation
- Format: Keynote presentation

3:30 PM--4:30 PM

Meet with Mayor LaToya Cantrell of New Orleans (New Orleans City Hall)
(1300 Perdido St, New Orleans, LA 70112)

- OSG Priorities: COVID-19
- Format: Roundtable discussion with Mayor Cantrell and New Orleans Health Department Commissioner Dr. Jennifer Avegno
- Media Opportunity? Possibly

From: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 3:19 PM EDT
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
CC: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>; Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

A few edits in red to Dr. Adams' name/title.

PUBLIC SCHEDULE LANGUAGE:

Gov. John Bel Edwards will join **Vice Admiral** Jerome M. Adams, MD, **MPH, U.S. Surgeon General**, and local elected officials and health stakeholders for a discussion of Louisiana's response to COVID-19 tomorrow. Following this meeting, Gov. Edwards and Surgeon General Adams will conduct a media briefing.

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 3:12 PM
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>; Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

To follow up on our call, this is the language we would propose for the Governor's public schedule/media advisory for this evening and then language for his press conference later today. Does this look okay? We don't have to finalize until around 4:45 p.m. CST.

This is the livestream link for all of our press conferences: [Facebook.com/LouisianaGov](https://www.facebook.com/LouisianaGov)

PUBLIC SCHEDULE LANGUAGE:

Gov. John Bel Edwards will join United States Surgeon General Jerome M. Adams, MD, and local elected officials and health stakeholders for a discussion of Louisiana's response to COVID-19 tomorrow. Following this meeting, Gov. Edwards and Surgeon General Adams will conduct a media briefing.

9:45 AM Joint Media Briefing on COVID-19 (Open Media)
Governor's Press Room (Fourth Floor)
Louisiana State Capitol
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

TALKING POINTS FOR 5:30 p.m. PRESSER:

In closing, I would like to make one announcement about tomorrow. We will be joined by the United States Surgeon General, Dr. Jerome Adams for a meeting about our response to COVID-19 in Louisiana.

Do not be alarmed: the Surgeon General was already planning a trip here to Louisiana. That said, we are going to take the opportunity to talk about COVID-19 and for him to get a briefing on how things are going here. We will also include several local officials and health care stakeholders.

We will have a joint press conference tomorrow morning after our meeting and my office will have more details about that tonight.

I am thankful for the Surgeon General and the many federal officials who have provided information and support to the state and I know that tomorrow's discussion will be a fruitful one.

From: Christina Stephens
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:47 PM
To: 'Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH)' <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Yes. I am free until around 2:15 CST today if it is possible to get on a call. We have a Unified Command Group meeting beginning at 3 p.m. and we will be getting ready for that.

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000573

Thanks, Christina

From: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

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Checking in...

Would it be possible to setup a quick call this afternoon to discuss tomorrow morning? I spoke with Dr. Adams and he was wondering if your local state health officials might want to/be able to join the meeting with the SG and Governor. SG is very interested in getting a deeper dive on the current situation in LA before the media availability.

Happy to talk through options, etc. I know Rafael is in-flight right now...

Also checking in on the status for media.

2:30 pm EST and 4:30 pm EST are my best windows today, but can make other windows work.

Jenn

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:50 AM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Please see the attached itinerary. Omar and I spoke yesterday regarding the changes to the press event. Let me know if there is anything I need to add.

Rafael

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Is there an updated itinerary? I spoke with OPH about the need to change our meeting around a little. The time is probably still okay, but given that we now have 6 presumptive positives, I know the Governor would want to either have some providers or potentially impacted Mayors with him.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2020, at 6:53 AM, Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

Best,
Jenn

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2020, at 5:47 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000574

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

- **3/12**
 - **Press event with Governor Edwards**
 - § Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?
 - § I'm sure Dr. Adams would appreciate a couple minutes alone with the Governor prior to the press event. Also, I think 30m would suffice for the press event. Happy to discuss further.
 - **Meeting with Mayor Broome**
 - § I like the backgrounds of the attendees for the meeting, however I'd like to keep the meeting to 20 attendees max if possible. I also recommend trimming the meeting down to 1.5 hours rather than 2 full hours.
 - **Community walk with Dr. Eric Griggs**
 - § Really like this addition. I trimmed it down to 30m. Would recommend no media because we will have coverage with the governor's press event and at the grand rounds. Dr. Griggs can promote via social media if he'd like.
 - § Let us know if you think it would be a one-on-one or include med students/residents
- **3/13**
 - **Early Morning**
 - Main changes were I removed the Bacchanal visit. We're protecting the morning for media opportunities in New Orleans, which condenses the SG's availability.
 - **SSP Visit**
 - Recommend moving this to 10:00AM-10:45AM. I do think 45m is a pretty tight window for a tour and meeting. So it may feel rushed, but if we wrap up media we can add some time back if needed.
 - **OPH Leadership roundtable**
 - § Is Ochsner Health System included? Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BP work. If so, I would still recommend maxing at 20 attendees total (in-person), but would want to include them.

OSG staff is 3 total:

- VADM Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General
- Lt. Dennis Anderson-Villaluz, Aide
- Rafael Campos, Division of External Engagement

Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

Rafael

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000575

(HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Thanks Rafael! We were discussing the location and think the Capitol may work best logistically. Christina, I know the Governor's Office suggested either option, so I will defer to you to confirm that choice.

We will work to firm up all other details on the press event ASAP.

I'm also attaching our edit of the proposed itinerary for the OSG visit. We are working to make a couple of the times work best for attendees (highlighted in yellow), and finalizing the day's last event on Thursday March 12. Do these events and details work for you? Of course we are able to provide any more specifics as needed, but wanted to start with this sketch.

Rafael, can you please confirm the number of people that will be traveling with the Surgeon General?

Happy to work with your office to coordinate anything else on this side.

Thanks,
Omar

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 11:45 AM

To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

I've CC'd both Mia Heck and Jennifer Sherman from our public affairs team. Whenever you have a chance, please send over the write-up on the press event with Gov. Edwards taking place this Thursday, based on our conversation last week.

I spoke with the Surgeon General this morning and he perfectly fine with the briefing at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Thanks!
Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)

Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 4:06 PM

To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Let's do 3:30 PM ET tomorrow. I'll send out a conference line.

Rafael

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 1:58 PM

To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael:

We have not coordinated with Mia. The governor's office and our LDH team are available to do a call tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. ET or 3:30 p.m. ET. Please let me know your preference and we will get it scheduled and send out an invite.

Thank you!

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000576

C: (225) 329-6886

[<image001.jpg>](#)

[<image002.jpg>](#) [<image003.jpg>](#)[<image004.jpg>](#)

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Update,

So I was able to coordinate with Mia Heck. Tonya and Aly, you may have connected with Mia not too long ago. I was told she helped plan some work with your team when the Assistant Secretary for Health visited Louisiana. I'd be happy to schedule a call this afternoon or early tomorrow. Looks like there is a window today between 1pm-130pm ET, or tomorrow between 1230pm-230pm or after 330pm ET.

Let me know if any of those times work and I can set up a conference line.

Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Alex,

Thanks for your note.

I'm sorting some things out internally and hope to have an answer shortly. I just found out this morning that Jenn Sherman, our Director of Public Affairs at OSG, is out of the office today and tomorrow. Her deputy is helping the Assistant Secretary for Health with comm support this week. So I'm checking with the Department to see if there is someone else from comms that can take her place to help facilitate the press event on our end while she's out. Jenn returns to the office on Monday, but I'd like to finalize this sooner if possible.

I know they're pretty backed up with media request so it'll take some maneuvering on my end. I'm happy to chat with Tonya and Aly in the interim and forward any press details to a new department point of contact once I've identified them.

I apologize for the inconvenience and hope to reach back out shortly.

Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I am following up to connect you to Tonya Joiner, the Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Department of Health. She is coordinating with the Governor's Office and so will need contact information to coordinate with you and ASPA for a potential press event.

Thanks,
Alex

Sent from my iPhone

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000577

On Mar 3, 2020, at 10:13 AM, Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

So there may be some changes to the SG's availability given his involvement with the President's Coronavirus Task Force. I should know more tomorrow, but there are 3 options that I'm aware of:

1. Same schedule, but include some media opportunities for COVID-19 throughout the trip
2. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, participates in SRNT at 1:30 PM then departs back to DC.
3. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, SRNT moves his session earlier in the day so he can make an afternoon briefing in DC

I wanted to throw this on your radar for awareness. A question the team brought up was whether Gov. Edwards would be available Friday morning for some media? If so, Aly, I'd want to connect you with our public affairs team to work out those details as soon as possible, given our approval process extends outside of the department for COVID-19 activities.

Once again, I'll know more tomorrow but wanted to share.

Best,
Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 5:46 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

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Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 1:37 PM EDT
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Checking in...

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Happy to talk through options, etc. I know Rafael is in-flight right now...

Also checking in on the status for media.

2:30 pm EST and 4:30 pm EST are my best windows today, but can make other windows work.

Jenn

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Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

Best,
Jenn

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

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Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000579

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

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Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
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Hi Omar,

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- **3/12**
 - **Press event with Governor Edwards**
 - § Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?
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 - **Community walk with Dr. Eric Griggs**
 - § Really like this addition. I trimmed it down to 30m. Would recommend no media because we will have coverage with the governor's press event and at the grand rounds. Dr. Griggs can promote via social media if he'd like.
 - § Let us know if you think it would be a one-on-one or include med students/residents
- **3/13**
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 - Main changes were I removed the Bacchanal visit. We're protecting the morning for media opportunities in New Orleans, which condenses the SG's availability.
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 - Recommend moving this to 10:00AM-10:45AM. I do think 45m is a pretty tight window for a tour and meeting. So it may feel rushed, but if we wrap up media we can add some time back if needed.
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 - § Is Ochsner Health System included? Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BP work. If so, I would still recommend maxing at 20 attendees total (in-person), but would want to include them.

OSG staff is 3 total:

- VADM Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General
- Lt. Dennis Anderson-Villaluz, Aide
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Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

Rafael

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000580

Thanks Rafael! We were discussing the location and think the Capitol may work best logistically. Christina, I know the Governor's Office suggested either option, so I will defer to you to confirm that choice.

We will work to firm up all other details on the press event ASAP.

I'm also attaching our edit of the proposed itinerary for the OSG visit. We are working to make a couple of the times work best for attendees (highlighted in yellow), and finalizing the day's last event on Thursday March 12. Do these events and details work for you? Of course we are able to provide any more specifics as needed, but wanted to start with this sketch.

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Happy to work with your office to coordinate anything else on this side.

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EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

I've CC'd both Mia Heck and Jennifer Sherman from our public affairs team. Whenever you have a chance, please send over the write-up on the press event with Gov. Edwards taking place this Thursday, based on our conversation last week.

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Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael:

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Thank you!

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886

<image001.jpg>

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I apologize for the inconvenience and hope to reach back out shortly.

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Hi Rafael,

I am following up to connect you to Tonya Joiner, the Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Department of Health. She is coordinating with the Governor's Office and so will need contact information to coordinate with you and ASPA for a potential press event.

Thanks,
Alex

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 3, 2020, at 10:13 AM, Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov> wrote:

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000582

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

So there may be some changes to the SG's availability given his involvement with the President's Coronavirus Task Force. I should know more tomorrow, but there are 3 options that I'm aware of:

1. Same schedule, but include some media opportunities for COVID-19 throughout the trip
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I wanted to throw this on your radar for awareness. A question the team brought up was whether Gov. Edwards would be available Friday morning for some media? If so, Aly, I'd want to connect you with our public affairs team to work out those details as soon as possible, given our approval process extends outside of the department for COVID-19 activities.

Once again, I'll know more tomorrow but wanted to share.

Best,
Rafael

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Hi Rafael,

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png>
<image002.jpg>

From: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 7:53 AM EDT
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
CC: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications
Attachment(s): "image001.jpg", "image002.jpg", "image003.jpg", "image004.jpg"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

Best,
Jenn

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2020, at 5:47 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
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Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

- **3/12**
 - **Press event with Governor Edwards**
 - § Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?
 - § I'm sure Dr. Adams would appreciate a couple minutes alone with the Governor prior to the press event. Also, I think 30m would suffice for the press event. Happy to discuss further.
 - **Meeting with Mayor Broome**
 - § I like the backgrounds of the attendees for the meeting, however I'd like to keep the meeting to 20 attendees max if possible. I also recommend trimming the meeting down to 1.5 hours rather than 2 full hours.
 - **Community walk with Dr. Eric Griggs**
 - § Really like this addition. I trimmed it down to 30m. Would recommend no media because we will have coverage with the governor's press event and at the grand rounds. Dr. Griggs can promote via social media if he'd like.
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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000584

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Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

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To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000585

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000586

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Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000587

Email: alexander.billieux@la.gov

Office: 225-342-6188

Cell: 225-726-0599

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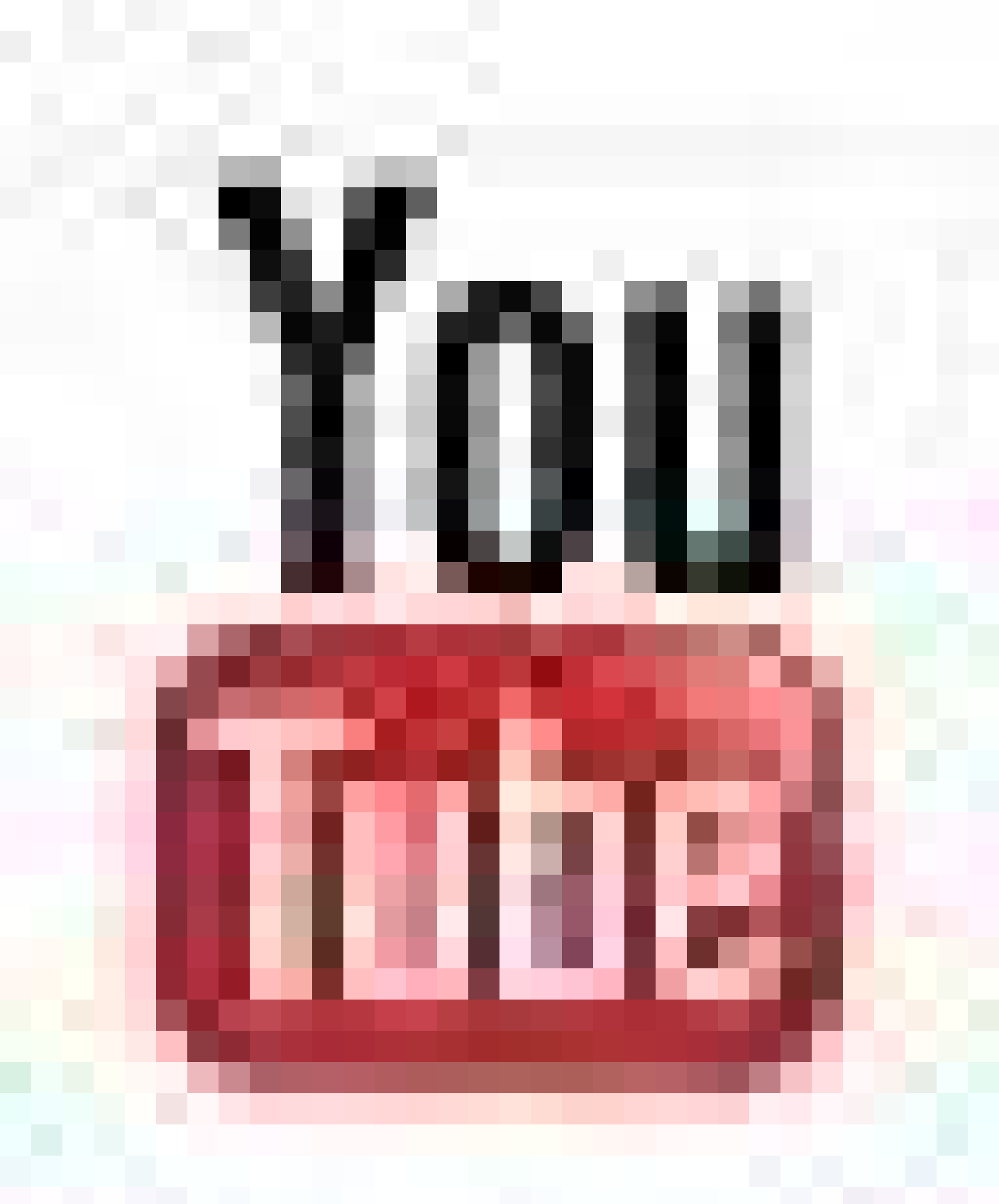
LOUISIANA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 1:57 PM EDT

To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>

CC: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

I have many questions about this meeting. I would like OPH to call me please.

Thank you, Christina

From: Omar Khalid

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:47 PM

To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

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Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Jenn, we are working hard on this and are just about ready to loop you in for review. We have gone ahead and invited the local officials to attend the premeeting at 9:15 with Governor Edwards and a small group representing hospital providers (4-5). We think this will be an excellent opportunity for the SG to hear about what's happening in each locale where we have a presumptive positive case (now up to 6). To recap, the pre-meeting would be attended by: 4 parish/municipal leaders (with some staff) and 4-5 hospital execs, along with the SG and Governor.

I can make either of those windows work to touch base on a call, but I will defer to Christina with our Governor's Office comms for her availability—such as it is these days!

Thanks Jenn,
Omar

From: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:37 PM

To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

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Checking in...

Would it be possible to setup a quick call this afternoon to discuss tomorrow morning? I spoke with Dr. Adams and he was wondering if your local state health officials might want to/be able to join the meeting with the SG and Governor. SG is very interested in getting a deeper dive on the current situation in LA before the media availability.

Happy to talk through options, etc. I know Rafael is in-flight right now...

Also checking in on the status for media.

2:30 pm EST and 4:30 pm EST are my best windows today, but can make other windows work.

Jenn

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:50 AM

To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>

Cc: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Please see the attached itinerary. Omar and I spoke yesterday regarding the changes to the press event. Let me know if there is anything I need to add.

Rafael

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:42 AM

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000593

To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Is there an updated itinerary? I spoke with OPH about the need to change our meeting around a little. The time is probably still okay, but given that we now have 6 presumptive positives, I know the Governor would want to either have some providers or potentially impacted Mayors with him.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 11, 2020, at 6:53 AM, Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Christina, yes announcing today is good. Let me know if you or your team have a few quick minutes this morning to chat. Want to touch base on a few things. We will also need to review the media advisory or press release you plan to issue.

Best,
Jenn

Jenn Sherman
Director of Public Affairs
Office of the Surgeon General

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2020, at 5:47 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Thanks – we can probably make this time work. To be clear, do you want any additional stakeholders in the meeting or at the media availability?

Today has been a bit hectic – we just announced our first presumptive positive and the Governor gave his State of the State address. We had good coverage of our afternoon briefing about it, but certainly the main lines of concern from the press/public are still testing, travel vs. community spread, etc. The Governor also tried to reiterate some of the points from today's call with the VP.

For our purposes, would this be a visit we could announce on Wednesday? Or would you like to do earlier?

Thanks, Christina

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Omar,

Thanks for sending this over. I made edits to the itinerary in **RED**. Here are my main takeaways:

· 3/12

- **Press event with Governor Edwards**
 - § Can we split the 9:15AM – 10:00AM time slot into 9:15AM-9:30AM One-on-One Discussion/9:30AM – 10:00AM Press Event?
 - § I'm sure Dr. Adams would appreciate a couple minutes alone with the Governor prior to the press event. Also, I think 30m would suffice for the press event. Happy to discuss further.
- **Meeting with Mayor Broome**
 - § I like the backgrounds of the attendees for the meeting, however I'd like to keep the meeting to 20 attendees max if possible. I also recommend trimming the meeting down to 1.5 hours rather than 2 full hours.
- **Community walk with Dr. Eric Griggs**
 - § Really like this addition. I trimmed it down to 30m. Would recommend no media because we will have coverage with the governor's press event and at the grand rounds. Dr.

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000594

Griggs can promote via social media if he'd like.
§ Let us know if you think it would be a one-on-one or include med students/residents

· 3/13

○ **Early Morning**

- Main changes were I removed the Bacchanal visit. We're protecting the morning for media opportunities in New Orleans, which condenses the SG's availability.

○ **SSP Visit**

- Recommend moving this to 10:00AM-10:45AM. I do think 45m is a pretty tight window for a tour and meeting. So it may feel rushed, but if we wrap up media we can add some time back if needed.

○ **OPH Leadership roundtable**

- § Is Ochsner Health System included? Alex and I had discussed inviting Dr. Richard Milani and some of his team to discuss their remote BP work. If so, I would still recommend maxing at 20 attendees total (in-person), but would want to include them.

OSG staff is 3 total:

- VADM Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General
- Lt. Dennis Anderson-Villaluz, Aide
- Rafael Campos, Division of External Engagement

Regarding press, please share the press release with Jenn so she can loop in the department as soon as possible. Thanks again for all your help on this!

Rafael

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>

Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 1:20 PM

To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Thanks Rafael! We were discussing the location and think the Capitol may work best logistically. Christina, I know the Governor's Office suggested either option, so I will defer to you to confirm that choice.

We will work to firm up all other details on the press event ASAP.

I'm also attaching our edit of the proposed itinerary for the OSG visit. We are working to make a couple of the times work best for attendees (highlighted in yellow), and finalizing the day's last event on Thursday March 12. Do these events and details work for you? Of course we are able to provide any more specifics as needed, but wanted to start with this sketch.

Rafael, can you please confirm the number of people that will be traveling with the Surgeon General?

Happy to work with your office to coordinate anything else on this side.

Thanks,
Omar

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 11:45 AM

To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Heck, Mia (HHS/OASH) <Mia.Heck@hhs.gov>; Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

I've CC'd both Mia Heck and Jennifer Sherman from our public affairs team. Whenever you have a chance, please send over the write-up on the press event with Gov. Edwards taking place this Thursday, based on our conversation last week.

I spoke with the Surgeon General this morning and he perfectly fine with the briefing at the State Emergency Operations Center.

Thanks!
Rafael

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000595

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 4:06 PM
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Let's do 3:30 PM ET tomorrow. I'll send out a conference line.

Rafael

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael:

We have not coordinated with Mia. The governor's office and our LDH team are available to do a call tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. ET or 3:30 p.m. ET. Please let me know your preference and we will get it scheduled and send out an invite.

Thank you!

Tonya Ozene Joiner
Chief of Staff
O: (225) 342-9001
C: (225) 329-6886

<[image001.jpg](#)>

<[image002.jpg](#)> <[image003.jpg](#)><[image004.jpg](#)>

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) [<mailto:Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Update,

So I was able to coordinate with Mia Heck. Tonya and Aly, you may have connected with Mia not too long ago. I was told she helped plan some work with your team when the Assistant Secretary for Health visited Louisiana. I'd be happy to schedule a call this afternoon or early tomorrow. Looks like there is a window today between 1pm-130pm ET, or tomorrow between 1230pm-230pm or after 330pm ET.

Let me know if any of those times work and I can set up a conference line.

Rafael

From: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR)
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Alex,

Thanks for your note.

I'm sorting some things out internally and hope to have an answer shortly. I just found out this morning that Jenn Sherman, our Director of Public Affairs at OSG, is out of the office today and tomorrow. Her deputy is helping the Assistant Secretary for Health with comm support this week. So I'm checking with the
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000596

Department to see if there is someone else from comms that can take her place to help facilitate the press event on our end while she's out. Jenn returns to the office on Monday, but I'd like to finalize this sooner if possible.

I know they're pretty backed up with media request so it'll take some maneuvering on my end. I'm happy to chat with Tonya and Aly in the interim and forward any press details to a new department point of contact once I've identified them.

I apologize for the inconvenience and hope to reach back out shortly.

Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I am following up to connect you to Tonya Joiner, the Chief of Staff to the Secretary of the Department of Health. She is coordinating with the Governor's Office and so will need contact information to coordinate with you and ASPA for a potential press event.

Thanks,
Alex

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 3, 2020, at 10:13 AM, Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi all,

So there may be some changes to the SG's availability given his involvement with the President's Coronavirus Task Force. I should know more tomorrow, but there are 3 options that I'm aware of:

1. Same schedule, but include some media opportunities for COVID-19 throughout the trip
2. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, participates in SRNT at 1:30 PM then departs back to DC.
3. SG flies in Thursday night, engages in some media on COVID-19 on Friday morning, SRNT moves his session earlier in the day so he can make an afternoon briefing in DC

I wanted to throw this on your radar for awareness. A question the team brought up was whether Gov. Edwards would be available Friday morning for some media? If so, Aly, I'd want to connect you with our public affairs team to work out those details as soon as possible, given our approval process extends outside of the department for COVID-19 activities.

Once again, I'll know more tomorrow but wanted to share.

Best,
Rafael

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 5:46 PM
To: Campos, Rafael (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Rafael.Campos@hhs.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: Connection to LDH Bureau of Media and Communications

Hi Rafael,

I hope your week is ending well (or ending at all, given the COVID news cycle). As we discussed, I am connecting you to Aly Neel who leads LDH's Bureau of Media and Communications. Her team are ready to coordinate with you/ASPA around any media engagements you want to develop during the Surgeon General's visit on the 12th and 13th. Like
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000597

me, she is also a recovering Fed, so she speaks the same language as your comms team I'm sure!

We've been making outreach to start putting the schedule in place, so let us know if any of the items we discussed yesterday need to be prioritized for the media.

Have a great weekend!

Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Assistant Secretary

Office of Public Health

Louisiana Department of Health

628 North 4th Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov

Office: 225-342-6188

Cell: 225-726-0599

<image001.png>

<image002.jpg>

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 9:35 AM EDT
To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: coronavirus PPT
Attachment(s): "COVID-19 Leg. FAQ 3'10'20.pdf"

[Also the FAQ](#)

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:33 AM
To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
Subject: coronavirus PPT

FYI – the attached is what we are presenting at SHW at 10:00 am and then later at HHW at 1:00 pm.

Thanks

Lauren Gilder Gleason, MPA

Director of Legislative & Governmental Relations
628 N. Fourth Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225.342.5274 (office)
225.964.1789 (cell)



This is an evolving situation, and the information below continues to be updated.

(The last update was March 10, 2020 at 11:00 pm)

What are coronaviruses?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing illness in people and others that circulate among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people such as has been seen with recent outbreaks of MERS and SARS.

Are there any confirmed cases in Louisiana?

As of 3/10/20, there are six presumptive positive cases in Louisiana, all from the greater New Orleans area.

What is the current situation?

While the CDC now expects community spread in some parts of the United States, the immediate threat to the U.S. remains low. We are not seeing the same level of spread other countries are seeing. That said, it is important to be prepared. The Louisiana Department of Health has been preparing for COVID-19 since the outbreak in mainland China.

Additionally, the Office of Public Health has activated its Emergency Operations Center and has started using public health measures as part of an aggressive public health response strategy. This is the same strategy being done at the national level under the guidance of the CDC, and in all other states and the District of Columbia.

The Office of Public Health has developed guidance for clinicians for testing and treatment of COVID-19, as well as developed guidance for home care of patients with coronavirus. This guidance is given to all health care providers via our Health Alert Network.

What is Louisiana's testing capability?

Louisiana currently has the capacity for several hundred tests. Currently, these tests are coming to the Office of Public Health from provider referrals, and are being accepted based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. Commercial testing is now also available, and any private lab tests that come back positive will be verified at the OPH lab in Baton Rouge and confirmed by the CDC lab in Atlanta. Health care providers can call the Office of Public Health Division's Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program (IDepi) 24-7 hotline with further questions about testing.

What is the total number of tests for COVID-19 of Persons Under Investigation (PUI)? What percentage have been positive?

As of March 10, 2020, we have completed 43 tests, six of which have turned out positive. We learned about our first presumptive positive test on March 9. We are awaiting testing from the CDC to confirm each result.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

For confirmed coronavirus infections, reported illnesses have ranged from infected people with little to no symptoms (similar to the common cold) to people being severely ill and dying. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing

Is there a vaccine for COVID-19?

No. There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for this infection. People infected with COVID-19 receive supportive care to help relieve symptoms.

How does COVID-19 spread?

Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person to others through:

- Respiratory droplets produced when coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

How can I help protect myself?

The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus. There are simple everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses. These include:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Should I be tested for COVID-19?

If you develop a fever and symptoms of respiratory illness, such as cough or shortness of breath, within 14 days after travel from China, Italy, Iran, South Korea and Japan, or you are a health care provider caring for someone with respiratory illness who tests negative for flu or other respiratory illnesses, you should call ahead to a healthcare professional and mention your recent travel or close contact. In addition, someone with a respiratory illness not confirmed to be flu or another respiratory illness should ask their provider about being tested for coronavirus.

If you have had close contact with someone showing these symptoms who has recently traveled from this area, you should call ahead to a healthcare professional and mention your close contact and their recent travel.

How does COVID-19 compare to influenza in terms of symptoms, mortality rate, number of cases, etc.?

Much is unknown about COVID-19 in terms of how easily it spreads, who is most at risk, and how serious it is going to be. From preliminary studies, COVID-19 tends to be more severe in people over age 60, and those that have underlying medical conditions. Those most at risk are those over age 60 who have

underlying medical conditions. It is safe to say, given the limited scientific information we have at this point, that it is at least as severe, if not more serious than the seasonal flu.

What is the protocol in place for responding to a pandemic like Coronavirus/COVID-19?

COVID-19 behaves in many ways similar to influenza. Because of this, the CDC recommends using the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness plan as our model for the response. The Louisiana Department of Health has been working on our Pandemic Preparedness Plan for the last 15 years, and we have been preparing for COVID-19 starting in early January 2020. In early March, the Governor directed the formation of a COVID-19 Task Force with representation from state agencies and federal partners key to preparing for a COVID-19 outbreak. This task force guides updating Louisiana's pandemic flu/COVID-19 response and ensures a continuity of operations and advises the Unified Command Group.

What have you been doing as far as monitoring people who may have been exposed?

Our first priority was to monitor any travelers who returned to Louisiana from visiting China's areas that had the most community spread. As other countries experienced community spread, Louisiana epidemiologists have been in contact with travelers who returned from traveling abroad to high-exposure countries to ask whether they were experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. We touch base with those travelers each day and ask about their symptoms during a 14-day period of observation. We are also ensuring that travelers know the destinations where non-essential travel should be avoided. The countries under a Level 3 Travel Notice are China, Iran, Italy and South Korea.

Will the State identify COVID-19 patients?

Because of patient privacy laws, the Louisiana Department of Health cannot provide any information that might identify patients. This includes name, residence of patient, place of treatment or any other potentially identifying patient information.

What's the next major step in the Department's plan for responding to an outbreak?

Mirroring the federal government's response, we are moving from a 'containment' approach in which we focused on travelers to a 'mitigation' approach in which we anticipate and plan for person-to-person transmission in the community somewhere in the United States. We are focused on state and local government preparedness and are providing support to health care providers, schools, businesses and community members to ensure they are adequately prepared to take action to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

What factors would trigger a government-mandated closure of schools or businesses, etc.?

Where there has been a student in a school with COVID-19, the Office of Public Health would consider steps to close and clean that school. However, this would be triggered first by action from the school. Specifically, the circumstance(s) that would prompt the Office of Public Health to suggest school closures would be first, when it has been confirmed that children within the school are actively transmitting an infection at the school, causing an outbreak and significant disruption. Secondly, we might consider the suggestion if a significant number of students or faculty were out, and normal school activities simply could not continue. In any of these circumstances, we would suggest a thorough school cleaning.

What precautions is the State taking to protect our students and school system staff and parent volunteers from possible exposure to the COVID-19?

The Louisiana Office of Public Health (OPH) has been in contact with the Louisiana Department of Education (DOE) in regard to disease control and prevention of COVID-19. OPH has provided guidance from the CDC on infection control best practices such as handwashing, covering of coughs, disinfection of environmental surfaces, and encouraging students and staff to stay home when they are ill. Further guidance has been shared on social distancing, cancellation of classes and school events, as well as discouraging social gatherings among students in the event that there is community (person-to-person) transmission of the disease.

These activities build on relationships and common practices established with the Department of Education during the 2009 H1N1 flu pandemic and the 2015 Ebola response. OPH has offered assistance and advice to both state and local school systems in preparing for and responding to COVID-19 in Louisiana.

What should I do if I have recently traveled?

Anyone who recently traveled to China, South Korea, Iran, Italy, or Japan within the previous 14 days, who experiences fever, cough, or other acute illness should contact a health care provider as soon as possible and mention your recent travel. Please call ahead and inform the health care provider about your travel history.

What are you doing to make sure hospitals are prepared?

LDH has been working with the Louisiana Hospital Association (LHA) and the ESF8 Network to prepare hospitals for an outbreak and ensure they have the proper supplies needed as well as protocols in place for anyone treated who tests positive. We haven't had any indication that hospitals don't have what they need on the supply side.

How does the process for testing for COVID-19 work?

The Office of Public Health operates an advanced laboratory in Baton Rouge that performs many types of tests for infectious diseases, such as for tuberculosis and measles. Our state lab workers are a team of highly trained professionals who are experienced at testing for many kinds of infectious diseases using a variety of different tests. When a test of an infectious disease of any kind is performed at the State Lab, they are on samples that are brought to the lab via a courier.

Is there a cost associated with testing for COVID-19?

The tests that the federal government has provided the Office of Public Health have not been associated with any payments. Commercial tests are covered under Medicaid and Medicare as an essential health benefit. The cost for a test under private health insurance providers may vary.

Are there additional costs for responding to COVID-19 outside of testing?

The Department anticipates hiring additional epidemiologists and lab staffing, increasing call center capacity, increasing lab training and developing educational content under the federal budget appropriations that have been set aside for COVID-19 response.

Is the Louisiana Department of Health concerned about shipping channels such as the Port of New Orleans being affected by COVID-19?

Department officials met with the Coast Guard to discuss potential issues with the COVID-19 virus once it became more clear that the virus was spreading globally. We don't think there will be potential for spreading the virus through shipping channels.

So is it safe to receive a package from any area where COVID-19 has been reported?

Yes. The likelihood of an infected person contaminating commercial goods is low and the risk of catching the virus that causes COVID-19 from a package that has been moved, traveled, and exposed to different conditions and temperature is also low.

Are you in regular contact with the federal government?

Yes. We are in constant contact with the CDC and HHS; we're currently averaging several calls per week just with the CDC. In addition we have standing calls across state health departments and a standing call internally in Louisiana. This is all very important so that we all have the latest data, are on the same page, and can adapt our plans as conditions change.

Should families have a plan if an outbreak occurs?

The best preparation families can do is practice good seasonal flu/cold hygiene: cover your cough, wash your hands (especially after being in public spaces, shaking hands), stay home if you are sick, and get your flu shot! Families should also monitor the [CDC COVID-19 website](#) for updated travel advisories before making plans to travel internationally.

Is there a special information phone number for people to call?

Yes, individuals with questions can call our COVID-19 General Information Line at 1-855-523-2652 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Should I keep my children home from school or avoid going to work?

There are a limited number of schools and workplaces that are closed in the U.S. You should follow guidance from your specific school district and employer about closures. At this time, it is not necessary to keep children home from school or avoid going to work unless told to do so by local officials.

Should I cancel my travel plans?

The CDC is not recommending that travelers cancel all plans except to specific locations where the threat of COVID-19 spread is significantly higher. If you have a trip planned, [check the CDC's site](#) for a risk assessment of your destination. If you travel, take the same precautions you would while home to avoid getting sick or spreading germs including washing your hands thoroughly and often and avoiding contact with sick people.

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 4:33 PM EST

To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>

Subject: Re: Re: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Yes - all members chamber and district emails

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 2, 2020, at 3:08 PM, Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov> wrote:

Thanks, did this go to all members?

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 2, 2020, at 1:38 PM, Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov> wrote:

FYA –

Adam, I copied most of the email you sent to Rep. Hughes so thanks!

Will let y'all know if we get any considerable feedback/questions.

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 1:33 PM

To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>

Cc: Bethany Blackson <Bethany.Blackson@la.gov>; Anita Dupuy <Anita.Dupuy@LA.GOV>; Latonya Johnson <Latonya.Johnson2@la.gov>

Subject: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Good afternoon members –

Please see the attached brief and FAQ document regarding the novel coronavirus, COVID-19.

This morning, the Governor held a meeting of the Unified Command Group (UCG) with state agency heads to make sure that every agency is preparing and coordinating with local, state, and federal partners. The Governor is being briefed regularly by LDH and GOHSEP regarding the virus and our preparations. It is important to note that currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Louisiana. The nearest case is in Texas, and this person remains in isolation. While the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) now expects there to be “community spread” in certain regions of the United States, the immediate threat to the United States and Louisiana remains low.

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Please let me know if you have any more questions or if there are any additional resources we can provide.

Best,
Lauren

Lauren Gilder Gleason, MPA

Director of Legislative & Governmental Relations

628 N. Fourth Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

225.342.5274 (office)

225.964.1789 (cell)

<[image001.png](#)>

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000605

<COVID Leg. Brief 3'2'20.pdf>

<Covid-19 FAQs 3'2'20.pdf>

From: Adam.Eitmann@la.gov <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 4:08 PM EST
To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Thanks, did this go to all members?

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 2, 2020, at 1:38 PM, Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov> wrote:

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Will let y'all know if we get any considerable feedback/questions.

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 1:33 PM
To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Cc: Bethany Blackson <Bethany.Blackson@la.gov>; Anita Dupuy <Anita.Dupuy@LA.GOV>; Latonya Johnson <Latonya.Johnson2@la.gov>
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LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH

From: Adam Eitmann on behalf of Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 1:26 PM EDT
To: Peck, Christine <peckc@legis.la.gov>
CC: Foil, Sen. Franklin (District Office) <foilf@legis.la.gov>; Cannon, Brandi <cannonb@legis.la.gov>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
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Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
Louisiana Senate
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From: Peck, Christine <peckc@legis.la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 3:34 PM EDT
To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
CC: Foil, Sen. Franklin (District Office) <foilf@legis.la.gov>; Cannon, Brandi <cannonb@legis.la.gov>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Task Force members

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Who are the specific individuals representing the agencies that you reference below? Is it the cabinet secretary attending each meeting directly or a designee?

From: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 2:23 PM
To: Peck, Christine <peckc@legis.la.gov>
Cc: Foil, Sen. Franklin (District Office) <foilf@legis.la.gov>; Cannon, Brandi <cannonb@legis.la.gov>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000611

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CC: Foil, Sen. Franklin (District Office) <foilf@legis.la.gov>; Cannon, Brandi <cannonb@legis.la.gov>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>

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To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
CC: Foil, Sen. Franklin (District Office) <foilf@legis.la.gov>; Cannon, Brandi <cannonb@legis.la.gov>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
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From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 4:32 PM EDT
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

As a follow-up to this morning's update, below you will find details on CDC's awarding of over \$560 million State and local jurisdictions in support of COVID-19 response, and community mitigation strategies for Seattle (WA) and Santa Clara (CA).

CDC to Award Over \$560 Million to State & Local Jurisdictions in Support of COVID-19 Response (more [here](#))

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing another upcoming action by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide resources to state and local jurisdictions in support of our nation's response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The \$8.3 billion dollar Supplemental passed by Congress included [statutory language](#) which prescribed the exact formula for disbursing the money: states will receive 90% of their [2019 CDC PHEP grants](#). This marks the first tranche of funding to states from the \$8.3 billion supplemental. Your state health officers are receiving a letter today from CDC outlining what is needed to receive the funding, essentially they need to submit a spend plan and they will receive guidance on what that spend plan should contain.

White House Coronavirus Task Force Announces Community Mitigation Strategies for Seattle, Santa Clara

The White House Coronavirus Task Force today recommended 30-day mitigation strategies for [Seattle-King, Pierce, and Snohomish County, Washington](#), and [Santa Clara County, California](#) due to widespread transmission of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). These mitigation activities are designed to address the effects of COVID-19 on areas that are experiencing community spread.

"President Trump has made clear that the Task Force must move decisively to protect the health and safety of the American people," said Vice President Mike Pence. "These recommendations outline a whole-of-community approach to immediately minimize the impacts of coronavirus in these cities and towns. I look forward to the continued partnership between the Task Force and State and local leaders."

Earlier today, Vice President Pence spoke with California Governor Gavin Newsom and Washington Governor Jay Inslee about these community mitigation strategies. The Task Force and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have worked closely with state and local leaders in California, Washington, and around the Nation to develop these strategies. Additionally, CDC has teams in these areas working with public health partners to respond to the situation on the ground.

Cooperation with communities, businesses, and healthcare organizations is necessary to implement extensive community mitigation activities with the goal of protecting:

- Individuals at risk for severe illness, including persons with underlying health conditions including immune suppression and especially seniors with underlying health conditions;
- The healthcare workforce; and
- Critical infrastructure workforces.

Due to widespread community transmission of COVID-19 in these communities, examples of mitigation strategies for these areas include, but are not limited to:

- Individuals should practice protective measures (e.g., hand washing);
- Schools should conduct regular health checks of students, staff, and visitors;
- Senior living facilities should implement social distancing measures;
- Workplaces should encourage staff to telework and expand sick leave policies;
- Community and faith-based organizations should move gatherings of any size to video-accessible venues or postpone/cancel; and
- Healthcare facilities should implement triage before entering facilities.

In making these recommendations, the Task Force considered guidance from multiple Federal agencies, including technical advice from CDC. These community mitigation strategies are recommended for 30 days, after which local and state public health officials, in coordination with CDC will reassess the individual community situations.

As you know, nursing homes and their residents are vulnerable populations for COVID-19. This week, CMS released updated guidance for infection control and prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes which can be found [here](#) (3/9). The Press Release can be found [here](#) and all CMS guidance related to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

Below you will find addition information.

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Resources for All Americans & Framework for Mitigation



Good Morning,

The White House Task Force on Coronavirus and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention have released two helpful documents for State, local, tribal, and community leaders.

- [Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)
- [A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

You can find additional information about both documents and resources below.

[Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)

- Keeping the workplace safe
- Keeping the school safe
- Keeping the home safe
- Keeping commercial establishments safe

[A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

Protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses like coronavirus disease 2019. Everyone has a role to play in getting ready and staying healthy. CDC is aggressively responding to the global outbreak of COVID-19 and community spread in the United States. CDC's all of community approach is focused to slow the transmission of COVID-19, reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts. Framework includes:

- Local Factors to Consider for Determining Mitigation Strategies
- Community mitigation strategies by setting and by level of community transmission or impact of COVID-19
- Potential mitigation strategies for public health functions

Recent Actions

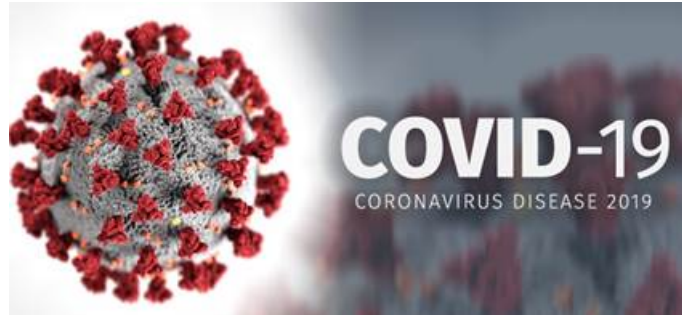
- HHS Supports Development of First High-Throughput COVID-19 Diagnostic Test ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Key Protective Mask Guidance for Healthcare Workers ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Clear, Actionable Guidance to Providers about COVID-19 Virus ([click here](#))
- CMS Issues Call to Action for Hospital Emergency Departments to Screen Patients for Coronavirus ([click here](#))

· Telehealth Benefits in Medicare are a Lifeline for Patients During Coronavirus Outbreak ([click here](#))

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Background & Additional Information (*Updated*)



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#). The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live: [HERE](#). You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

- What You Should Know ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information: Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – bkillion@state.gov)

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000619

- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Responses locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities (a complete list of State & Territorial Health Department Websites can be found [here](#))
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
- Establishing the White House task force to combat the coronavirus spread. The Task Force is coordinating and marshalling the full resources and capabilities of the Federal government to respond to the coronavirus.
- Forging relationships and collaboration between the public and private sectors.
- Remained in close contact with our Nation's governors and other key stakeholders.
- *The Washington Times*: [Thanks to Trump Administration, the United States has a Coronavirus Plan of Action.](#)
- *Dr. Marc Siegel*: [Coronavirus Public Health Response Has Been Handled Well](#)
- [Actions for All Americans](#) (4-page slide deck)
- [A Framework for Mitigation: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (10-page frame work for States, localities, and communities)

While the overall threat to the American public remains low, the President has directed the White House Task Force to take all steps to ensure the health and well-being of the American people and we are well-prepared.

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000620

- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.
- There are good tried and true hygiene practices which can be very effective to reduce the chance of getting sick.
- Travelers are encouraged to always exercise healthy travel habits when traveling and to follow appropriate guidance (see [here](#)). At this time, there are no domestic travel restrictions in the United States.
- We are working rapidly on therapeutics and vaccines and have launched the first U.S. clinical trial for an investigational antiviral.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. Between March 2nd and 5th, more than 900,000 tests were distributed across the country.
- The United States has the finest public health system in the world and knows the playbook to respond to infectious disease outbreaks.

Local, State, tribal, & Federal coordinated preparedness & response efforts.

- Federal officials have been working diligently to communicate with State, local, and tribal officials on the Federal government's efforts to prepare and respond to COVID-1.
- Our Nation's Governors have participated in-person and on conference call briefings with Federal partners on January 30, February 9, February 20, March 2, and March 9. These communications remain ongoing.
- White House, OMB, HHS, DHS, DOT, and State Department Officials met with over 40 State, county, and city health officials from over 30 States and territories to thank them for their leadership and to continue discussions on the Federal-State-Local partnership to prepare and respond to COVID-19 (February 25).
- HHS, CDC, DHS, and Federal partners have held numerous national briefing calls with State, local, tribal, private-sector, and community leaders.
- The Trump Administration is partnering with State, local, and tribal elected and appointed leaders' associations.

Recent Actions: Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- Remarks by President Trump and Vice President Pence at a Coronavirus Briefing with Health Insurers (March 10) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness (March 9) ([readout](#))
- Remarks by Vice President Pence in a Coronavirus Briefing with Cruise Line Executives and Port Directors (March 7) ([transcript](#))
- Remarks by President Trump After Tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (March 5) ([transcript](#))
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Mark.Cooper@la.gov <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 1:20 PM EDT
To: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: Direct coordination with City of New Orleans

City is saying they have spoken with several of the presumptive positives who have not been contacted with regard to the tracing. Please be prepared to discuss at our meeting. Colonel Waskom is supposed to call.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 13, 2020, at 11:40 AM, Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@la.gov> wrote:

Fyi

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Date: March 13, 2020 at 11:35:43 AM CDT
To: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Cc: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>, Joseph Kanter <Joseph.Kanter@la.gov>, Theresa Sokol <Theresa.Sokol@LA.GOV>, Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Subject: Direct coordination with City of New Orleans

Hi Steve,

Here is detail on our coordination with the city of New Orleans

- 1) OPH and NOHD continue to work closely together on coordination of COVID-19 preparedness and response, starting at the beginning of the state's activities in January, 2020
 - a. Dr. Joe Kanter, Assistant State Health Officer-Region 1 Medical Director/Administrator-former NOHD Commissioner, and Dr. Avegno, current NOHD Commissioner have been in regular contact since that time and are now in frequent contact and coordination since first individual with COVID-19 was identified.
 - b. Dr. Kanter and Dr. Avegno are in regular contact with Theresa Sokol, Asst. State Epidemiologist, about all GNO cases and contact tracing activities
 - c. This coordination is further supported by CDC team requested at the joint recommendation from Drs. Avegno, Kanter, Billioux and Ms. Sokol
- 2) The State coordinates closely with several parts of CNO for all new presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 in Orleans and surrounding parishes
 - a. Ms. Sokol's Infectious Disease Epidemiology team (ID Epi) and the OPH State Lab immediately inform providers of the presumptive positive finding.
 - b. Ms. Sokol informs Dr. Kanter as Region 1 Medical Director of the Region 1 cases immediately
 - c. Dr. Kanter informs Dr. Avegno of the new region presumptive positive cases and discusses any particulars about clusters, unique patient considerations, and hospital capacity coordination
 - d. Ms. Sokol alerts the GOHSEP listserv of the new presumptive positive cases, which leads to parish EOP alerts [any details we can add here? I know this gets to Collin but not sure if he gets emails or calls]
 - e. Aly Neel, Director of Bureau of Media and Communications alerts the Mayor's Communications Director Beaux [???

Any other details I am missing?

Thanks,
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599
<image001.png><image002.jpg>

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000622

From: Mark Cooper on behalf of Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 1:20 PM EDT
To: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: Direct coordination with City of New Orleans
Attachment(s): "image001.png", "image002.jpg"

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Cc: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>, Joseph Kanter <Joseph.Kanter@la.gov>, Theresa Sokol <Theresa.Sokol@LA.GOV>, Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
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Any other details I am missing?

Thanks,
Alex

Alexander Billioux, MD DPhil FACP
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Email: alexander.billioux@la.gov
Office: 225-342-6188
Cell: 225-726-0599

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000624

<image001.png><image002.jpg>





From: Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 1:14 PM EDT
To: Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>
CC: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Sarah Berthelot <Sarah@launitedway.org>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: RE: DRAFT NEWS RELEASE for 211 system

Including Guidry.

From: Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:09 PM
To: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
Cc: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Sarah Berthelot <Sarah@launitedway.org>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: DRAFT NEWS RELEASE for 211 system

Alex,

Please let me know if you are OK. We will send out as soon as you say "go."

Bob

Robert Johannessen
Communications/Public Information | Bureau of Community Preparedness
Louisiana Office of Public Health
2020census.gov
robert.johannessen@la.gov
Office: 225-354-3527 | Cell: 225-715-6109

From: Kelly Zimmerman
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:05 PM
To: Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
Cc: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Sarah Berthelot <Sarah@launitedway.org>
Subject: RE: DRAFT NEWS RELEASE for 211 system

BMAC approves.

The 211.org site is currently blocked on state computers so I have sent a request to open access to this site.

Bob, please make sure the site also links back to ldh.la.gov/coronavirus

Thanks,

Kelly

From: Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 11:44 AM
To: Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
Cc: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Sarah Berthelot <Sarah@launitedway.org>
Subject: RE: DRAFT NEWS RELEASE for 211 system

An **edited** version, per BPC, is attached.

Bob

Robert Johannessen
Communications/Public Information | Bureau of Community Preparedness
Louisiana Office of Public Health
2020census.gov
robert.johannessen@la.gov
Office: 225-354-3527 | Cell: 225-715-6109

From: Rosanne Prats
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 11:28 AM

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000628

To: Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
Cc: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Sarah Berthelot <Sarah@launitedway.org>
Subject: RE: DRAFT NEWS RELEASE for 211 system
Importance: High

Just want to elevate this...

211 is ready to go live. The drafted news release has been submitted by Bob.

211 had requested input on the news release; Sarah has approved the version that Bob developed.

Please let us know ASAP of the vetting procedure so that we can start putting out 211 number as the general info line.

From: Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 10:59 AM
To: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>
Cc: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Sarah Berthelot <Sarah@launitedway.org>
Subject: DRAFT NEWS RELEASE for 211 system

All,

Attached is the draft news release for Louisiana 211. We would like to issue today. Sarah with 211 has approved.

Bob

Robert Johannessen
Communications/Public Information | Bureau of Community Preparedness
Louisiana Office of Public Health
2020census.gov
robert.johannessen@la.gov
Office: 225-354-3527 | Cell: 225-715-6109

From: Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 1:46 PM EDT
To: Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
CC: Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Sarah Berthelot <Sarah@launitedway.org>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: DRAFT NEWS RELEASE for 211 system
Attachment(s): "211 Network now available to answer COVID questions.docx"

Attached is the approved version.

Kelly, can you let me know when you push the send button? Thanks.

Bob

Robert Johannessen
Communications/Public Information | Bureau of Community Preparedness
Louisiana Office of Public Health
2020census.gov
robert.johannessen@la.gov
Office: 225-354-3527 | Cell: 225-715-6109

From: Rosanne Prats
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:45 PM
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
Cc: Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Sarah Berthelot <Sarah@launitedway.org>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: DRAFT NEWS RELEASE for 211 system

Guidry has already reviewed and provided minor corrections.
We're good to go.

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:44 PM
To: Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
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Subject: RE: DRAFT NEWS RELEASE for 211 system

This looks great. Approved from my end. Off to Dr. Guidry

From: Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 11:44 AM
To: Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Christopher Guilbeaux <Christopher.Guilbeaux@LA.GOV>
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Cc: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000630

<Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Sarah Berthelot <Sarah@launitedway.org>

Subject: RE: DRAFT NEWS RELEASE for 211 system

Importance: High

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211 is ready to go live. The drafted news release has been submitted by Bob.

211 had requested input on the news release; Sarah has approved the version that Bob developed.

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Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 10:59 AM

To: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>

Cc: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>; Sarah Berthelot <Sarah@launitedway.org>

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NEWS RELEASE

DRAFT_02

March 12, 2020

Questions about coronavirus now being answered by Louisiana 211 Statewide Network
Text alert system also add for instant updates

Louisiana's statewide 211 network is now answering calls about COVID-19, also known as the coronavirus. This network is best designed and staffed to handle the large volume of calls from Louisiana residents who are concerned and who have questions about the rapidly spreading virus.

Anyone looking for information about the coronavirus outbreak can simply dial 211 or text the keyword LACOVID to 898-211 for the most current information about the outbreak as it becomes available.

With Louisiana 211 now equipped and trained to answer questions from the public, the Louisiana Department of Health is asking residents to call 211 instead of the current general information line, 855-523-2652.

In addition to being able to call the Louisiana 211 and to sign up for text messaging, residents can get written answers to the most-asked questions by concerned citizens. The website is: www.la211help.org

Over the past week, the call volume to LDH's general information line, that was only available during business hours, has increased from several calls a day to several hundred calls.

Dr. Alex Billioux, assistant secretary for LDH's Office of Public Health, said this change will give citizens the best way to get information any time of the day or night.

"The Louisiana 211 statewide network is established as the public's first and best source to connect callers with critical information about health and human services," Billioux said, "This expertise ensures that citizens can talk to a person who is trained to answer their questions 24 hours a day."

The [Louisiana 211 statewide network](#) provides multilingual services as well as information for people who are hearing impaired.

Sarah Berthelot, president and CEO of the Louisiana Association of United Ways, coordinates statewide response efforts with 211 providers throughout Louisiana.

"By working with the Louisiana Department of Health, the 211 network allows residents to get the information they need as quickly as possible. Our robust system of call centers, text message capability and websites gives people access to information that can help them make better decisions and best prepare for this health crisis," Berthelot said.

This week, LDH provided Louisiana 211 with a comprehensive list of questions that have come into the original information telephone line. These include questions about testing for coronavirus, symptoms and treatment and when to access medical help. Answers to all questions were provided by LDH's medical leadership team.

Louisiana 211 is supported by United Ways throughout the state of Louisiana.

From: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 3:58 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Chancely Courson <Chancely.Courson@la.gov>; Carter, Brittany S. <carter.brittanys@epa.gov>; Planning, Mark <mark.planning@hq.doe.gov>; Pasko, Michael <michael.pasko@hq.doe.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: DWH 10 Itinerary - Final

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Mark,

I would encourage you all to work with EPA and DOE on this event. Their IGA team members are cc'd.

Thanks for flagging.

Sincerely,
Doug

From: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 4:16 PM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>; Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Chancely Courson <Chancely.Courson@la.gov>
Subject: FW: DWH 10 Itinerary - Final

Good afternoon. As discussed a couple of weeks ago, we are in the planning stages of the 10 year anniversary for the Deep Water Horizon Anniversary for the morning of April 20, 2020. Given the COVID-19 event, the President and Vice President may not be able to commit on his participation, but wanted to provide the agenda.

Any indication of their participation would be appreciation as we are in the middle of planning for the event.

Thank you.

Mark

Mark A. Cooper
Chief of Staff



(225) 342-7188 office

From: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 11:29 PM EDT
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
CC: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Sean Ellis <Sean.Ellis@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: FOR YOUR REVIEW: Updated case count
Attachment(s): "NEWS RELEASE-COVID-19 testing UPDATE 10.20PM.docx"

Great. Final attached.

Sean, you can move with this. Let's circulate and share on social.

From: Alexander Billioux
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:21:31 PM
To: Aly Neel; Christina Stephens; Matthew Block; Shauna Sanford; Tonya Joiner; Stephen Russo
Cc: Kelly Zimmerman; Sean Ellis
Subject: RE: FOR YOUR REVIEW: Updated case count

Looks good, minor edits. Thanks!

From: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 10:16 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Cc: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Sean Ellis <Sean.Ellis@la.gov>
Subject: FOR YOUR REVIEW: Updated case count

Team: Please see attached our press release from earlier today, updated with the developments. Please review and let me know if you have any flags.

We will circulate ASAP and share on social.

Thank you,
Aly

NEWS RELEASE
March 10, 2020

UPDATE: Health officials on Tuesday confirm six total presumptive positive COVID-19 cases in Louisiana as state increases testing for the virus

BATON ROUGE, La. – The Louisiana Department of Health reported on Tuesday evening three new presumptive positive cases of COVID-19, commonly referred to as coronavirus. All three are residents of Orleans Parish. Two are hospitalized in Orleans Parish; the third is hospitalized in St. Tammany Parish.

Gov. John Bel Edwards said, “Currently, we have a total of six presumptive positive cases of coronavirus in Louisiana. While we investigate these cases, we cannot disclose any additional information about these patients at this time.”

The presumptive positive tests will be sent to the CDC for final confirmation of COVID-19. Louisiana will move forward as if the tests are actual positives and take actions to contain the illness and assess the risk of spread.

Additional tests will be administered to determine if more people have been infected after the Department’s epidemiology team performs an investigation of close contacts.

At this time, there are a total of six known cases of the illness in the state. Gov. Edwards announced the state’s first presumptive positive case, a Jefferson Parish resident, on Monday, March 9, and two additional presumptive positive cases on Tuesday afternoon, both in Orleans Parish.

“At this point in our investigation we believe the first presumptive positive announced yesterday [Monday] is not travel-related and was community acquired,” said Dr. Alex Billioux, Assistant Secretary of the Office of Public Health.

Louisiana ramps up testing

This comes as the state has increased testing for the virus.

In the five days since receiving more test kits from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, LDH has tested more than seven times as many people for the virus.

With 43 tests of Persons Under Investigation (PUI) now completed, only six have been identified as presumptive positive in Louisiana. This compares to five completed tests as of Friday, March 6.

Health officials expected that increased testing for COVID-19 would lead to confirmation of additional cases in the state.

LDH is following the CDC’s guidance and testing three groups of people – those who have traveled to certain areas and have symptoms, those who have had close contact with someone confirmed to have COVID-19 and have symptoms, and people with an unexplained acute respiratory illness.

The recent testing by the state laboratory run by LDH’s Office of Public Health includes samples from people who went to their doctor or to a hospital and had symptoms consistent with COVID-

19, cough, headache, or lower respiratory illness. Some patients had recently traveled to a geographic area with known COVID-19 activity, while others did not have such a travel history.

In other instances, OPH is using the tests for surveillance purposes. This is done using existing disease surveillance infrastructure that includes several hospitals and clinics throughout Louisiana. For COVID-19 surveillance, when patients are treated for respiratory illnesses, but are not diagnosed with influenza, swabbed samples are sent to the State public health lab where the COVID-19 test is done. Following CDC guidance, a sampling of cases from each site are sent the lab. This is a proven and effective system for the early detection of diseases, allowing health officials to take the appropriate next steps.

For all people who have symptoms and who are being tested, they and their healthcare provider are being advised on precautions to take to prevent spreading the illness to others. Precautions include self-isolation at home or in an isolation room at the hospital.

Some commercial labs are now equipped to conduct COVID-19 testing. With these private labs ready to test, healthcare providers will start sending their samples to those labs. LDH will be notified of any positive results coming from a commercial lab.

Appropriate treatment and precautions will immediately be put in place for any positive commercial test before that test is confirmed by the State lab, and the public will be notified.

Advice for the public

State officials encourage Louisianans to take the following proactive steps to protect the health of themselves and those around them:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Cover your cough.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, or with a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid close contact (within six feet) with those who are sick.

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. CDC believes at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

Additional information on COVID-19 can be found on LDH's website:

www.ldh.la.gov/coronavirus.

From: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 11:17 PM EDT

To: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>

CC: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Sean Ellis <Sean.Ellis@la.gov>

Subject: Re: Re: FOR YOUR REVIEW: Updated case count

Looks good.

Kelly

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<NEWS RELEASE-COVID-19 testing UPDATE.docx>

From: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 11:21 PM EDT

To: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

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From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 5:18 PM EST
To: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: GOVERNOR-ONLY INVITE: Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET

FYI,
The House Dem Caucus said they can take the Governor as soon as he arrives in the room. 11:00 am is when the call begins. We will be able to use the **Board Room at L'Auberge** which is steps away from where he will be speaking. Someone can dial in and be on when the Governor walks in. Once I receive the confirmation with the number, I will get it to you. The White House said they prefer only the Governor call in and others can be in the room. They will be having another call later in the week with all other stakeholders. The Governor leaves for the Press Club at 11:30 am so he has time to take the call before leaving.

From: Stephen Russo
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 1:14 PM
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Cc: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: GOVERNOR-ONLY INVITE: Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET

Alicia
Where should we gather

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 29, 2020, at 12:19 PM, Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov> wrote:

FYI

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [<mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>]
Sent: Friday, February 28, 2020 9:36 PM
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: GOVERNOR-ONLY INVITE: Briefing Call on Monday, March 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

<image001.png>

Dear Governor and Governor's Senior Staff,

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To RSVP your governor, email Nic Pottebaum with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Saturday, February 29 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.** Once you

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000642

RSVP your governor, you will receive call-in information and guidance.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 2:13 PM EST
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
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Attachment(s): "image001.png"

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White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov



THE WHITE HOUSE

Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 5:09 PM EST

To: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

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Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 6:38 PM EDT
To: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: RE: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

Since it has to "State and Local Leaders" so I believe everyone. I called to verify and there will be a few thousand people on as I understand. You all can go on register if you want.

From: Casey Tingle
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 4:22 PM
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Cc: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

It is my understanding that Jefferson Parish also received an invite for this call and is planning to participate. I think we should participate.

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From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO [<mailto:Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 3:35 PM
Subject: RE: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

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Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Olivia Imhoff
Deputy Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
C: 202-881-7466

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 7:03 PM
Subject: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

<image001.png>

State and Local Leaders –

On **Wednesday, March 11, at 1:00 PM ET**, please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 (coronavirus). If you would like to join, registration instructions and additional background information are below. Please feel free to share this invitation with your county and/or municipal colleagues as well as public health officials.

Briefing Call Registration

Date: Wednesday, March 11

Time: 1:00 PM ET (please note time zone)

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000649

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Background & Additional Information

<image002.jpg>

Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

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- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
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What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People

<image003.jpg>

Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
- Establishing the White House task force to combat the coronavirus spread. The Task Force is coordinating and marshalling the full resources and capabilities of the Federal government to respond to the coronavirus.
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- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.
- There are good tried and true hygiene practices which can be very effective to reduce the chance of getting sick.
- Travelers are encouraged to always exercise healthy travel habits when traveling and to follow appropriate guidance (see [here](#)). At this time, there are no domestic travel restrictions in the United States.
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- Federal officials have been working diligently to communicate with State, local, and tribal officials on the Federal government's efforts to prepare and respond to COVID-1.
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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000651

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From: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 5:22 PM EDT
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

It is my understanding that Jefferson Parish also received an invite for this call and is planning to participate. I think we should participate.

On Mar 10, 2020, at 4:16 PM, Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov> wrote:

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Let me know if I need to RSVP.

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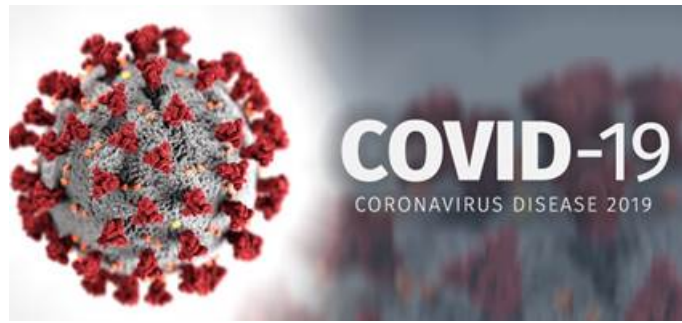
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From: Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 5:19 PM EDT
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

I would like to participate if I am available as session spools up

Stephen R. Russo
Louisiana Department of Health
Interim Secretary

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 4:17 PM
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

FYI,
Let me know if I need to RSVP.

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO [<mailto:Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 3:35 PM
Subject: RE: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello,

If you have not yet registered for the call yet, please register through the link below. Please note this is a **new** link and differs from the one provided in the original email.

New Registration Link: [CLICK HERE](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Olivia Imhoff
Deputy Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
C: 202-881-7466

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 7:03 PM
Subject: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)



State and Local Leaders –

On **Wednesday, March 11, at 1:00 PM ET**, please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 (coronavirus). If you would like to join, registration instructions and additional background information are below. Please feel free to share this invitation with your county and/or municipal colleagues as well as public health officials.

Briefing Call Registration

Date: Wednesday, March 11

Time: 1:00 PM ET (please note time zone)

Call-In Registration: [CLICK HERE](#)

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000661

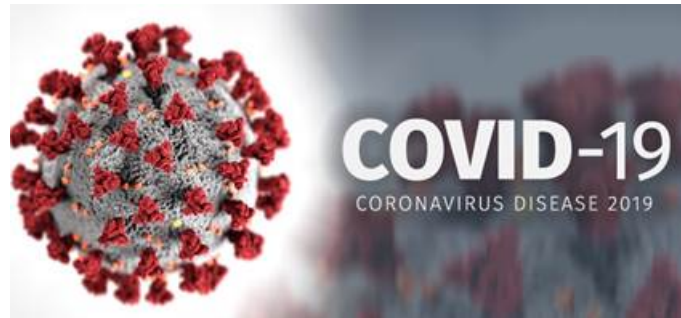
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Sincerely,

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Olivia Imhoff
Deputy Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
C: 202-881-7466

Background & Additional Information



Background: Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given State and local officials and private sector partners time to prepare. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response. The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have worked and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk for the average American remains low, and all agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information: The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#). The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live: [HERE](#). You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

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- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
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- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittany@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips: Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.

- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information.
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
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What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People



Top Line

- The risk to the American public remains low.
- The Coronavirus Task Force is marshalling a whole-of government response to COVID-19 and driving collaboration between Federal-State-Tribal-Local stakeholders.
- The Federal Government has been able to provide tests to all the state jurisdictions and labs that have requested it. In addition, all state labs have the test and are empowered to conduct the test themselves. Complementing these efforts, leading commercial laboratories in the country will soon have tests available for local doctors, pharmacies, and broadly to the American public.

President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
- In 2018, President Trump signed the [National Biodefense Strategy](#), which improves speed of action in situations such as this.
- While additional cases are expected, the general risk to the average American remains low, and the Administration is taking measures to keep the threat low.

Since the very beginning of the coronavirus outbreak, the President has taken an unprecedented whole-of-government approach to protect the American people.

- President Trump took unprecedented action and suspended all travel into the United States from China and has issued subsequent screening measures and guidance on travel from other impacted areas across the globe.
- Issuing a public health emergency declaration on January 31.
- Establishing the White House task force to combat the coronavirus spread. The Task Force is coordinating and marshalling the full resources and capabilities of the Federal government to respond to the coronavirus.
- Forging relationships and collaboration between the public and private sectors.
- Remained in close contact with our Nation's governors and other key stakeholders.
- *The Washington Times*: [Thanks to Trump Administration, the United States has a Coronavirus Plan of Action.](#)
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- Americans do not need to change their day-to-day lives but should stay informed and practice good hygiene.

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Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 5:27 PM EDT

To: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>

CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>

Subject: RE: RE: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

Since it has to "State and Local Leaders" so I believe everyone. I am going to call them

From: Casey Tingle

Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 4:22 PM

To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Cc: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>

Subject: Re: INVITATION: State and Local Briefing Call on COVID-19 (March 11)

It is my understanding that Jefferson Parish also received an invite for this call and is planning to participate. I think we should participate.

On Mar 10, 2020, at 4:16 PM, Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov> wrote:

FYI,

Let me know if I need to RSVP.

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO [<mailto:Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>]

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<image001.png>

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000665

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Deputy Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
C: 202-881-7466

Background & Additional Information

<image002.jpg>

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What You Need To Know: President Trump and the Administration Are Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach to Protecting the American People

<image003.jpg>

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000667

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From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 6:41 PM EDT
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: INVITE: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 13) at 7:30 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Update: We will have officials on the call from the White House, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to brief on President's actions today and additional updates.

Briefing Call Registration

- **Date:** TODAY, Friday, March 13
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time (please note time zone)
- **Call-In Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)

Thanks,
Nic

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:34 PM
To: Nic Pottebaum (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 13) at 7:30 p.m. ET



State and Local Leaders,

Please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 preparedness, response, and mitigation efforts **TONIGHT (Friday, March 13) at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time.**

Important Note: *Call-in lines will be limited due to quick around to setting up the briefing call. State and local leaders (especially staff) working in the same office are encouraged to dial-in using one call-in line to maximize the number of people who can join (e.g., governors staff in the same location are encouraged to call-in using one call-in registration).*

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Press Advisory – President Donald J. Trump Directs FEMA Support Under Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 (PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION HERE)

The federal government continues to take aggressive and proactive steps to address the COVID-19 threat as the health and safety of the American people remain a top priority.

Today, President Trump [declared](#) a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”). This increases federal support to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in its role as the lead federal agency for the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response. As a result of the President’s decisive, unprecedented action, FEMA is directed to assist state, local, tribal, territorial governments and other eligible entities with the health and safety actions they take on behalf of the American public. Today’s declaration does not make direct financial assistance available to individuals.

The emergency declaration does not change measures authorized under other federal statutes and HHS remains the lead federal agency directing the federal response to COVID-19. FEMA actions will be in support of HHS and in coordination with state, tribal and territorial governments. Eligible emergency protective measures taken at the direction or guidance of public health officials in response to this emergency, and not supported by the authorities of another federal agency, will be reimbursed strictly under the FEMA Public Assistance program. FEMA assistance will be provided at a 75 percent Federal cost share. Reimbursable activities typically include emergency protective measures such as the activation of State Emergency Operations Centers, National Guard costs, law enforcement and other measures necessary to protect public health and safety.

Presidential Message to the Congress on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak (March 13, 2020) (PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE HERE)

“Pursuant to section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), I hereby report that I have exercised my authority to declare that the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the United States constitutes a national emergency. This declaration invokes section 1135 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1320b-5, to allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to exercise the authority under that section to temporarily waive or modify certain requirements of the Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance programs and of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Rule throughout the duration of the public health emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.”

Memorandum on Expanding State-Approved Diagnostic Tests ([FULL MEMORANDUM HERE](#))

“By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows: It is the policy of the United States to take proactive measures to prepare for and respond to public health threats, including the public health emergency involving Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), which was declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (the “Secretary”) on January 31, 2020, pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d). Our response must include heightened coordination among Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies, and we must offer States the flexibility they need to care for their citizens. In accordance with this principle, the Food and Drug Administration, in coordination with the State of New York, allowed the State flexibility in expediting State-approved COVID-19 testing. Should additional States request flexibility to authorize laboratories within the State to develop and perform tests used to detect COVID-19, the Secretary shall take appropriate action, consistent with law, to facilitate the request.”

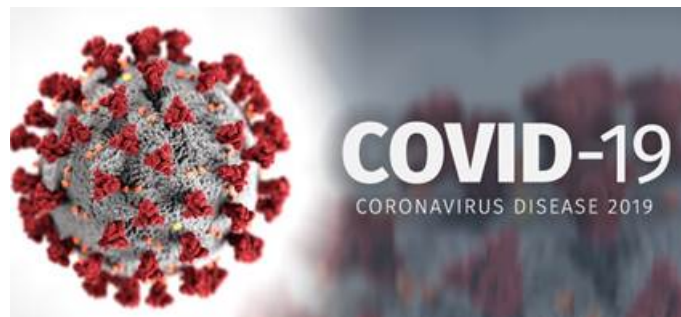
Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information



Background

Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Since the beginning of the outbreak, President Trump has taken unprecedented steps – including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy – to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response ([President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond To the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans](#)). The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk to the average American remains low. All agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information

- The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website ([here](#))
- HHS/CDC Community Framework for Mitigation ([here](#))
- Guidance for families, businesses, schools and others ([here](#)).
- The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live ([here](#))
- You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

What You Need To Know

- What You Should Know - How COVID-19 Spreads, Symptoms, etc. ([here](#))
- Situation Summary ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))

- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information

Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))
- U.S. Food & Drug Administration ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- U.S. Election Assistance Commission ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittany@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email – lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips

- Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.
- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Proactively sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information such as HHS/CDC [guidance for families, businesses, and schools](#).
- Reviewing Federal guidance such as the HHS/CDC [Community Mitigation Framework](#).
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

Recent Task Force Actions

Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
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- Remarks by President Trump in Address to the Nation (March 11) ([transcript/video](#))
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- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))

- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 6:41 PM EDT
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: INVITE: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 13) at 7:30 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Update: We will have officials on the call from the White House, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to brief on President's actions today and additional updates.

Briefing Call Registration

- **Date:** TODAY, Friday, March 13
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time (please note time zone)
- **Call-In Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)

Thanks,
Nic

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:34 PM
To: Nic Pottebaum (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 13) at 7:30 p.m. ET



State and Local Leaders,

Please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 preparedness, response, and mitigation efforts **TONIGHT (Friday, March 13) at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time.**

Important Note: *Call-in lines will be limited due to quick around to setting up the briefing call. State and local leaders (especially staff) working in the same office are encouraged to dial-in using one call-in line to maximize the number of people who can join (e.g., governors staff in the same location are encouraged to call-in using one call-in registration).*

Briefing Call Registration

- **Date:** TODAY, Friday, March 13
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time (please note time zone)
- **Call-In Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Note:** You must RSVP to join the call. Upon successful registration, you will receive dial-in details to the email address you use to register. Note that multiple people cannot dial-in using the same registration information.

Press Advisory – President Donald J. Trump Directs FEMA Support Under Emergency Declaration for COVID-19
[\(PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION HERE\)](#)

The federal government continues to take aggressive and proactive steps to address the COVID-19 threat as the health and safety of the American people remain a top priority.

Today, President Trump [declared](#) a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”). This increases federal support to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in its role as the lead federal agency for the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response. As a result of the President’s decisive, unprecedented action, FEMA is directed to assist state, local, tribal, territorial governments and other eligible entities with the health and safety actions they take on behalf of the American public. Today’s declaration does not make direct financial assistance available to individuals.

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Presidential Message to the Congress on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000673

Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak (March 13, 2020) ([PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE HERE](#))

“Pursuant to section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), I hereby report that I have exercised my authority to declare that the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the United States constitutes a national emergency. This declaration invokes section 1135 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1320b-5, to allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to exercise the authority under that section to temporarily waive or modify certain requirements of the Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children’s Health Insurance programs and of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Rule throughout the duration of the public health emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.”

Memorandum on Expanding State-Approved Diagnostic Tests ([FULL MEMORANDUM HERE](#))

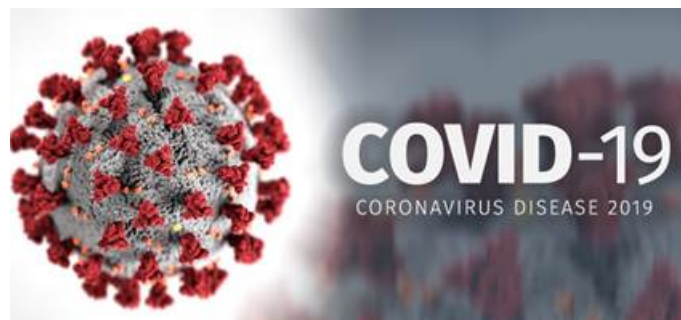
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Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information



Background

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- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
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- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

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- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:12 PM EDT

To: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

I am confirming that the Governor will be on the call

From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 4:01 PM

To: Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>; Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Subject: RE: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Checking in.

From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 12:51 PM

To: 'katie.justice@la.gov' <katie.justice@la.gov>; 'alicia.williams@la.gov' <alicia.williams@la.gov>

Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

I wanted to check in on this invitation and see if the Governor would be able to join. Let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Zach Swint

Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

The White House

C: (202) 881-6717 | E: Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:09 PM

To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>

Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET



Governor's Senior Staff (Chief of Staff, State-Federal Director, and Scheduler),

Our Nation's Governors are invited to a **Governors-only Briefing Call (with a video teleconference option) with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 16, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. Eastern Time (Note Time Change from Previous Weeks)** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19.

Briefing Call/VTC Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 16, 2020
- **Time:** 11:30 a.m. Eastern Time (**Note Time Change From Previous Week**)
- **Expected Length:** 30-45 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state):** Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.
- **Video Teleconference Option:** Any governor who wants to participate in this briefing via video teleconference (VTC), indicate interest in the RSVP.

RSVP & Call-In/VTC Information – Deadline to RSVP is Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m. ET

To RSVP your governor, email Zach Swint with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time**. Once you RSVP your governor, you will receive a call-in information link and guidance. VTC guidance will be provided upon request.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
------	------------	-------

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000677

Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

Please note that under Florida law correspondence sent to the Governor's Office, which is not confidential or exempt pursuant to chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes, is a public record made available upon request.

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:55 PM EDT
To: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>
CC: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET
If I complete the link, will this also have the VTC option. The Governor may be at GOHSEP Monday and they have the capability for the VTC Unit.

From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 4:17 PM
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>
Cc: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Great, guidance below.

Thank you for your Governor's RSVP to the Governors-Only Call/VTC regarding COVID-19 preparedness and response efforts with Vice President Mike Pence on for Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

To receive call-in information, please complete this [LINK](#).

- **Audio Option:** Every governor has the option to join the briefing by phone (please complete the link above to receive that call-in information).
- **Video Teleconference (VTC) Option:** Any governor who wants to participate in this briefing via video teleconference (VTC), please let me know by no later than **Friday, March 13 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time** to ensure time for proper testing.

As a reminder this briefing is for Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state). Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000679

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CC: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
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Please see VTC guidance below. Please also register through the audio link as a backup. **To receive call-in information, please complete this [LINK](#).**

Dial-In information for the Video Teleconference (VTC)

Please read carefully and do NOT share or distribute the VTC/call-in information. Upon receiving this email, please connect with your State Emergency Manager and their Emergency Operations Center to stand-up the VTC. This VTC will be conducted through the FEMA Emergency Operations Center. Your State Emergency Manager and their staff should reach out to the FEMA Region contact (if they haven't already contacted you).

The VTC/call line has limited lines and we are permitting only one dial-in per state. All relevant cabinet members and key state officials must join their governor in the same room to ensure you are using the access code only once per state. **If your state dials-in using the same access code as the governor, you may prevent your governor from participating in the VTC/call as lines are limited.** Your governor will be receiving an unmuted line, so we ask when the governors dials-in to mute their line and ONLY unmute if a federal participant asks them to unmute. This will ensure maximum participation, but ensure a smooth conference call.

VTC Dial-In Options

- **SIP:** 13101@fema.net
- **IP:** [13101@vtc.fema.net](tel:13101@vtc.fema.net) /Cisco <or> vtc.fema.net##13101/Polycom
- **Toll Free ISDN:** 888-600-5803 or 888-269-2114
- **Direct Dial ISDN:** 540-542-0816 or 540-504-1130

Do NOT connect via an audio line and a video line in the same room.

Testing (highly encouraged): The video bridge will be available for testing starting at 9:00 a.m. ET on Monday (3/16) and remaining up to one hour prior to the conference start time. All VTC are asked to join 30 minutes prior to the VTYC start time for a final audio/video check.

Testing & Troubleshooting Contact: The FEMA Operations Center (540-542-2171).

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To: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>
Cc: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
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If I complete the link, will this also have the VTC option. The Governor may be at GOHSEP Monday and they have the capability for the VTC Unit.

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To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>
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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000682

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EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Checking in.

From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 12:51 PM

To: 'katie.justice@la.gov' <katie.justice@la.gov>; 'alicia.williams@la.gov' <alicia.williams@la.gov>

Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

I wanted to check in on this invitation and see if the Governor would be able to join. Let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Zach Swint

Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

The White House

C: (202) 881-6717 | E: Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:09 PM

To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>

Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET



Governor's Senior Staff (Chief of Staff, State-Federal Director, and Scheduler),

Our Nation's Governors are invited to a **Governors-only Briefing Call (with a video teleconference option) with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 16, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. Eastern Time (Note Time Change from Previous Weeks)** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19.

Briefing Call/VTC Details

· **Date:** Monday, March 16, 2020

· **Time:** **11:30 a.m.** Eastern Time (**Note Time Change From Previous Week**)

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000690

- **Expected Length:** 30-45 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state):** Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.
- **Video Teleconference Option:** Any governor who wants to participate in this briefing via video teleconference (VTC), indicate interest in the RSVP.

RSVP & Call-In/VTC Information – Deadline to RSVP is Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m. ET

To RSVP your governor, email Zach Swint with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Saturday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time**. Once you RSVP your governor, you will receive a call-in information link and guidance. VTC guidance will be provided upon request.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Tucker Obenshain	202-881-6217	Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

Please note that under Florida law correspondence sent to the Governor's Office, which is not confidential or exempt pursuant to chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes, is a public record made available upon request.

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:11 PM EDT

To: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 4:01 PM

To: Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>; Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Subject: RE: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

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Checking in.

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Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

The White House

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Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:09 PM

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Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>

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Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

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Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
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Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:54 PM EDT

To: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>

CC: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

If I complete the link, will this also have the VTC option. The Governor may be at GOSEP Monday and they have the capability.

From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 4:17 PM

To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>

Cc: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Subject: RE: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Great, guidance below.

Thank you for your Governor's RSVP to the Governors-Only Call/VTC regarding COVID-19 preparedness and response efforts with Vice President Mike Pence on for Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

To receive call-in information, please complete this [LINK](#).

- **Audio Option:** Every governor has the option to join the briefing by phone (please complete the link above to receive that call-in information).
- **Video Teleconference (VTC) Option:** Any governor who wants to participate in this briefing via video teleconference (VTC), please let me know by no later than **Friday, March 13 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time** to ensure time for proper testing.

As a reminder this briefing is for Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state). Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

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Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

Zach Swint
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
The White House
C: (202) 881-6717 | E: Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:15 PM

To: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>

Subject: RE: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET

I am confirming that the Governor will be on the call.

Alicia Williams

Senior Special Assistant to the Governor



225.342.8006

225.946.4640 c

alicia.williams@la.gov

gov.louisiana.gov

From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO [<mailto:Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 4:01 PM
To: Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>; Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
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Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 12:51 PM
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Regards,

Zach Swint
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The White House
C: (202) 881-6717 | E: Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

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Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 12:09 PM
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Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m. ET



Governor's Senior Staff (Chief of Staff, State-Federal Director, and Scheduler),

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Briefing Call/VTC Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 16, 2020
- **Time:** **11:30 a.m.** Eastern Time (**Note Time Change From Previous Week**)
- **Expected Length:** 30-45 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state):** Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.
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If you have any additional questions, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President or White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office.

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Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

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Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

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From: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 10:27 PM EST
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET
We will make sure Overwatch is ready if he decides to do the VTC.

On Mar 4, 2020, at 9:07 PM, Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov> wrote:

FYI, only if the Governor decides to do this, the time will be 11:00 am cst.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Date: March 4, 2020 at 8:32:08 PM CST
To: "Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO" <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Cc: "Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP" <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>, "Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO" <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>, "Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO" <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITE: Governor-Only Briefing Call/VTC with the Vice President on Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

<image001.png>

Governor's Senior Staff (Chief of Staff, State-Federal Director, and Scheduler),

Our Nation's Governors are invited to a **Governors-only Briefing Call (with a video teleconference option) with Vice President Mike Pence** and Senior Administration Officials on **Monday, March 9, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time** for an update on the Federal-State-Local preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. On the March 2 briefing with governors, the Vice President pledged to convene the governors for a call/teleconference on a weekly basis, and made assurances that Federal leaders will continue its close coordinating with our Nation's governors and other State and local leaders.

Note: We have made technology adjustments from the last call, and every governor will have the option to ask questions and engage in dialogue on the March 9 call. Additionally, governors will have the option to participate via video teleconference – detail below.

Briefing Call Details

- **Date:** Monday, March 9, 2020
- **Time:** 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- **Expected Length:** 30 minutes
- **Federal Participants:** Vice President Mike Pence & Senior Administration Officials
- **Reminder Governors-Only (i.e., one call-in per state):** Participation in this call is for governors only, but we encourage governors to be joined by their respective state health officer, homeland security advisor, emergency manager, and other key state leaders in the state's preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19. Interactions will be limited only to governors and Federal leaders.
- **Video Teleconference Option:** Any governor who wants to participate in this briefing via video teleconference (VTC), please email Nic Pottebaum with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) by no later than Friday, March 6 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time to ensure time for proper testing.

Background

On Monday, March 2, Vice President Mike Pence today participated in a discussion with more than 50 of our Nation's governors to provide an update on the work of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, to continue coordination with governors and state and local officials to respond to and prepare for the

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000697

coronavirus, and to thank governors and state and local leaders—particularly state and local health officials—for their leadership. The Vice President pledged to convene the governors for a call/teleconference on a weekly basis, and made assurances that Federal leaders will continue its close coordinating with our Nation’s governors and other State and local leaders. More readout [here](#).

RSVP & Call-In/VTC Information – Deadline to RSVP is Friday, March 6 at 5:00 p.m.

To RSVP your governor, email Nic Pottebaum with White House Intergovernmental Affairs (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) by **no later than Friday, March 6 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time**. Once you RSVP your governor, you will receive a call-in information link and guidance. VTC guidance will be provided upon request.

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Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 12:31 PM EST
To: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
CC: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Join Homeland/Health Meeting

Hey Adam –

Sure thing. Dr. Alex Billioux will be taking the lead on presenting for the Department – he is the SME and the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Public Health. Note that Senate Health & Welfare has asked for the same coronavirus presentation that morning at 10:00 am.

From our side, include:

Myself
Tonya
Dr. Billioux (Alexander.Billioux@la.gov)
Dr. Guidry (Jimmy.Guidry2@la.gov) – State Health Officer
Steve (Stephen.Russo@la.gov)
Aly (Aly.Neel@la.gov) – Comms Director

From: Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 11:24 AM
To: Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>
Cc: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>
Subject: Join Homeland/Health Meeting

Lauren,

We are having a pre-meeting before the Joint Homeland/Health meeting that is happening next Wednesday. Can you please provide me with the names and contact information for anyone who will be presenting? Can you also let me know who else needs to be at the meeting (comms, legislative, SME, etc)? I will send the calendar invite once I have that information.

Thanks,

Adam

From: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 9:33 PM EST
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: LDH Staffing Change
Attachment(s): "image001.jpg", "image002.jpg", "image003.jpg", "image004.jpg"

I know that he has been involved, especially since he working directly with the EOC.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 2, 2020, at 3:09 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Is Bob playing an active role with messaging and the coronavirus, given that he is in OPH now? LDH certainly could be in the center of media attention for awhile, depending on the levels of COVID-19 we see here.

Thanks, Christina

From: Tonya Joiner
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 2:07 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: LDH Staffing Change

Good afternoon Christina:

I know everything is crazy right now at least more than usual. However, I wanted to communicate to you that Kelly Zimmerman has been offered a communications director position in Medicaid and she has accepted. As you know, Kelly has been such a tremendous asset to the department and we believe she has done an amazing job over the past four years. Although, I will be very sad to see Kelly leave the Office of the Secretary, I have great comfort and confidence that she will continue to serve the department well by bringing her experience, skill set and work ethic to the Medicaid program. Kelly will have her own comms team to manage and will get a significant increase in pay, which as I understand is her reasons for accepting the position.

Steve and I have a call with Dr. Phillips scheduled for tomorrow morning and will update her on the opening in BMAC and follow her guidance as it relates to filling the position.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter.

Regards,
Tonya

TONYA OZENE JOINER

Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
Tonya.joiner@la.gov
Telephone: (225) 342-9001
Facsimile: (225) 342-3738
Cell: (225) 329-6886

<image001.jpg>

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<image002.jpg>

[<image003.jpg>](#)

[<image004.jpg>](#)

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This communication contains information intended for the use of the individuals to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential or exempt from other disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any disclosure, printing, copying, distribution or use of the contents is prohibited. If you have received this in error, please notify the sender immediately by telephone or by returning it by return mail and then permanently delete the communication from your system. Thank you.



LOUISIANA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Click to visit us @







From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 9:02 AM EST
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: LDH Staffing Change

I think Aly has done a good job with this, but you need think very big picture here on how you would staff if this goes on for many months with the Session and hurricane season at the same time. There is a learning curve with any new job, but also with crisis communications. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 2, 2020, at 8:33 PM, Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov> wrote:

I know that he has been involved, especially since he working directly with the EOC.

Sent from my iPhone

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TONYA OZENE JOINER

Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
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Telephone: (225) 342-9001
Facsimile: (225) 342-3738
Cell: (225) 329-6886

<[image001.jpg](#)>

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<[image002.jpg](#)>

<[image003.jpg](#)>

<[image004.jpg](#)>

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From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 4:09 PM EST
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: RE: LDH Staffing Change

Is Bob playing an active role with messaging and the coronavirus, given that he is in OPH now? LDH certainly could be in the center of media attention for awhile, depending on the levels of COVID-19 we see here.

Thanks, Christina

From: Tonya Joiner
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 2:07 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: LDH Staffing Change

Good afternoon Christina:

I know everything is crazy right now at least more than usual. However, I wanted to communicate to you that Kelly Zimmerman has been offered a communications director position in Medicaid and she has accepted. As you know, Kelly has been such a tremendous asset to the department and we believe she has done an amazing job over the past four years. Although, I will be very sad to see Kelly leave the Office of the Secretary, I have great comfort and confidence that she will continue to serve the department well by bringing her experience, skill set and work ethic to the Medicaid program. Kelly will have her own comms team to manage and will get a significant increase in pay, which as I understand is her reasons for accepting the position.

Steve and I have a call with Dr. Phillips scheduled for tomorrow morning and will update her on the opening in BMAC and follow her guidance as it relates to filling the position.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter.

Regards,
Tonya

TONYA OZENE JOINER

Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
Tonya.joiner@la.gov
Telephone: (225) 342-9001
Facsimile: (225) 342-3738
Cell: (225) 329-6886



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From: Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 9:02 AM EST
To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: LDH Staffing Change

I think Aly has done a good job with this, but you need think very big picture here on how you would staff if this goes on for many months with the Session and hurricane season at the same time. There is a learning curve with any new job, but also with crisis communications. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 2, 2020, at 8:33 PM, Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov> wrote:

I know that he has been involved, especially since he working directly with the EOC.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 2, 2020, at 3:09 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Is Bob playing an active role with messaging and the coronavirus, given that he is in OPH now? LDH certainly could be in the center of media attention for awhile, depending on the levels of COVID-19 we see here.

Thanks, Christina

From: Tonya Joiner
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 2:07 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>
Subject: LDH Staffing Change

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Office of the Secretary
Tonya.joiner@la.gov
Telephone: (225) 342-9001
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<[image001.jpg](#)>

<[image002.jpg](#)>

<[image003.jpg](#)>

<[image004.jpg](#)>

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Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 4:03 PM EST

To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

Subject: RE: RE: LDH Staffing Change

Given the very high profile position LDH finds itself in with the coronavirus, I hope you will consider that you have an experienced communications professional on your team, in another section.

From: Tonya Joiner

Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 2:07 PM

To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>

Cc: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>

Subject: LDH Staffing Change

Good afternoon Christina:

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From: Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 07, 2020 3:25 PM EST
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>; Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>
CC: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>; Schroeder, Allie F. EOP/WHO <Allie.F.Schroeder@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Logistics Information: White House Business Session - 2/10/2020
Attachment(s): "Governor Agenda - 2020 White House Business Session with Our Nation's Governors - 02-07-2020.pdf", "White House Business Session Breakout - Empowering Patients and Improving Mental Health Outcomes by Combatting Substance Abuse and Improving Mental Health.pdf", "White House Business Session Breakout - Transforming American Communities by Advancing Opportunity Zones.pdf"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Reminder to register for the call at 4:30 PM EST. Please follow up with us after the call if you have specific questions for your governor.

Please also see attached the agenda for the White House Business Session and Breakout one pagers for your Governor.

Regards,

Zach Swint
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
The White House
C: (202) 881-6717 | E: Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 10:13 AM
Cc: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>; Schroeder, Allie F. EOP/WHO <Allie.F.Schroeder@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: Logistics Information: White House Business Session - 2/10/2020

Governor's Chiefs of Staff, State-Federal Directors, and Schedulers:

In preparation for the White House Business Session on February 10, White House Intergovernmental Affairs will host a staff-level briefing call to cover logistics, run of show, and answer any questions.

White House Business Session Briefing Call

Date: Friday, February 7, 2020

Time: 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time

Call-In Information: [RSVP Here](#)

(Participants will receive instructions on accessing the conference after RSVPing to the link)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Olivia Imhoff
Deputy Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
C: 202-881-7466

From: Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO
Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2020 8:11 PM
Cc: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>; Schroeder, Allie F. EOP/WHO <Allie.F.Schroeder@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Logistics Information: White House Business Session - 2/10/2020



This email is to provide you logistical information for the White House Business Session.

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000712

Governor's Chiefs of Staff, State-Federal Directors, and Schedulers:

Your Governor is **CONFIRMED** to attend the **White House Business Session on Monday, February 10, 2020**. We look forward to your Governor's participation that will include a breakfast reception with Cabinet Members and Senior Staff, breakout sessions on shared State-Federal priorities with Cabinet Members and Senior Staff, and a plenary session with the Vice President and President.

Later this week, we will provide additional guidance including a briefing call (scheduled for Friday, February 7 4:30 p.m. ET) for staff and a detailed agenda on breakout session topics and Federal officials' participation.

Logistical Information TO the White House Business Session

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and the United States Secret Services in coordination with the National Governors Association (NGA) will provide secure bus transportation from the Marriott Marquis (901 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC, 20001) to the White House. **All Governors participating in the White House Business Session must arrive via the bus.** We are not able to grant exceptions to the arrival process. Additional details below.

- **Event:** White House Business Session
- **Date:** Monday, February 10, 2020
- **Departure Time from Marriot Marquis:** 7:10 a.m. Eastern Time.
- **Business Session Time:** 7:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Eastern Time.
- **Bus Location:** Governors will board the bus via the High Velocity Room at the Marriot Marquis (901 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC, 20001).
- **Loading of Buses:** Governors can begin arriving to the High Velocity Room to load into buses starting at 6:50 a.m. Eastern Time. Governors should arrive at the room no later than 7:05 a.m. in order to ensure a prompt departure.
- **Security Detail:** Governors will be permitted to have one (1) security detail ride with them on the bus to the White House. That security detail will remain on the bus upon arriving to the White House complex.
- **Alternative Arrival:** All Governors participating in the White House Business Session must arrive via bus. We are *not* able to grant exceptions to the arrival process.
- **Agenda:** Governors will participate in an informal breakfast reception, two policy-based breakout sessions, and a plenary session with the Vice President and President.
- **Staff Participation:** Governors staff will not be permitted on the buses or at the White House Business Session. This is in line with past precedent and due to space limitations.

Logistical Information FROM the White House Business Session

Once the White House Business Session ends at 11:45 a.m. (*subject to change*), Governors will be provided secure bus transportation (with police escort) to the Marriott Marquis.

Alternative White House Departures: If your Governor has other scheduled events or meetings after the Business Session and requires his/her security detail to pick them up from the White House, please contact Olivia Imhoff (Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov or 202-881-7466) to arrange alternative pick-up. Governors detail will be permitted to pick-up their Governors at the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue, but it must be arranged prior to the Business Session to ensure a smooth transition for your Governor. Please communicate this as early as you can.

Finally, if you have any questions about the White House Formal Dinner on Sunday, February 9 or First Spouses Luncheon on Monday, February 10, you will receive separate guidance from the White House Social Office on those two events.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions about any the above options.

Thank you,
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Nic Pottebaum	202-881-7803	Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
Allie Schroeder	202-881-6094	Allie.F.Schroeder@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov



Business Session with Our Nation's Governors

Monday, February 10, 2020 from 7:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

7:30 a.m. Informal Breakfast Reception & Welcome, East Room

Mick Mulvaney, *Acting Chief of Staff*

Doug Hoelscher, *Deputy Assistant to the President & Director, Intergovernmental Affairs*

8:25 a.m. Breakout Session – Round I

All Participants (each governor is assigned a breakout session below)

- Empowering Patients & Improving Health Outcomes by Combatting Substance Abuse & Improving Mental Health
- Strengthening America's Workforce by Expanding STEM Education, Apprenticeships, & Career & Technical Training
- Transforming American Communities by Improving Broadband & Connectivity
- Supporting Infrastructure & Growth through Regulatory Innovation

9:25 a.m. Breakout Session – Round II

All Participants (each governor is assigned a breakout session below)

- Empowering Patients & Improving Health Outcomes by Reducing Drug Pricing & Exploring Prescription Drug Importation
- Reskilling America's Workers & Growing Industries of the Future
- Transforming American Communities by Advancing Opportunity Zones
- Advancing Criminal Justice & Prison Reform

10:30 a.m. Dialogue with Vice President Mike Pence on the Governors' Initiative on Regulatory Innovation, State Dining Room

11:00 a.m. Dialogue with President Donald J. Trump, State Dining Room

11:45 a.m. Business Session Concludes

Times and Participants are Subject to Change

Not for External Distribution – 02-07-2020

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000714



THE WHITE HOUSE

Red
Room

Business Session with Our Nation's Governors

Empowering Patients and Improving Health Outcomes by Combatting Substance Abuse and Improving Mental Health – Round One

Date and Time: Monday, February 10 from 8:25 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Location: White House – Red Room

Federal Participants:

- Secretary Alex Azar, *U.S. Department of Health & Human Services*
- Secretary Robert Wilke, *U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs*
- Kellyanne Conway, *Assistant to the President & Senior Counselor (Facilitator)*
- Jim Carroll, Director, *Office of National Drug Control Policy*
- Richard A. Stone, M.D. *Executive in Charge, Veterans Health Administration*

Potential Discussions Questions:

- How has your State successfully leveraged increased Federal funding and waivers to expand mental health and substance abuse treatment options?
- How has your State leveraged flexibilities from the SUPPORT Act (H.R. 6) passed by Congress in 2018?
- What is your State and healthcare community doing to address neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS)?
- What key actions has your State taken that have proved effective in drug demand reduction and addressing the opioid crisis?
- How can the Federal government remove barriers to better address the opioid crisis, meth epidemic, and other substance abuse challenges?
- How can the Federal government improve the transition for veterans and their families to reduce veteran suicide?
- *Please prepare additional open-ended questions to ask to ensure this is a robust two-way dialogue.*

Governors Assigned:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Governor Hutchinson (AR) | • Governor Hogan (MD) |
| • Governor Kemp (GA) | • Governor Sununu (NH) |
| • Governor Edwards (LA) | • Governor Vazquez (PR) |
| • Governor Baker (MA) | • Governor Noem (SD) |

“My administration is strongly committed to helping
Americans suffering from mental illness.”

President Donald J. Trump

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000715



THE WHITE HOUSE

State
Dining
Room

Business Session with Our Nation's Governors
Transforming American Communities
by Advancing Opportunity Zones – Round Two

Date and Time: Monday, February 10 from 9:25 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Location: White House – State Dining Room

Federal Participants:

- Administrator Jovita Carranza, *Small Business Administration*
- Secretary Ben Carson, *U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development*
- Secretary Sonny Perdue, *U.S. Department of Agriculture*
- Administrator Andrew Wheeler, *Environmental Protection Agency*
- Larry Kudlow, *Assistant to the President & Director, National Economic Council*
- Scott Turner, *Executive Director, White House Opportunity & Revitalization Council*
- Ja'Ron Smith, *Deputy Assistant to the President & Deputy Director, Office of American Innovation (Facilitator)*

Potential Discussions Questions:

- How is your State aligning economic development with workforce development efforts to ensure those residing in Opportunity Zones have the opportunity to compete for in-demand jobs?
- What successes and challenges is your State finding in the development of Opportunity Zones and have you layered deregulatory efforts and additional State resource supports around your State's Opportunity Zones?
- How can the Federal government support urban revitalization and rural prosperity efforts?
- *Please prepare additional open-ended questions to ask to ensure this is a robust two-way dialogue.*

Governors Assigned:

- Governor Ige (HI)
- Governor Holcomb (IN)
- Governor Edwards (LA)
- Governor Reeves (MS)
- Governor Stitt (OK)
- Governor Vazquez (PR)
- Governor Noem (SD)
- Governor Bryan (USVI)
- Governor Herbert (UT)

“With Opportunity Zones, we are drawing investment into neglected and underserved communities of America so that all Americans, regardless of zip code, have access to the American Dream.”

President Donald J. Trump 20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000716

From: Shauna Sanford

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 7:01 PM EST

To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jay Dardenne <Jay.Dardenne@LA.GOV>

CC: Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Jacques Berry <Jacques.Berry@la.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: Message to all State Employees for Tuesday

Attachment(s): "MESSAGE TO STATE EMPLOYEES_march2_ss.docx"

My edits are attached.

Shauna Sanford

Communications Director



225.219.9313 office

225.428.6533 cell

shauna.sanford@la.gov

gov.louisiana.gov

From: Christina Stephens

Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 5:36 PM

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jay Dardenne <Jay.Dardenne@LA.GOV>

Cc: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Jacques Berry <Jacques.Berry@la.gov>

Subject: Message to all State Employees for Tuesday

We did not get this message out to all state employees today, but my hope is that we can share it between 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. tomorrow. I have made some minor updates, but LDH has signed off as the subject matter experts. This information very closely mirrors the information in other messaging.

If you have any edits or concerns, please let me know before 9 a.m. tomorrow morning. Thanks, Christina

MESSAGE TO STATE EMPLOYEES
MARCH 2, 2020 DRAFT

As you have undoubtedly seen in media reports, there have been confirmed cases of COVID-19, commonly called coronavirus, in several states, with six deaths in the United States **thus far**. I wanted to take a moment to update state employees on the situation in Louisiana and on the steps you can take to prevent the spread of illness.

Though we do **not** currently have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in Louisiana, it is important to be prepared, which is what we have been doing since the outbreak in mainland China. Already in Louisiana, the Department of Health has been communicating on a very regular basis **with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at the federal level** as well as health providers, **hospitals** and doctors to proactively share information about symptoms and also guidance about when someone needs to be tested. We have the capability to test for coronavirus at the Office of Public Health's State Laboratory, and we will be transparent with the public if we have a confirmed case in Louisiana, which we currently do not.

The same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu are **also helpful in preventing any** respiratory illness, including COVID-19: cover your cough, wash your hands often and well, and stay home when you're sick.

If you have recently traveled to China, South Korea, Iran, Italy or Japan within the previous 14 days and experience fever, cough or another kind of illness, contact your health care provider as soon as possible and tell them your symptoms and about your recent travel.

In addition, it is still flu season and your chances of getting the flu are higher than of getting coronavirus. It is still a good idea to get a flu shot if you have not already done so or to take a flu antiviral if it is prescribed.

Yesterday, we held the first Unified Command Group meeting about coronavirus to ensure our state agencies are coordinating and communicating effectively across **all** departments about this illness. In addition, we have created a COVID-19 Task Force to lead Louisiana's planning for different scenarios relating to the spread of coronavirus. It will offer guidance to state agencies, **local governments**, businesses and organizations.

As an initial step, the COVID-19 Task Force is recommending that all state agencies review and update their Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) that were developed statewide in 2012 under **GOHSEP's** direction to take coronavirus into account.

For updates on the state's response to the coronavirus situation, visit LDH.louisiana.gov/Coronavirus.

Thank you for all of your hard work on behalf of the people of Louisiana. Together, we will work to keep the people of Louisiana healthy and to prevent the spread of illness in our state.

Sincerely,

Governor John Bel Edwards

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 10:33 AM EST
To: Jacques Berry <Jacques.Berry@la.gov>; Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jay Dardenne <Jay.Dardenne@LA.GOV>
CC: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: RE: Message to all State Employees for Tuesday
Attachment(s): "MESSAGE TO STATE EMPLOYEES_march3.docx"

Okay, this has Shauna's edits. I think we should just sign it from him and not do a graphic signature. Thanks all!

From: Jacques Berry
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 9:07 AM
To: Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jay Dardenne <Jay.Dardenne@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Message to all State Employees for Tuesday

I can pull the trigger whenever y'all are ready. This will come from DOAcommissioner@la.gov but can be signed by the governor if you want to provide one (either a text signature or a digital version of the actual signature).

Jacques Berry | Director of Policy and Communication
Division of Administration
(o) 225.342.7178 (c) 225.202.2166

From: Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 8:54 AM
To: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jay Dardenne <Jay.Dardenne@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Jacques Berry <Jacques.Berry@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Message to all State Employees for Tuesday

We are good with Shauna's edits.

Thanks,
Mike

Mike Steele
Communications Director
Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
Cell: (225) 788-0095
mike.steele@la.gov

7667 Independence Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

From: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 6:02 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jay Dardenne <Jay.Dardenne@LA.GOV>
Cc: Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Jacques Berry <Jacques.Berry@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Message to all State Employees for Tuesday

My edits are attached.

Shauna Sanford
Communications Director



225.219.9313 office
225.428.6533 cell

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000720

shauna.sanford@la.gov
gov.louisiana.gov

From: Christina Stephens

Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 5:36 PM

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Jay Dardenne <Jay.Dardenne@LA.GOV>

Cc: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Jacques Berry <Jacques.Berry@la.gov>

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MESSAGE TO STATE EMPLOYEES
MARCH 3, 2020 DRAFT

As you have undoubtedly seen in media reports, there have been confirmed cases of COVID-19, commonly called coronavirus, in several states, with six deaths in the United States thus far. I wanted to take a moment to update state employees on the situation in Louisiana and on the steps you can take to prevent the spread of illness.

Though we do **not** currently have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in Louisiana, it is important to be prepared, which is what we have been doing since the outbreak in mainland China. Already in Louisiana, the Department of Health has been communicating on a very regular basis with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at the federal level as well as health providers, hospitals and doctors to proactively share information about symptoms and also guidance about when someone needs to be tested. We have the capability to test for coronavirus at the Office of Public Health's State Laboratory, and we will be transparent with the public if we have a confirmed case in Louisiana, which we currently do not.

The same actions you take to prevent the spread of flu are also helpful in preventing any respiratory illness, including COVID-19: cover your cough, wash your hands often and well, and stay home when you're sick.

If you have recently traveled to China, South Korea, Iran, Italy or Japan within the previous 14 days and experience fever, cough or another kind of illness, contact your health care provider as soon as possible and tell them your symptoms and about your recent travel.

In addition, it is still flu season and your chances of getting the flu are higher than of getting coronavirus. It is still a good idea to get a flu shot if you have not already done so or to take a flu antiviral if it is prescribed.

Yesterday, we held the first Unified Command Group meeting about coronavirus to ensure our state agencies are coordinating and communicating effectively across all departments about this illness. In addition, we have created a COVID-19 Task Force to lead Louisiana's planning for different scenarios relating to the spread of coronavirus. It will offer guidance to state agencies, local governments, businesses and organizations.

As an initial step, the COVID-19 Task Force is recommending that all state agencies review and update their Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) that were developed statewide in 2012 under GOHSEP's direction to take coronavirus into account.

For updates on the state's response to the coronavirus situation, visit LDH.louisiana.gov/Coronavirus.

Thank you for all of your hard work on behalf of the people of Louisiana. Together, we will work to keep the people of Louisiana healthy and to prevent the spread of illness in our state.

Sincerely,

Governor John Bel Edwards

From: Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 6:04 PM EST
To: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>; Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: RE: NGA Congressional Letter in Support of COVID-19 Emergency Supplemental

[No issues or questions from me](#)

From: Alicia Williams (GOV)
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 4:17 PM
To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: NGA Congressional Letter in Support of COVID-19 Emergency Supplemental

From: Ramos, Maribel [<mailto:MRamos@nga.org>]
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 4:01 PM
To: Ramos, Maribel <MRamos@nga.org>
Cc: Perez Quinn, Susie <SPQuinn@nga.org>; McBride, Bill <BMcBride@nga.org>; Solt, Ryan <rsolt@nga.org>; Ott, Mary Catherine <mcott@nga.org>; Blute, Timothy <blute@nga.org>; Wohlschlegel, Eric <EWohlschlegel@NGA.ORG>; Nash, James <JNash@nga.org>
Subject: NGA Congressional Letter in Support of COVID-19 Emergency Supplemental

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Washington Representatives:

In follow-up to our discussion this afternoon at the Washington Representatives NGA Weekly Meeting, I have attached a draft letter in support of the COVID-19 emergency supplemental. As you all have seen in the media, appropriators are trying to get this done rather quickly and the measure is expected to provide as much as \$7 - \$8 billion. The House is looking to vote on the measure this week.

The draft letter is in support of the supplemental and includes language for new federal funding, as well as funding to backfill states for costs already incurred. Again, as we mentioned earlier today, we are not requesting a specific dollar amount but have included a list of overall spending buckets to try and be all-inclusive.

We would like to have as many governors, as possible, sign on to this letter. **We are requesting that you let us know if your governor will sign-on to this letter by noon, Wednesday, March 4, 2020.** If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me.

Thank you,

Maribel Ramos

The information contained in this electronic transmission, including any attachments, is for the exclusive use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain information that is privileged, proprietary, and/or confidential. If the reader of this transmission is not an intended recipient, or a person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete this message.

From: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 4:14 PM EDT
To: Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
CC: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: PLEASE REVIEW - CONFIDENTIAL
Attachment(s): "NEWS RELEASE-COVID-19 testing DRAFT.docx"

Thanks, all! Final attached here.

From: Alexander Billioux
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 3:09:12 PM
To: Christina Stephens; Shauna Sanford
Cc: Aly Neel; Tonya Joiner; Stephen Russo; Lauren Leist
Subject: RE: PLEASE REVIEW - CONFIDENTIAL

Currently only Texas officially

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>
Subject: Re: PLEASE REVIEW - CONFIDENTIAL

I have the same question as Shauna. Also you can source that to LDH.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 10, 2020, at 2:54 PM, Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov> wrote:

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“The virus has been confirmed in our neighboring states. Since people travel to Louisiana from other states where cases have been confirmed, and because people travel from other countries where there are cases, it was just a matter of time before we had our first case here,” said Gov. Edwards.

Shauna Sanford
Communications Director



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Aly

NEWS RELEASE
March 10, 2020

Health officials confirms two new presumptive positive COVID-19 cases in Louisiana as state increases testing for the virus

BATON ROUGE, La. – The Louisiana Department of Health reported two new presumptive positive cases of COVID-19, commonly referred to as coronavirus, both residents of and hospitalized in Orleans Parish.

Gov. John Bel Edwards said, “Currently, we have three presumptive positive cases of coronavirus in Louisiana, all in the New Orleans area. While we investigate these cases, we cannot disclose any additional information about these patients at this time.”

The presumptive positive tests will be sent to the CDC for final confirmation of COVID-19. Louisiana will move forward as if the tests are actual positives and take actions to contain the illness and assess the risk of spread.

Additional tests will be administered to determine if more people have been infected after the Department’s epidemiology team performs an investigation of close contacts.

At this time, there are three known cases of the illness in the state, all in Orleans Parish. Gov. Edwards announced the state’s first presumptive positive case, a Jefferson Parish resident, on Monday, March 9.

“At this point in our investigation we believe the first presumptive positive announced yesterday is not travel-related and was community acquired,” said Dr. Alex Billioux, Assistant Secretary of the Office of Public Health.

Louisiana ramps up testing

This comes as the state has increased testing for the virus.

In the five days since receiving more test kits from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, LDH has tested more than seven times as many people for the virus.

With 35 tests of Persons Under Investigation (PUI) now completed, only three have been confirmed presumptive positive in Louisiana. This compares to five completed tests as of Friday, March 6.

Health officials expected that increased testing for COVID-19 would lead to confirmation of additional cases in the state.

LDH is following the CDC’s guidance and testing three groups of people – those who have traveled to certain areas and have symptoms, those who have had close contact with someone confirmed to have COVID-19 and have symptoms, and people with an unexplained acute respiratory illness.

The recent testing by the state laboratory run by LDH’s Office of Public Health includes samples from people who went to their doctor or to a hospital and had symptoms consistent with COVID-19, cough, headache, or lower respiratory illness. Some patients had recently traveled to a geographic area with known COVID-19 activity, while others did not have such a travel history.

In other instances, OPH is using the tests for surveillance purposes. This is done using existing disease surveillance infrastructure that includes several hospitals and clinics throughout Louisiana. For COVID-19 surveillance, when patients are treated for respiratory illnesses, but are not diagnosed with influenza, swabbed samples are sent to the State public health lab where the COVID-19 test is done. Following CDC guidance, a sampling of cases from each site are sent the lab. This is a proven and effective system for the early detection of diseases, allowing health officials to take the appropriate next steps.

For all people who have symptoms and who are being tested, they and their healthcare provider are being advised on precautions to take to prevent spreading the illness to others. Precautions include self-isolation at home or in an isolation room at the hospital.

As of today, some commercial labs are equipped to conduct COVID-19 testing. With these private labs now ready to test, healthcare providers will start sending their samples to those labs. LDH will be notified of any positive results coming from a commercial lab.

Appropriate treatment and precautions will immediately be put in place for any positive commercial test before that test is confirmed by the State lab, and the public will be notified.

Advice for the public

State officials encourage Louisianans to take the following proactive steps to protect the health of themselves and those around them:

- Cover your cough.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, or with a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid close contact (within six feet) with those who are sick.

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. CDC believes at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

Additional information on COVID-19 can be found on LDH's website:
www.ldh.la.gov/coronavirus.

From: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 4:00 PM EDT
To: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
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Subject: Re: Re: PLEASE REVIEW - CONFIDENTIAL
Attachment(s): "NEWS RELEASE-COVID-19 testing DRAFT.docx"

Good flag. I have removed that sentence. Reattached.

Alex, Steve has reviewed.

From: Shauna Sanford
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 2:54:47 PM
To: Aly Neel; Tonya Joiner; Stephen Russo; Alexander Billioux
Cc: Christina Stephens; Lauren Leist
Subject: RE: PLEASE REVIEW - CONFIDENTIAL

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To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>
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LOUISIANA RAMPS UP TESTING

This comes as the state has increased testing for the virus.

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With 35 tests of Persons Under Investigation (PUI) now completed, only three have been confirmed presumptive positive in Louisiana. This compares to five completed tests as of Friday, March 6.

Health officials expected that increased testing for COVID-19 would lead to confirmation of a case in the state. The Department has updated its COVID-19 website to include this new information about testing and will update it daily. The website is www.ldh.la.gov/coronavirus.

Gov. John Bel Edwards said Louisiana is following the CDC’s guidance and testing three groups of people – those who have traveled to certain areas and have symptoms, those who have had close contact with someone confirmed to have COVID-19 and have symptoms, and people with an unexplained acute respiratory illness.

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Positive tests will then be sent to the State public health lab for verification. Appropriate treatment and precautions will immediately be put in place for any positive commercial test before that test is confirmed by the State lab, and the public will be notified.

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

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Subject: Re: Re: PLEASE REVIEW - CONFIDENTIAL

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Thanks,
Aly

From: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 1:44 PM EDT
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
CC: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Protocol for public reporting going forward
Attachment(s): "Case Count for Website Recommendation.docx"

Hello again:

Please see attached our recommendation for the website. I've removed total PUIs tested for now while we sort out definitions with the lab.

Thanks,
Aly

From: Aly Neel
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 11:18:16 AM
To: Christina Stephens; Shauna Sanford
Cc: Kelly Zimmerman; Tonya Joiner
Subject: Protocol for public reporting going forward

Dear team:

As discussed on our call just now, please find below the working protocol for public reporting on COVID-19.

- 7:30/8AM Daily SITREP is circulated
- Going forward all updates on case count will be shared on our website two times per day, at 9AM and 4:30PM. Information that will be shared:
 - Total # PUI tests
 - # deaths (with location)
 - # confirmed (with location)
 - # presumptive positive (with location)
 - # negative
 - Additional updates on presumptive positive/confirmed cases
- LDH/GO will release a press statement only when there are major developments, i.e., in the case of a confirmed cluster or death. In the case of death, there will also be a press conference.
- LDH will work with GO on notifying parish presidents on a case-by-case basis for now.

Let me know if I'm missing anything.

Thanks all,
Aly

COVID-19 Website Update Recommendations

COVID-19 Case Counts

Last updated: XXDate XXTime

Presumptive Positive Test Results	6
CDC Confirmed Positive Cases	0
Parish of Residence	Orleans: 5 Jefferson: 1
Deaths	0

Additional updates:

- LDH believes the first presumptive positive case announced on March 9 (Jefferson Parish resident) was community-acquired and is not travel-related.

Note: we discussed including hospital. However, we know there will soon be cases in which a person is confirmed positive but is not hospitalized. So, recommendation from our lab is not to include where hospitalized (hospitals are already self-reporting this, anyway; and public health has never reported where a patient is hospitalized).

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 4:30 PM EDT
To: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
CC: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Protocol for public reporting going forward

Okay – this is going to be put up this evening?

From: Aly Neel
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:45 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Cc: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
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From: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 4:32 PM EDT
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
CC: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Protocol for public reporting going forward

We are working on a nice dashboard, but will post this chart for this evening at 5:30. Moving forward, numbers will be updated twice daily at 9 am and 4:30 pm.

Presumptive Positive Test Results	9
CDC Confirmed Positive Cases	0
Parish of Residence	Iberia: 1 Jefferson: 1 Orleans: 7
Deaths	0

From: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 3:31 PM
To: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Cc: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: RE: Protocol for public reporting going forward

Okay – this is going to be put up this evening?

From: Aly Neel
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:45 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Cc: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Protocol for public reporting going forward

Hello again:

Please see attached our recommendation for the website. I've removed total PUIs tested for now while we sort out definitions with the lab.

Thanks,
Aly

From: Aly Neel
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 11:18:16 AM
To: Christina Stephens; Shauna Sanford
Cc: Kelly Zimmerman; Tonya Joiner
Subject: Protocol for public reporting going forward

Dear team:

As discussed on our call just now, please find below the working protocol for public reporting on COVID-19.

- 7:30/8AM Daily SITREP is circulated
- Going forward all updates on case count will be shared on our website two times per day, at 9AM and 4:30PM. Information that will be shared:
 - Total # PUI tests
 - # deaths (with location)
 - # confirmed (with location)
 - # presumptive positive (with location)
 - # negative
 - Additional updates on presumptive positive/confirmed cases
- LDH/GO will release a press statement only when there are major developments, i.e., in the case of a confirmed cluster or death. In the case of death, there will also be a press conference.
- LDH will work with GO on notifying parish presidents on a case-by-case basis for now.

Let me know if I'm missing anything.

Thanks all,
Aly

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:58 PM EDT

To: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>

CC: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

Subject: RE: RE: Protocol for public reporting going forward

Thanks.

From: Aly Neel

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 11:18 AM

To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>

Cc: Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>

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Let me know if I'm missing anything.

Thanks all,

Aly

From: Cindy Rives <Cindy.Rives@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 10:32 PM EDT
To: Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>
CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: Rep. GG (LA-06)

Thanks will do.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 13, 2020, at 9:16 PM, Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov> wrote:

Matthew F. Block
Executive Counsel to the Governor
matthew.block@la.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Graves, Garret" <RepGG@mail.house.gov>
Date: March 13, 2020 at 7:36:00 PM CDT
To: Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>
Subject: **FW: Rep. GG (LA-06)**

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Wanted you to look through some of this. It is a draft of the 2nd emergency coronavirus supplemental. We have flagged some sections where the state would have to make a request. Thought you might want to start working on some of this.

Current version is 108 pages.

<20200313204453808.pdf>

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 6:16 PM EDT
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
CC: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning
Attachment(s): "image001.png"

That's correct.

Omar Khalid
Chief of Staff
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
225.953.2784

Sent from mobile

On Mar 11, 2020, at 5:13 PM, Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@la.gov> wrote:

Thank you – so Mayor Broome and the two parish pairesidents?

From: Omar Khalid
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>
Cc: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>
Subject: FW: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Christina--just received word below that Mayor Cantrell will not be attending the press conference tomorrow.

From: Catrina M. Simmons <cmsimmons@nola.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 4:38 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Omar,

I was just informed that Mayor Cantrell will not be attending the press conference tomorrow.

Thanks,

Catrina Simmons-Steib
Director of Scheduling
Office of the Mayor LaToya Cantrell | City of New Orleans
1300 Perdido St 2E04
New Orleans, LA 70112
cmsimmons@nola.gov
O: 504-658-4900

From: Catrina M. Simmons
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Yes, Mayor is confirmed.
Thanks Omar

Catrina Simmons-Steib
Director of Scheduling
Office of the Mayor LaToya Cantrell | City of New Orleans
1300 Perdido St 2E04

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000741

New Orleans, LA 70112
cmsimmons@nola.gov
O: 504-658-4900

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 1:23 PM
To: Catrina M. Simmons <cmsimmons@nola.gov>; Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Hi Catrina, we are working out some details but this is what we have so far. We are asking that the 9:15 meeting be attended by only Mayor Cantrell and Dr. Avegno or her designee as space will be limited. I'm happy to answer any additional questions, please let me know if we can confirm this so I can let the Gov's office know. Thanks for your assistance with this!

Thanks,
Omar

Thursday March 12:

09:15 AM – 09:45 AM Discussion with Governor John Bel Edwards (State Capitol 4th floor, Governor's office 900 North 3rd Street; Baton Rouge, Louisiana)

- Opportunity to talk about the status of COVID-19 in Louisiana prior to press event
- Mayor Cantrell, Mayor Broome, President Lee Sheng, President Cooper
- Area hospital executives (5 max)

This will be an informal, unstructured opportunity for the participants to discuss the situation with the Governor and Surgeon General, with a small group of hospital executives in attendance. Please limit staff to one for this discussion

09:45 AM – 10:15 AM Press Event with Governor John Bel Edwards (State Capitol 4th floor, Governor's office 900 North 3rd Street; Baton Rouge, Louisiana)

- Proposed Run of Show:
- 9:45 Welcome and opening comments by Governor Edwards
- 9:55 Introductory comments by Surgeon General RADM Jerome Adams, MD
- 10:05 questions fielded by Governor Edwards and the Surgeon General

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Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:08 PM
To: Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

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Good afternoon Omar,

Can you forward a run of show or agenda for the press conference?

Thanks,

Catrina Simmons-Steib
Director of Scheduling
Office of the Mayor LaToya Cantrell | City of New Orleans
1300 Perdido St 2E04
New Orleans, LA 70112
cmsimmons@nola.gov
O: 504-658-4900

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000742

From: Catrina M. Simmons
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 11:46 AM
To: Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Good Morning Dr. Avegno,

I spoke to the mayor and have placed the press conference on the mayor's calendar.

Thanks,

Catrina Simmons-Steib
Director of Scheduling
Office of the Mayor LaToya Cantrell | City of New Orleans
1300 Perdido St 2E04
New Orleans, LA 70112
cmsimmons@nola.gov
O: 504-658-4900

From: Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Catrina M. Simmons <cmsimmons@nola.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Please see urgent request for the mayor tomorrow -

From: Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 9:51 AM
To: Jennifer L. Avegno M.D.
Cc: Alexander Billioux; Joseph Kanter
Subject: Surgeon General Visit - Press Conference tomorrow morning

Good Morning Dr. Avegno,

My thoughts are definitely with you, I can imagine how challenging these days are like for you and your team.

As you know we are working with the Office of the Surgeon General of the United States to schedule a visit to Louisiana. While this was intended to be a routine visit when originally planned, the spread of COVID-19 has meant that we have had to do some scrambling to change and add some events.

The Surgeon General will now be holding a press conference with Governor Edwards tomorrow morning at **9:15am-10:15am** at the Governor's office at the Capitol. We would like for the Mayors/Parish Presidents of areas with presumptive positives for COVID-19 cases to be in attendance, with an opportunity to meet privately with the Governor and Surgeon General and other municipal leaders. Of course this is very short notice, but due to the rapid developments of this situation and the profile of the event, we would be very grateful if Mayor Cantrell could attend. So far Mayor Broome has been invited and Parish President Lee Sheng has confirmed. We are also reaching out to Parish President Cooper in St. Tammany.

Schedule:

9:00

9:15 meeting with Governor Edwards, Surgeon General Adams, and Mayors Cantrell and Broome/Presidents Lee Sheng and Cooper

9:30 Press Conference

Happy to discuss this further by phone if you'd like.

Thanks,

Omar Khalid
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Chief of Staff
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
omar.khalid@la.gov
225-953-2784
<image001.png>



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Office of the Mayor LaToya Cantrell | City of New Orleans

1300 Perdido St 2E04

New Orleans, LA 70112

cmsimmons@nola.gov

O: 504-658-4900

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000747

From: Jennifer L. Avegno M.D. <Jennifer.Avegno@nola.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Catrina M. Simmons <cmsimmons@nola.gov>
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Omar Khalid
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Chief of Staff
Office of Public Health
Louisiana Department of Health
628 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
omar.khalid@la.gov
225-953-2784



From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 5:31 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: The President & Coronavirus Task Force News Conference TODAY at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

State Leaders and Staff,

Below you will find additional information.

[1600 Daily](#)

The White House • February 26, 2020

President Trump's aggressive coronavirus response

[Watch LIVE at 6:30 p.m. ET as President Trump and members of the Coronavirus Task Force hold a news conference.](#)

Under President Trump's leadership, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people.

Tonight at 6:30 p.m. ET, the President and members of the Coronavirus Task Force will hold a news conference to update Americans on the federal response to the coronavirus.

Decisive action from President Trump at the beginning of the outbreak—including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy—has given local officials time to prepare. Last month, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response.

As a result, America has been able to stay ahead of the outbreak as it develops abroad.

The Trump Administration also recently requested new funding authorities from Congress. With this action, the Administration expects to allocate at least \$2.5 billion to fight the coronavirus. That funding will go toward public health preparedness, laboratory testing, quarantine costs, the development of vaccines, and other healthcare priorities.

One principle in particular has defined President Trump's approach: radical transparency. Rather than keep Americans in the dark, the Administration wants citizens to be able to see inside each step of the process. The President also wants all Americans to understand how their government is working hard to keep them safe.

"We're taking this incredibly serious here in the United States," Secretary Azar said. "We are doing the most aggressive containment efforts in modern history to prevent further spread in the United States. We're going to continue taking those measures."

[Tune in to President Trump's briefing LIVE at 6:30 p.m. ET.](#)

READ: "[Our coronavirus response is protecting Americans](#)"

Thanks,
Nic

On Feb 26, 2020, at 4:58 PM, Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov> wrote:

State Leaders and Staff,

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000750

Today (Wednesday, February 26) at 6:30 PM Eastern Time, President Donald J. Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, and Members of the Coronavirus Task Force will Hold a News Conference from the White House James S. Brady Briefing Room.

You can view the news conference here: [WhiteHouse.gov/Live](https://www.whitehouse.gov/live).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 5:39 PM EST

Subject: Re: Re: The President & Coronavirus Task Force News Conference TODAY at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Note: You may have already received this email or members of your team may have received it. I had a glitch with my email distribution, so I'm resending to ensure you received this.

State Leaders and Staff,

Below you will find additional information.

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000752

You can view the news conference here: [WhiteHouse.gov/Live](https://www.whitehouse.gov/live).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 9:21 PM EST
To: Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>
CC: Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Re: Trigger for school closures?

Christina, see our guidance below.

Short answer: Potential school closures and cleanings are in our plans should we need them but in this situation that would not be our recommendation.

More information:

- Where there has been a student in a school with COVID-19 we could certainly look at closing and cleaning, but triggering for that would be someone in the school with COVID-19, not just in the community. The latter doesn't make sense to us because COVID-19 would still be in the community and no closer or farther from the school.
- Specifically, the circumstance(s) that would prompt us to suggest school closures would be first, when we have detected that children within the school are actively transmitting an infection at the school, causing an outbreak and significant disruption. Secondly, we might consider the suggestion if a significant number of students or faculty were out, and normal school activities simply could not continue. In any of these circumstances, we would suggest a thorough school cleaning.
- Dr. Guidry does have authority here re closing the school, but usually it's a partnership in which OPH gives advice and the school official closes the school.

Hope this helps!
Aly

From: Christina Stephens
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 2:48:59 PM
To: Aly Neel; Alexander Billioux; Jimmy Guidry (LDH)
Cc: Mike Steele; Casey Tingle
Subject: Trigger for school closures?

Hello – We have seen some news out Tennessee that they closed all of the county's schools to decontaminate them because a man in the county has COVID-19. It doesn't seem to be connected to the school, but some parents have been told that it is part of the plan for school there to shut down for two days to be cleaned.

Someone in our office is asking if 1) this is something that we have in our plans for schools and 2) what the trigger for closing school would be.

https://www.wsmv.com/news/williamson_county/williamson-county-schools-to-close-friday-monday-in-response-to/article_f0d0110e-5f01-11ea-9ad6-cf79dc9a1496.html

<https://www.newschannel5.com/news/williamson-county-schools-to-close-for-cleaning-after-first-confirmed-tenn-case-of-coronavirus>

Thanks, Christina

From: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 11:07 AM EDT
To: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
CC: Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>
Subject: RE: RE: Video Script with LA Gov
Attachment(s): "COVID19 Script_OSG.docx","COVID19 Script_OSG clean.docx"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Shauna & Lauren – A few edits from us in the attached. I made our edits in tracked changes, but also included a clean copy.

Can you also please share the video with me before you publish it? Will want to give it a quick look on our end first.

Thanks,
Jen

From: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 10:59 AM
To: Sherman, Jennifer (HHS/OASH) <Jennifer.Sherman@hhs.gov>
Cc: Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Video Script with LA Gov

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>
Date: March 12, 2020 at 9:48:34 AM CDT
To: "amber.channer@hhs.gov" <amber.channer@hhs.gov>
Cc: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Subject: Video Script with LA Gov

See the proposed video script attached.

Lauren Leist
Deputy Communications Director

Talking Points

JBE: Hello. I'm Governor John Bel Edwards, and I am joined today by U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Jerome Adams.

We'd like to encourage everyone out there to take every precaution necessary to prevent the spread of coronavirus also known as COVID-19.

SG Adams: Some of the steps you can take include:

- Washing your hands for at least 20 seconds – and frequently
- Covering your cough or sneeze
- Avoid touching your face
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- Avoiding close contact with others
- And staying home if you are sick

For more information from the CDC, please visit [coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

JBE: By following these recommendations, we can help limit the spread of COVID-19 and stay healthy.

Talking Points

JBE: Hello. I'm Governor John Bel Edwards, and I am joined today by U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Jerome Adams.

We'd like to encourage everyone out there to take every precaution necessary to prevent the spread of coronavirus also known as COVID-19.

SG Adams: Some of the steps you can take include:

- ~~Frequent hand washing~~ Washing your hands for at least 20 seconds – and frequently
- Covering your cough ~~appropriately~~ or sneeze
- Avoid touching your face
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- Avoiding close contact with others
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For more information from the CDC, please visit [coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

JBE: By following these recommendations, we can help limit the spread of COVID-19 and stay healthy.

From: Alicia.Williams@la.gov <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 5:08 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Roy, William <william.f.roy@fema.dhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: VTC Testing Opportunity - Governors-Only Briefings

I would like to confirm Gov John Bel Edwards for the phone call on Monday. FYI, this will be the first day of our session.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 5, 2020, at 8:16 PM, Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov> wrote:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Governor's State-Federal Director and Scheduler,

We will continue to offer a video teleconference (VTC) option for the Governors-only Briefings with Vice President Mike Pence on COVID-19 preparedness and response. To ensure every governor has the opportunity to VTC into these briefings, we wanted to provide an opportunity for your state to test your state's VTC system connection into FEMA (who is the technical host of the VTCs).

-
Testing Opportunity

FEMA has set-up a video bridge to test your state's VTC connection with the Federal government's FEMA system. The testing can run **any time on Friday, March 6 between 8:00 a.m. ET to 4:00 p.m. ET.**

- **Ask:** If you want your governor to participate in the COVID-19 briefings via VTC on Monday, March 9 or anytime in the future, please contact your state's emergency manager to have them test your state's VTC (typically housed or based in your emergency management office). Some states have a separate VTC system, so you can contact the technical team who manages that system test. All you need to do is provide the VTC dial-in information below and indicate they should test sometime tomorrow, Friday, March 6 between 8:00 a.m. ET to 4:00 p.m. ET.
- **Note:** This testing will ensure your governor can connect smoothly on the VTC on March 9 or in the future. Governors will continue to be able to join the briefings by phone, and VTC is **ONLY** an optional way to connect into the briefings.

If you do not know if your state has a VTC to connect into the FEMA system, please contact Will Roy listed below.

William (Will) F. Roy
Director, Operations Division, Office of Response
DHS-FEMA
Office: 202-212-3321
Email: William.f.roy@fema.dhs.gov

Your FEMA Region has already connected your state emergency management office about this testing tomorrow as well.

For VTC Dial-In Testing Only on March 6 between 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.ET

- **SIP:** 13101@fema.net
- **IP:** 13101@vtc.fema.net /Cisco <or> vtc.fema.net###13101/Polycom
- **Toll Free ISDN:** 888-600-5803 or 888-269-2114
- **Direct Dial ISDN:** 540-542-0816 or 540-504-1130

If you have any questions, please let me know. Happy to talk through.

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) on behalf of Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 5:08 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
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From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 9:49 AM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Read Ahead & Confirmation -- Governor-Only Briefing with the Vice President on Monday, March 9 at 12:00 p.m. ET
Attachment(s): "Read-Ahead for Governors-Only Call for 3-9-2020.pdf"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



Good Morning,

Your Governor is **CONFIRMED** to participate in today's briefing at 12:00 p.m. ET with the Vice President.

-

Read Ahead – See Attachment

The White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator Ambassador Deborah Birx will be covering the attached PDF during the briefing at 12:00 p.m. **Please make sure your Governor receives the attachment prior to the call.**

-

Call-In Information

You or a member of your team has already registered your Governor for call-in information via a link. That step resulted in receiving call-in information via email from Audio Conference Notification (noreply@event-services.com). Please reference that email for call-in information. That email provided:

- o Dial-In Number
- o Access Code
- o Attendee ID

-

If your Governor is participating via video-teleconference (VTC), please reference the VTC dial-in information.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Name	Cell Phone	Email
Zach Swint	202-881-6717	Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov
Olivia Imhoff	202-881-7466	Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov

Thanks,

Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Two new proposed products for Coronavirus.gov

1. What can every American and community do today
2. CDC recommendations for mitigation in 4 specific communities

Preliminary Draft for Discussion not for Distribution

U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

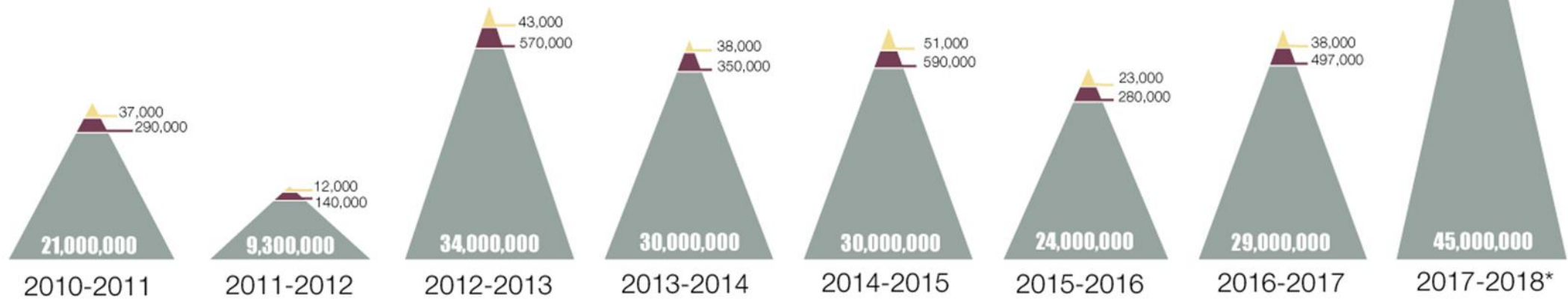
LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000762

UNCLASSIFIED

Estimated Influenza Disease Burden, by Season United States, 2010-11 through 2017-18 Influenza Seasons

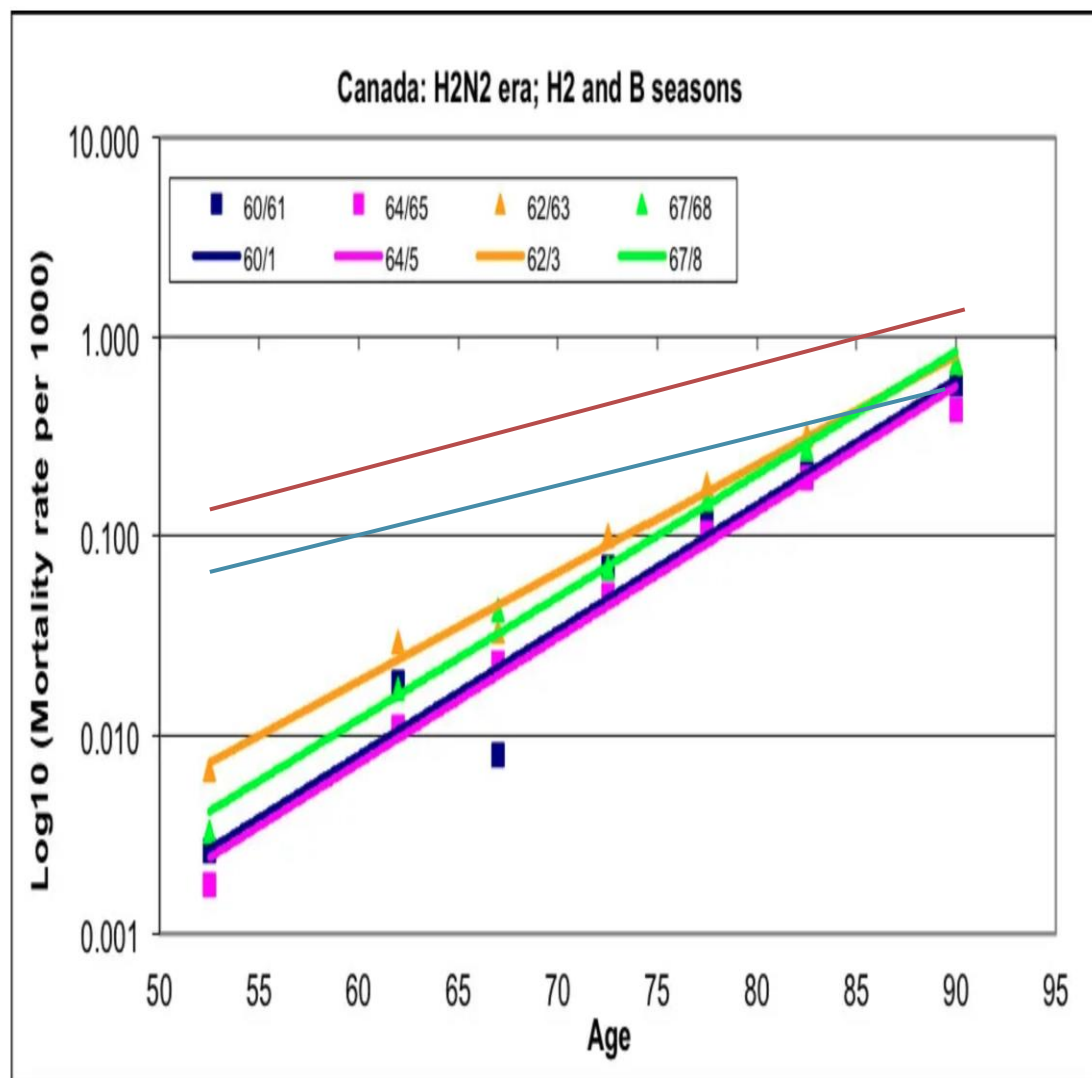
- Deaths
- Hospitalizations
- Illnesses

Estimated U.S. Influenza Burden, By Season
(2010 - 2019)



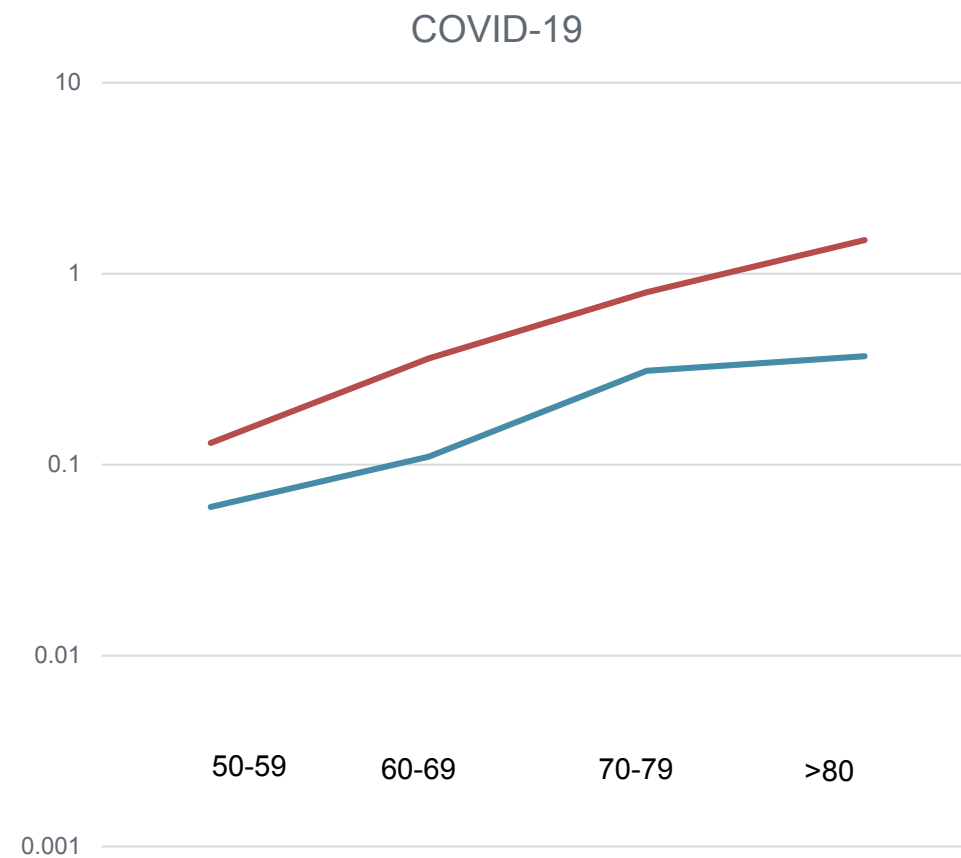
*Estimates for these seasons are preliminary and may change as data are finalized.

Preliminary Draft for Discussion not for Distribution



A semi-log plot of excess all-cause mortality variation with age for epidemic seasons during the era of circulation of influenza A(H2N2) viruses in Canada. The 1960/61 and 1964/5 seasons were dominated by B-type viruses, and the 1962/3 and 1967/8 seasons were dominated in mortality by H2N2 viruses.

COVID-19 compared to Flu



Preliminary Draft for Discussion not for Distribution

LA-GEV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000764

Summary from integrating data

Cases

- Children and young adults underrepresented in cases suggested either preexisting immunity or subclinical/mild cases
- Increasing symptoms and case diagnosis with increasing age

Mortality

- Children and young adults spared – lower mortality in compared to flu
- Mortality in older adults greater than most flu seasons in the 3-5 fold greater range

What can every American and Community do today – Adapted from a scientific article by Dalton et al

Preempted low cost interventions

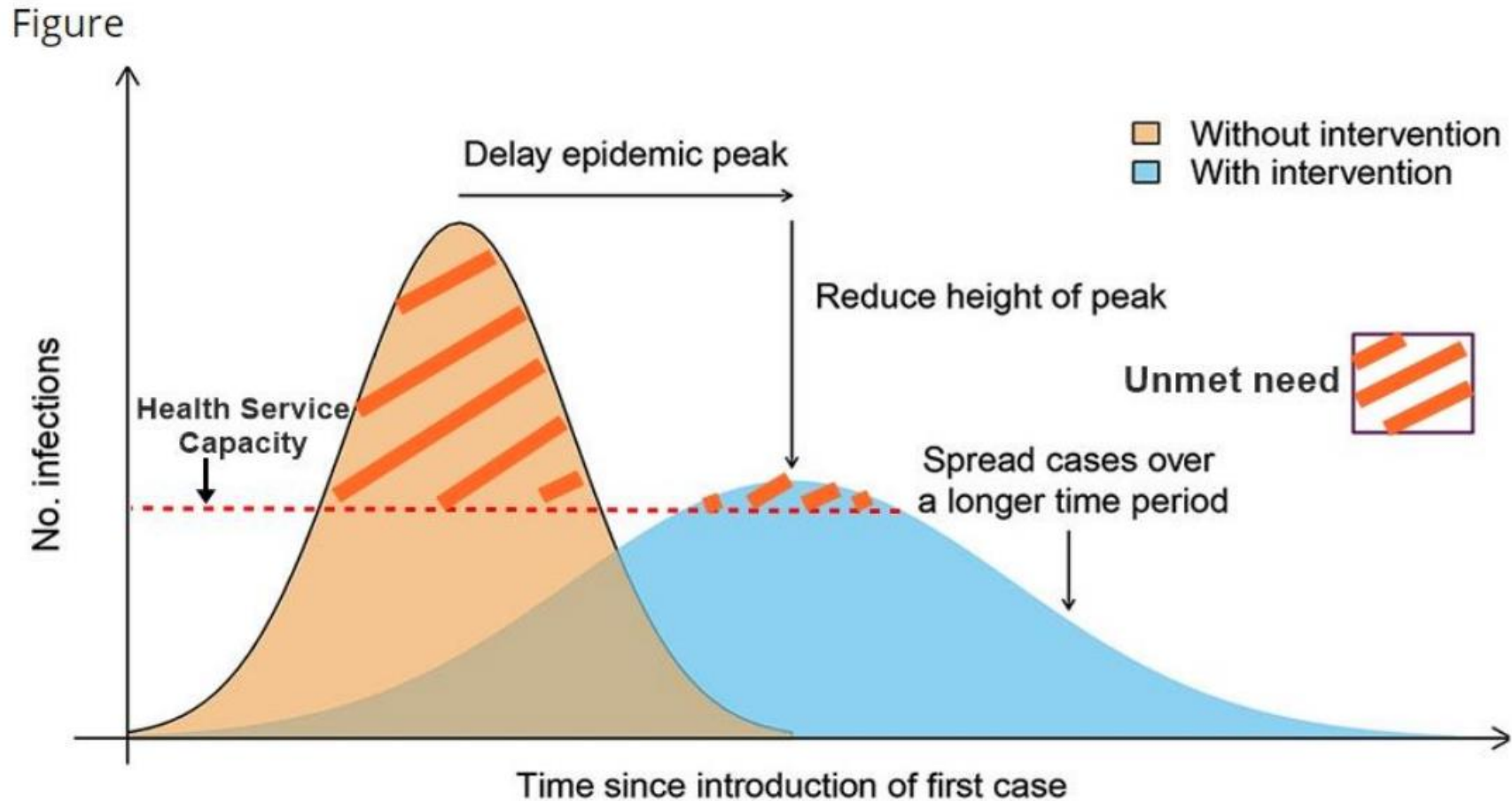


Figure 1: Intended impact of enhanced hygiene and social distancing measures on the COVID-19 pandemic adapted from Fong.⁸

Workplace

Box 1. Workplace Interventions

- No handshaking policy
- Promote cough and sneeze etiquette (but focus is on excluding ill staff)
- Videoconferencing as default for meetings
- Defer large meetings
- Enforced sanitisation of hands at entrance
- Regular hand sanitation schedule reminders via email
- Lunch at desk rather than in lunch room
- Gamifying hygiene rules e.g. to discourage touching face
- Ill* people stay at home and ill workers immediately isolated
- Hold necessary meetings outside in open air if possible
- Staff with ill household contacts should stay at home**
- Disinfect high touch surfaces regularly and between users
- Work from home where possible and consider staggering of staff where there is no loss of productivity from remote work
- Consider opening windows and adjusting air conditioning***
- Limit food handling and sharing of food in the workplace
- Assess staff business travel risks****
- Enhance hygiene and screening for illness among food preparation (canteen) staff and their close contacts.
- Analyse the root cause of crowding events on site and prevent through rescheduling, staggering, cancelling.



School

Box 2. School Interventions

- Supervised sanitisation of hands at entrance and at regular intervals
- Defer activities that lead to mixing between classes and years.
- Promote cough and sneeze etiquette (but focus on excluding ill persons)
- Strict stay at home policy if ill
- Gamifying hygiene rules e.g. to discourage touching face
- Regular handwashing schedule
- Disinfect high touch surfaces regularly and between users
- Outdoor lessons where possible
- Consider opening windows and adjusting conditioning
- Enhance hygiene and screening for illness among food preparation (canteen) staff and their close contacts
- Review after-school care arrangements that lead to mixing of children from multiple classes and ages



Household

Box 3. Household-based Interventions

All Households

- Enhanced hand sanitisation
- Gamifying hygiene rules e.g. to discourage touching face
- Disinfect high touch surfaces regularly
- “Welcome if you are well” signs on front door.
- Increase ventilation rates in the home by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning
- Promote cough and sneeze etiquette

Households with ill members (in addition to measures above)

- Ill household members are given own room if possible and only one person cares for them
- The door to the ill persons room is kept closed*
- Wearing simple surgical/dust masks by both infected persons and other family members caring for the case.
- Consider extra protection or alternative accommodation for household members over 65 years or with underlying illness.

Commercial establishments

Box 4. Commercial/entertainment/transport setting Interventions

- Sanitisation of hands at building entrance encouraged
- Tap and pay preferred to limit handling of money.
- Disinfect high touch surfaces regularly
- Avoiding crowding through booking and scheduling, online pre-purchasing, limiting attendance numbers.
- Enhance hygiene and screening for illness among food preparation staff and their close contacts.
- Enhance airflow and adjust air conditioning
- Public transport workers/taxi/ride share – vehicle windows opened where possible, increased air flow, high-touch surfaces disinfected.



China CDC Epidemiologic Study

TABLE 1. Patients, deaths, and case fatality rates, as well as observed time and mortality cases in Mainland China as of February 11, 2020.

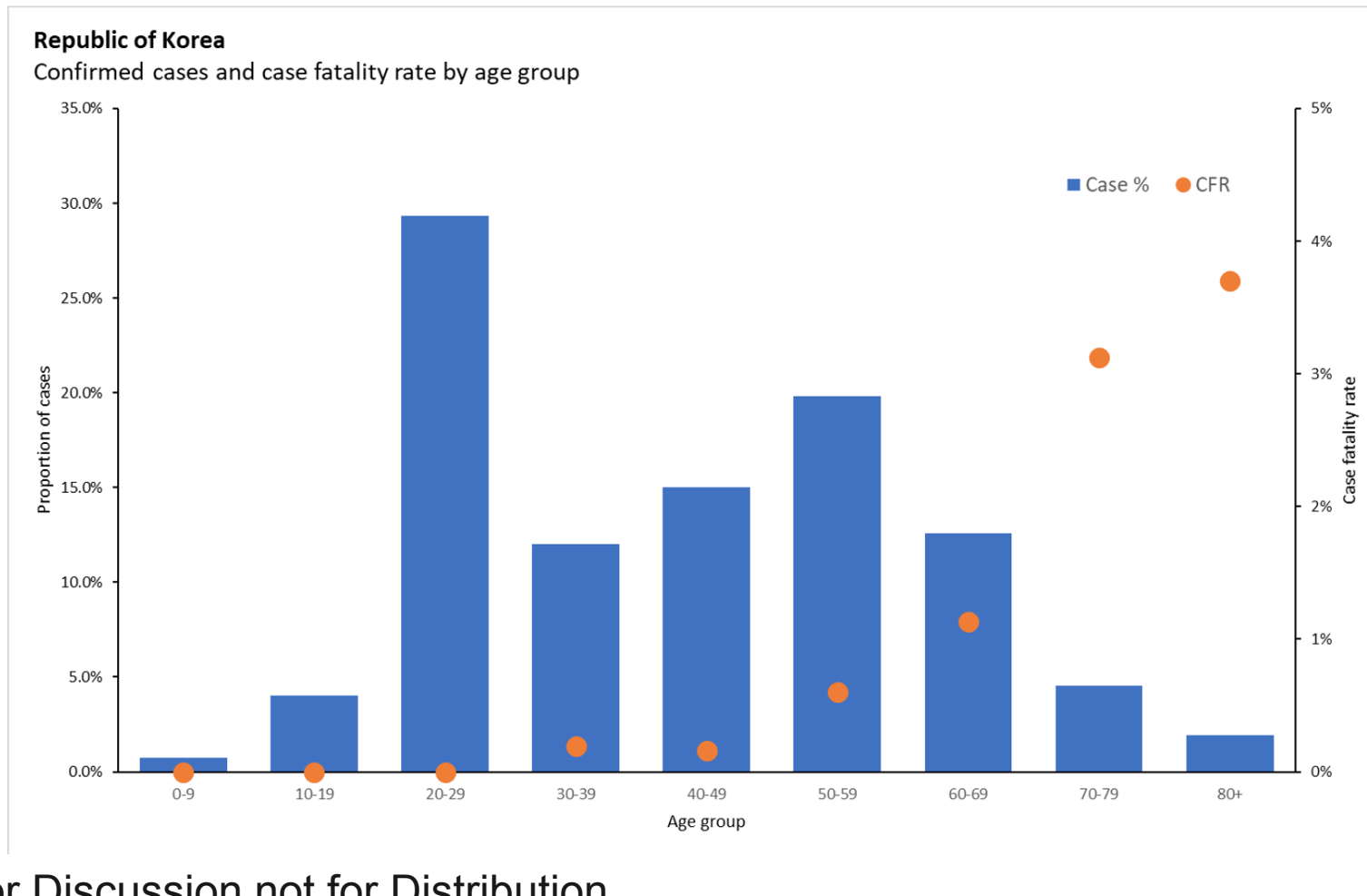
Baseline characteristics	Confirmed cases, N (%)	Deaths, N (%)	Case fatality rate, %
Overall	44,672	1,023	2.3
Age, years			
0–9	416 (0.9)	–	–
10–19	549 (1.2)	1 (0.1)	0.2
20–29	3,619 (8.1)	7 (0.7)	0.2
30–39	7,600 (17.0)	18 (1.8)	0.2
40–49	8,571 (19.2)	38 (3.7)	0.4
50–59	10,008 (22.4)	130 (12.7)	1.3
60–69	8,583 (19.2)	309 (30.2)	3.6
70–79	3,918 (8.8)	312 (30.5)	8.0
≥80	1,408 (3.2)	208 (20.3)	14.8
Sex			
Male	22,981 (51.4)	653 (63.8)	2.8
Female	21,691 (48.6)	370 (36.2)	1.7

[The Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia Emergency Response Epidemiology Team. The Epidemiological Characteristics of an Outbreak of 2019 Novel Coronavirus Diseases \(COVID-19\) – China, 2020. China CDC Weekly.](#)

Preliminary Draft for Discussion not for Distribution

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000772

Korean Case and Case Fatality



Preliminary Draft for Discussion not for Distribution

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000773

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 9:58 PM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

The White House

Office of the Vice President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 9, 2020

READOUT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT'S DISCUSSION WITH OUR NATION'S GOVERNORS ON COVID-19 COORDINATION & PREPAREDNESS

Vice President Mike Pence today participated in a discussion with nearly 50 of our Nation's governors to provide an update on the work of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, to continue coordination with governors and state and local officials to respond to and prepare for the coronavirus, and to thank governors and state and local leaders—particularly state and local health officials—for their important and tireless work.

The Vice President along with White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator Ambassador Deborah Birx, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Director Bob Redfield, U.S. Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command General Terrence O'Shaunessy, Office of Management and Budget Director Russ Vought, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Administrator Seema Verma, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci, and Surgeon General Jerome Adams provided a status update on the expansion of testing capabilities, increased access to respirators for health care personnel, and the importance of the supplemental funding bill. Various governors provided an update on State and local actions to respond to and prepare for the Coronavirus, including coordination across various state agencies and local governments. Participants also discussed how elderly individuals and individuals with underlying health conditions can protect themselves using common sense precautions.

The Federal supplemental bill authorizes \$7.76 billion to Federal, State and local agencies to combat the coronavirus including funds for vaccine development and medical supplies, grants for health agencies and organizations, loans for impacted small businesses, and \$500 million in waivers for Medicaid telehealth restrictions.

Governor Larry Hogan, Chair of the National Governors Association, joined the Vice President in person, and other governors joined via video teleconference or phone. The Vice President pledged that Federal leaders will continue to coordinate with our Nation's governors and other State and local leaders.

For more information about the Coronavirus, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

###

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000774

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 6:38 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
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Office of the Vice President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 2020

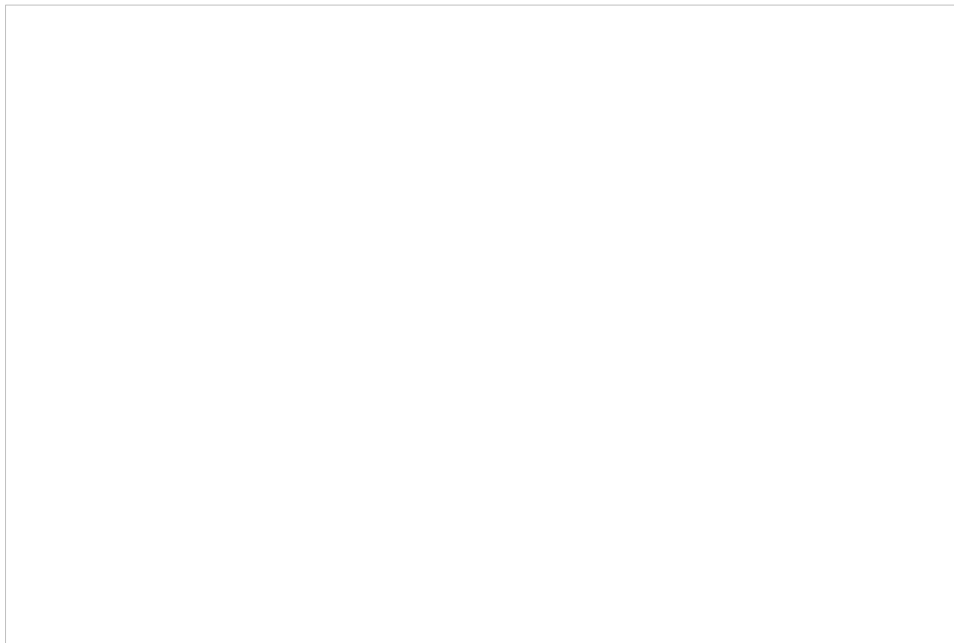
**READOUT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT'S DISCUSSION WITH OUR NATION'S GOVERNORS ON COVID-19
COORDINATION & PREPAREDNESS**

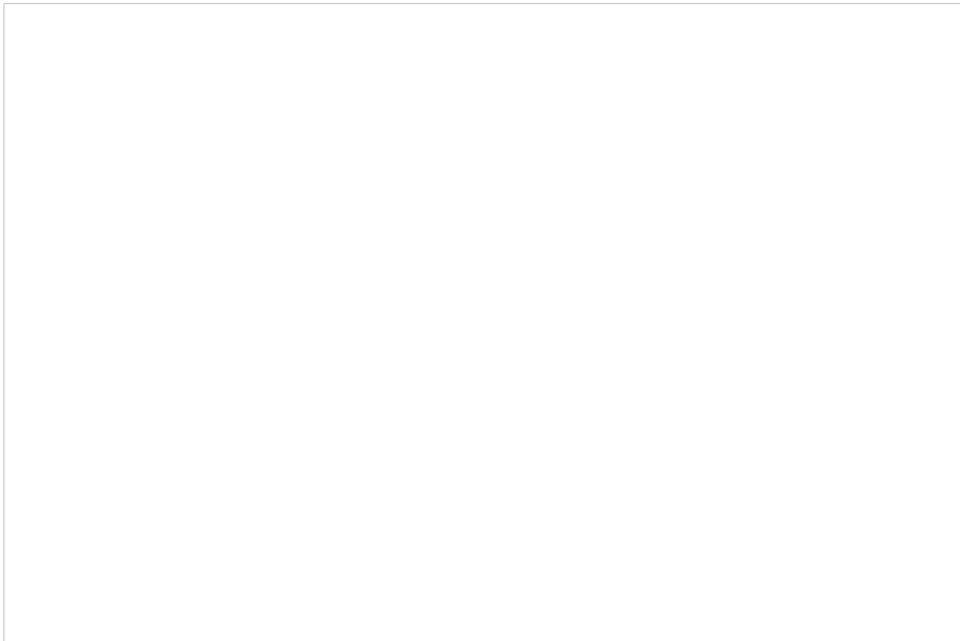
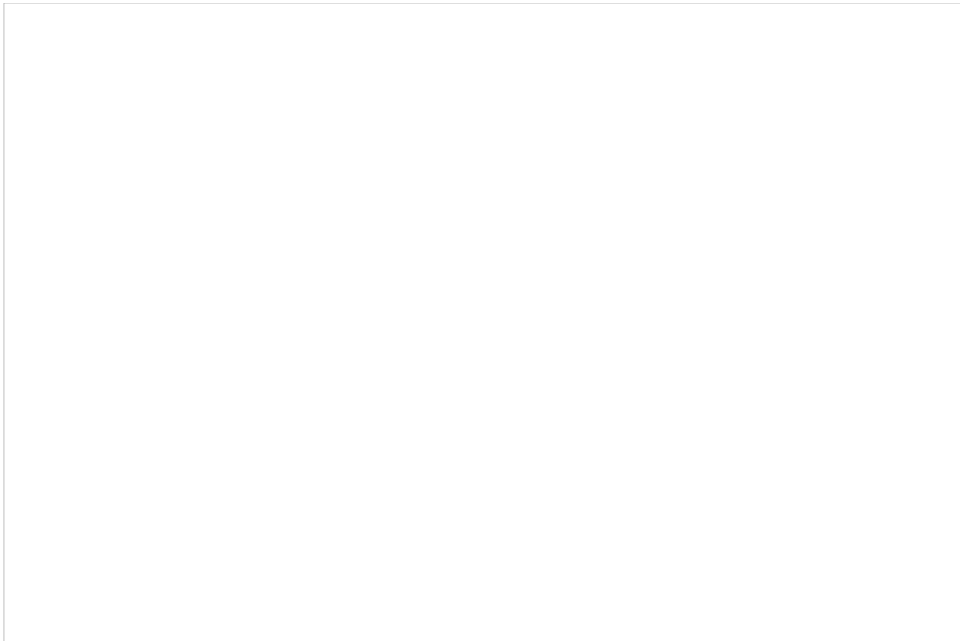
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The Vice President, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar, and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) Principal Deputy Director Dr. Anne Schuchat provided a status update on the Coronavirus, outlined ongoing Federal efforts, and discussed State and local actions with the governors.

Governor Larry Hogan, Chair of the National Governors Association, joined the Vice President in person, and other governors joined via video teleconference or phone.

The Vice President pledged to convene the governors for a teleconference on a weekly basis, and made assurances that Federal leaders will continue its close coordinate with our Nation's governors and other State and local leaders.





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Nicholas D. Pottebaum

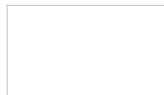
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director

White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

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Office of the Vice President

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March 2, 2020

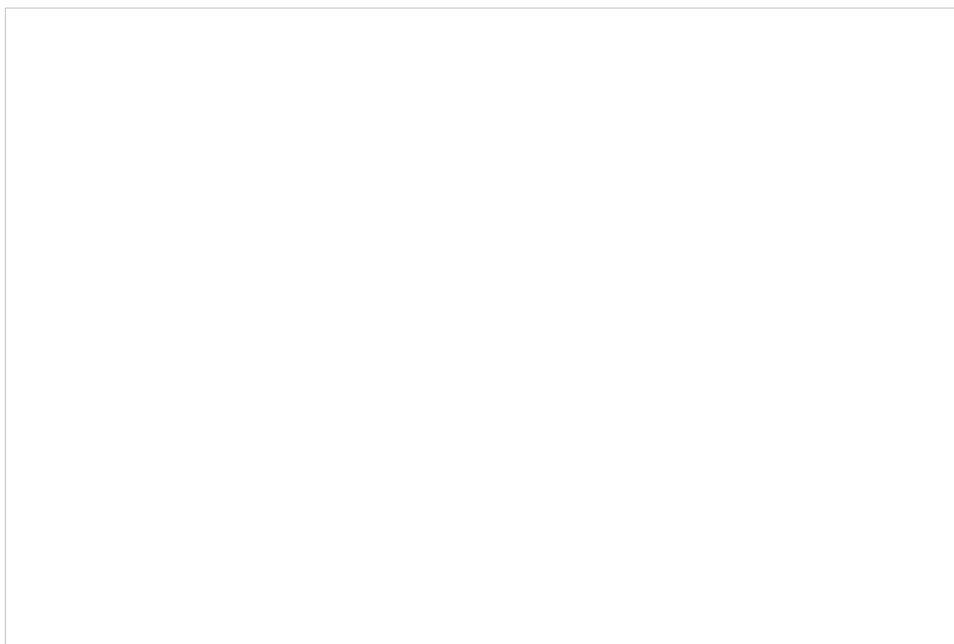
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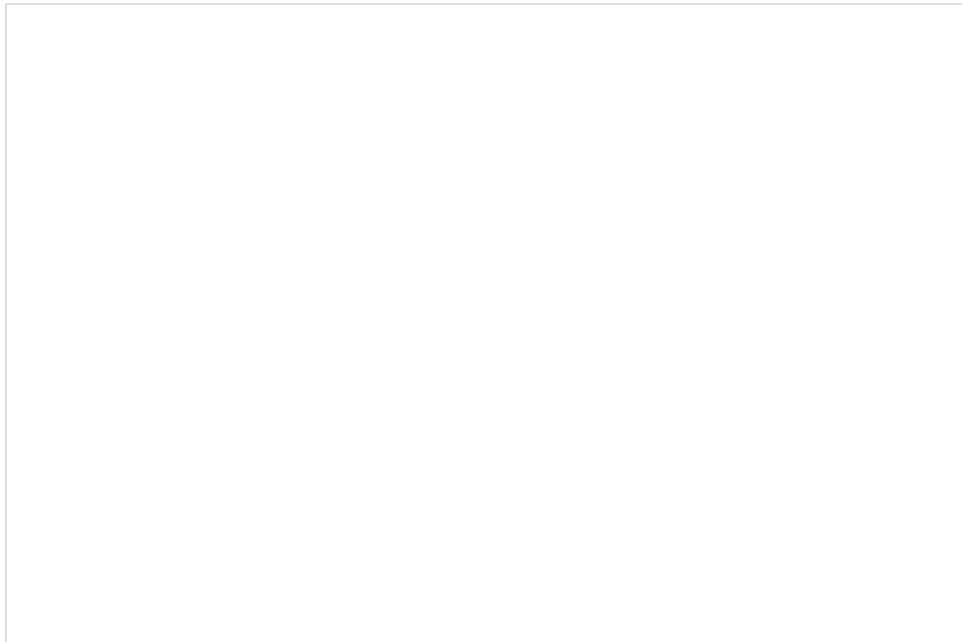
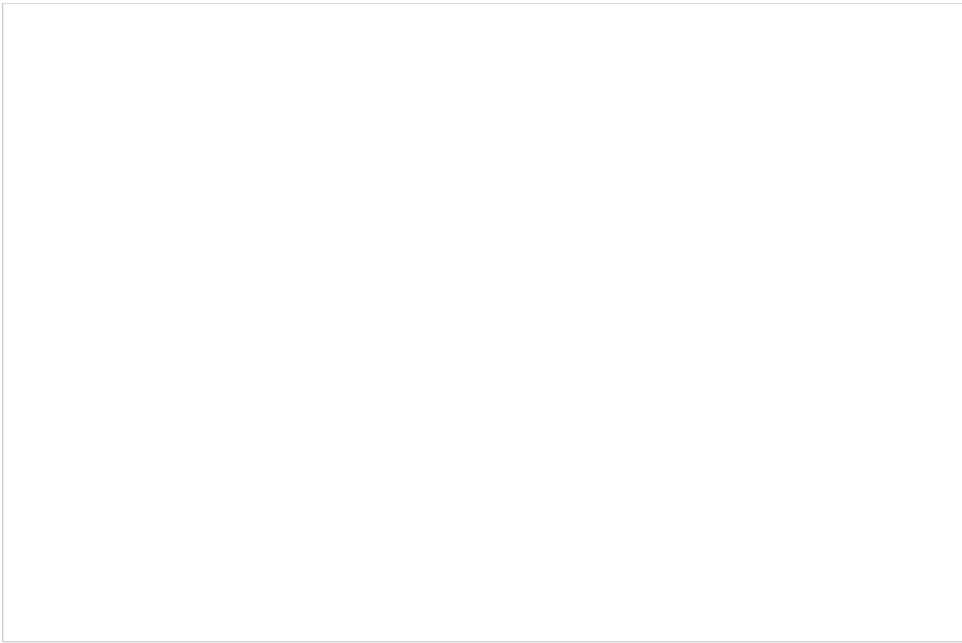
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Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 9:58 PM EDT
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Obenshain, Tucker T. EOP/OVP <Anne.T.Obenshain@ovp.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

The White House
Office of the Vice President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 9, 2020

**READOUT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT'S DISCUSSION WITH OUR NATION'S GOVERNORS ON COVID-19
COORDINATION & PREPAREDNESS**

Vice President Mike Pence today participated in a discussion with nearly 50 of our Nation's governors to provide an update on the work of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, to continue coordination with governors and state and local officials to respond to and prepare for the coronavirus, and to thank governors and state and local leaders—particularly state and local health officials—for their important and tireless work.

The Vice President along with White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator Ambassador Deborah Birx, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Director Bob Redfield, U.S. Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command General Terrence O'Shaunessy, Office of Management and Budget Director Russ Vought, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Administrator Seema Verma, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci, and Surgeon General Jerome Adams provided a status update on the expansion of testing capabilities, increased access to respirators for health care personnel, and the importance of the supplemental funding bill. Various governors provided an update on State and local actions to respond to and prepare for the Coronavirus, including coordination across various state agencies and local governments. Participants also discussed how elderly individuals and individuals with underlying health conditions can protect themselves using common sense precautions.

The Federal supplemental bill authorizes \$7.76 billion to Federal, State and local agencies to combat the coronavirus including funds for vaccine development and medical supplies, grants for health agencies and organizations, loans for impacted small businesses, and \$500 million in waivers for Medicaid telehealth restrictions.

Governor Larry Hogan, Chair of the National Governors Association, joined the Vice President in person, and other governors joined via video teleconference or phone. The Vice President pledged that Federal leaders will continue to coordinate with our Nation's governors and other State and local leaders.

For more information about the Coronavirus, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

###

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 12:35 PM EST
To: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>; Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>
Subject: Reminder: COVID-19 Call Today, 1:45 PM EST

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Just a reminder if you haven't registered for today's COVID-19 federal update call:

Please join us for a national briefing call **TODAY, Friday, February 14 at 1:45 p.m. Eastern Time** on the President's Coronavirus Task Force (**Please register, see link below**). The national briefing call will include updates from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) along with our Federal partners at U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of Transportation, and the State Department. This national briefing call will provide an update from the Federal government and our ongoing partnership with State and local jurisdictions.

Additional Information

- You can find more information and resources at the CDC website here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/>.
- **NEW: Excerpts from Secretary Azar's interviews with CNN and CNBC**

Briefing Call Details

Date: Friday, February 14

Time: 1:45 p.m. Eastern Time

Call-In Information: [LINK](#) (Participants will receive instructions on accessing the conference after RSVPing to the link)

What The Admin Is Saying | HHS Secretary Alex Azar Discusses the Coronavirus on CNN and CNBC

Secretary Azar provided an update on the coronavirus and the administration's aggressive efforts to protect the health and safety of Americans.

PROTECTING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

AZAR: "We're working aggressively across the whole of government to protect the health and safety of the American people and using the time that we have bought through our very aggressive, multilayered approaches of public health to prepare."

AZAR: "This is about protecting America's borders and allowing us the time to continue our proactive preparations."

AZAR: "People who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States may not enter the United States if they have been in China in the previous 14 days. Once they've been out of China for that 14-day incubation period, they are welcome as always into the United States."

AZAR: "Americans coming back who have been in China in the previous 14 days, we ask them to both funnel to 11 airport ports of entry where they can be inspected, surveilled, and we ask them voluntarily to isolate themselves at home for 14 days. If they've been in the hot zone, which is an increasingly diminishing number of people who've been in Hubei province in the previous 14 days, we will actually quarantine them for that 14-day period."

IDENTIFYING AND MONITORING CASES

AZAR: "We are proactively planning now to prevent further spread in the U.S., but also to conduct aggressive surveillance, to have an early warning system. Our public health system's the best in the world, and it's working. That system is what identified the 15 cases that we have."

AZAR: "The 15 cases that we have were identified by our public health system. We immediately alerted our hospitals, our doctors, our public health departments, of the symptoms and of the connection to China. And so we have been scanning and surveilling from day one on this."

AZAR: "One of the things that we did – the CDC – within a week of getting the genetic sequencing, developed a test, we had a diagnostic there at CDC. We've now deployed that around the country in over 170 public health labs."

AZAR: "We're taking an important measure that we announced yesterday, which is we are using our flu surveillance network in Seattle, San Francisco, L.A., Chicago and New York, where individuals who present with flu-like, or China coronavirus-like symptoms will be tested not just for flu, but also tested for China coronavirus. That way we have an early warning system."

IMPACT WITHIN THE UNITED STATES

AZAR: "The risk to the average American is very low right now. Let's remember, we have 15 confirmed cases here in the United States – all of whom were either traveling in Hubei province, where Wuhan is, or had a direct intimate personal contact with an individual who was there."

AZAR: "They should be more worried about flu and regular cold season, in terms of taking precautions like washing their hands, coughing into their arms, and not touching their face."

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000780

AZAR: “So far, we’re seeing very limited impact here in the United States, but that could change at any time. We’re working to prevent that from happening, to keep that risk low, and we’re working to proactively prepare with states, local governments, and the private sector.”

COOPERATION WITH CHINA

AZAR: “The World Health Organization must insist that China be transparent and fully cooperative, as they would insist on the United States or any other country.”

AZAR: “It is very important that the World Health Organization hold China to account for transparency and cooperation, as they would any other country, including the United States.”

AZAR: “The World Health Organization, we believe, has secured agreement to deploy a W.H.O. team with our U.S. public health experts as part of that team. We are ready to go. And we are waiting for final clearance from the Chinese government to make that happen.”

AZAR: “We need to get this team that I have offered now for 39 days of CDC experts. We’ve got to get them into China and they’ve got to be given access to data, genetic sequences, run the studies to get answers to the key questions.”

AZAR: “They have got to be able to work shoulder to shoulder with their Chinese scientific colleagues – looking at raw data, running the studies, looking at genetic sequences, doing the virology and epidemiology that is their mission – or it won’t be a useful mission.”

###

Thanks,

Darcie Johnston, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
(202) 853-0582

From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 12:37 PM EST
To: Johnston, Darcie (HHS/IEA) <Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov>; Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Subject: Reminder: COVID-19 Call Today, 1:45 PM EST

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AZAR: "We're taking an important measure that we announced yesterday, which is we are using our flu surveillance network in Seattle, San Francisco, L.A., Chicago and New York, where individuals who present with flu-like, or China coronavirus-like symptoms will be tested not just for flu, but also tested for China coronavirus. That way we have an early warning system."

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000782

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AZAR: “We need to get this team that I have offered now for 39 days of CDC experts. We’ve got to get them into China and they’ve got to be given access to data, genetic sequences, run the studies to get answers to the key questions.”

AZAR: “They have got to be able to work shoulder to shoulder with their Chinese scientific colleagues – looking at raw data, running the studies, looking at genetic sequences, doing the virology and epidemiology that is their mission – or it won’t be a useful mission.”

###

Thanks,

Darcie Johnston, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
(202) 853-0582

From: EOCWATCH <DHHEOC40@LA.GOV>

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 9:37 AM EDT

To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Frank Welch <Frank.Welch@LA.GOV>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>; INACTIVE - Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens2@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>

Subject: SitRep 3/12/20

Attachment(s): "COVID-19 Summary_031220_0730.docx"

[See attached SitRep.](#)

Sundee

From: Sundee Winder <Sundee.Winder@LA.GOV>

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 8:33 AM

To: EOCWATCH <DHHEOC40@LA.GOV>

Subject: SitRep 3/12/20

Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) Daily Summary | 3/12/20 at 0730

Table 1: US Case Counts

United States		Updated	3/11/20 at 0700
CDC Case Counts			
Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths
938	291	29	4

Source: CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>

Note: For consistency, the national case counts reported by the Louisiana Department of Health will follow the counts reported daily, M-F, by the CDC. This information might be different from reports by news organizations that update more frequently.

Table 2: Louisiana Testing and Results

Updated		3/12/20 at 0700	
Laboratory Testing			
	Number of Persons Under Investigation (PUI) Tests Negative	Number of Presumptive Positive Persons	CDC Confirmed Cases
New Results (on 3/11)	13	7	0
Cumulative Results (as of 3/12 700)	38	13	0

Source: OPH Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section and OPH Laboratory

Table 3: General Information Line

General Information Line Calls on 3/11/20 from 800 to 1630	
Calls	Cumulative Count
112	549

Note: Bureau of Community Preparedness staffs the general information line Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm. The phone number for this line is 855-523-2652.

Calls = Number of calls received and answered during the Operational Period of 8 to 4:30 pm.

Voice messages received outside of regular business hours are returned and captured in the call count the following day.

Updates and Headlines

Updates

Public Health declaration issued on 3/11/20

State announces 13 presumptive positive cases on 3/11/20

211 activated and liaison will report to LDH EOC on 3/12/20

Headlines

[Louisiana coronavirus count rises to 13 as virus spreads across state](#) | The Advocate

[Caddo officials release information on Coronavirus case in the parish](#) | KSLA-TV

[Latest: 13 presumptive positive coronavirus cases in Louisiana; public health emergency issued](#)
WDSU-TV

[Three of Louisiana's 13 coronavirus patients are residents of same New Orleans senior living facility](#) |
WBRZ-TV

[Map shows coronavirus cases in Louisiana, Texas and beyond](#) | The Advertiser

[LSU says it has no coronavirus cases, classes unaffected at this time](#) | WBRZ-TV

[Coronavirus and Louisiana: 5 big stories to know, from 13 confirmed cases to empty stadiums](#) | The Advocate

[Coronavirus in Louisiana: See this map to view patient locations, more details](#) |
[nola.com](#)

[Coronavirus clusters swell on both sides of the US](#) | Associated Press

[NBA suspends its season after player tests positive for coronavirus](#) | CNN

From: EOCWATCH <DHHEOC40@LA.GOV>

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 8:40 AM EDT

To: Tonya Joiner <Tonya.Joiner@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Frank Welch <Frank.Welch@LA.GOV>; Kelly Zimmerman <Kelly.Zimmerman@la.gov>; Omar Khalid <Omar.Khalid@LA.GOV>; Robert Johannessen <Robert.Johannessen@la.gov>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Cindy Rives <Cindy.Rives@la.gov>; David Timoll <David.Timoll@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>; Joseph Kanter <Joseph.Kanter@la.gov>; Lauren Gleason (LDH) <Lauren.Gleason@la.gov>; Mark A Thomas <Mark.Thomas@LA.GOV>; Michelle Miley <Michelle.Miley@LA.GOV>; Pam Diez <Pam.Diez@LA.GOV>; Rosanne Prats <Rosanne.Prats@la.gov>; Ashley Peak <Ashley.Peak@LA.GOV>; INACTIVE - Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens2@LA.GOV>; Melinda Richard <Melinda.Richard@la.gov>

CC: EOCWATCH <DHHEOC40@LA.GOV>

Subject: SitRep 3/13

Attachment(s): "COVID-19 Summary_031320_0730.docx"

See attached SitRep.

Sundée

E: eocwatch@la.gov

P: 225.354.3570

Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) Daily Summary | 3/13/20 at 0730

Table 1: US Case Counts

United States		Updated	3/13/20 at 0700
CDC Case Counts			
Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths
1,215	277	36	7

Source: CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>

Note: For consistency, the national case counts reported by the Louisiana Department of Health will follow the counts reported daily, M-F, by the CDC. This information might be different from reports by news organizations that update more frequently.

Table 2: Louisiana Testing and Results

Louisiana Updated	3/13/20 at 0700		
Laboratory Testing			
	Number of Persons Under Investigation (PUI) Tests Negative	Number of Presumptive Positive Persons	CDC Confirmed Cases
New Results (on 3/12)	23	20	0
Cumulative Results (as of 3/13 700)	61	33	0

Source: OPH Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section and OPH Laboratory

Table 3: General Information Line

General Information Line Calls on 3/12/20 from 800 to 1630	
Calls	Cumulative Count
257	806

Note: Bureau of Community Preparedness staffs the general information line Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm. The phone number for this line is 855-523-2652.

Calls = Number of calls received and answered during the Operational Period of 8 to 4:30 pm.

Voice messages received outside of regular business hours are returned and captured in the call count the following day.

Table 4: LA 211 Phone Calls

211 Calls on 3/12/20 from 700 to 1900	
Calls	Cumulative Count
158	191

Note: LA 211 is operational 24/7 to answer calls from the public.

Updates and Headlines

Updates

LA 211 has been activated to receive calls from the general public

OPH Lab established an COVID email address (COVIDLAB@LA.GOV) for provider lab questions

Headlines

[THE LATEST: Presumptive positive cases of coronavirus reported in La.](#) | WAFB-TV

[Latest: Louisiana now has 19 coronavirus cases; most are in New Orleans](#) | WDSU-TV

[Coronavirus in Louisiana: 4 big stories, from changes at universities to frustration with testing](#) | The Advocate

[Louisiana Coronavirus Updates: 19 presumed cases, 15 in Orleans](#) | WWL-TV

[64 tested for coronavirus in Louisiana, but South Korea tests 15,000 daily: 'I am very concerned'](#) | nola.com

[What some shoppers in Lafayette are saying about coronavirus](#) | KLFY-TV

[Most coronavirus patients recover, stoill anxiety, fear loom](#) | Associated Press

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 4:59 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: The President & Coronavirus Task Force News Conference TODAY at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State Leaders and Staff,

Today (Wednesday, February 26) at 6:30 PM Eastern Time, President Donald J. Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, and Members of the Coronavirus Task Force will Hold a News Conference from the White House James S. Brady Briefing Room.

You can view the news conference here: [WhiteHouse.gov/Live](https://www.whitehouse.gov/live).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 12:31 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: The President to Hold Press Conference TODAY at 1:30 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.



State Leaders and Staff,

Today (Saturday, February 29) at 1:30 p.m. Eastern Time, President Donald J. Trump will delivers remarks on the latest COVID-19 developments.

You can view the remarks here: [WhiteHouse.gov/Live](https://www.whitehouse.gov/live).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

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Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 12:31 PM EST
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CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
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Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2020 3:46 PM EST

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>

CC: Katie Kirkpatrick Justice <Katie.Justice@la.gov>; Sherry Lassere <Sherry.Lassere@la.gov>; Chancely Courson <Chancely.Courson@la.gov>; Toni Rochelle <Toni.Rochelle@LA.GOV>

Subject: The White House call with VP Pence Monday re COVID-19

FYI,

The Governor just informed me that he will do the call at 11:00 am cst. The call will take place in the Capitol on 4 ½.

I did already RSVP on yesterday. I recommend anyone coming from outside of the office to be here between 10:30 am and 10:45 am.

I need to know who will be in attendance so I can make sure the front desk has the list. There will be many people in and out on Monday so I want to make sure we know exactly who will be with the Governor.

Thank you

Alicia Williams

Senior Special Assistant to the Governor



225.342.8006

225.936.4640 c

alicia.williams@la.gov

gov.louisiana.gov

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 6:50 PM EDT

To: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Matthew Block <Matthew.Block@la.gov>; Tina Vanichchagorn <Tina.Vanichchagorn@la.gov>; Christina Stephens <Christina.Stephens@LA.GOV>; Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>

Subject: TONIGHT : FW: INVITE: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 13) at 7:30 p.m. ET

I WENT ON AND RSVP'D IN CASE THE GOVERNOR OR SOMEONE WANTED TO GET ON. I will send it the number over.

Also, there will be a call Monday at 10 cst. I rsvp'd for that as well and Casey will do the test.

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO [mailto:Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:42 PM

Cc: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>

Subject: RE: INVITE: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 13) at 7:30 p.m. ET

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Update: We will have officials on the call from the White House, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to brief on President's actions today and additional updates.

Briefing Call Registration

- **Date:** TODAY, Friday, March 13
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time (please note time zone)
- **Call-In Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)

Thanks,
Nic

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2020 5:34 PM

To: Nic Pottebaum (Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov) <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>

Cc: Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>

Subject: INVITE: Briefing Call on COVID-19 TODAY (March 13) at 7:30 p.m. ET



State and Local Leaders,

Please join Senior Administration Officials for a briefing call on COVID-19 preparedness, response, and mitigation efforts **TONIGHT (Friday, March 13) at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time.**

Important Note: *Call-in lines will be limited due to quick around to setting up the briefing call. State and local leaders (especially staff) working in the same office are encouraged to dial-in using one call-in line to maximize the number of people who can join (e.g., governors staff in the same location are encouraged to call-in using one call-in registration).*

- **Briefing Call Registration**

- **Date:** TODAY, Friday, March 13
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time (please note time zone)
- **Call-In Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Note:** You must RSVP to join the call. Upon successful registration, you will receive dial-in details to the email address you use to register. Note that multiple people cannot dial-in using the same registration information.

Press Advisory – President Donald J. Trump Directs FEMA Support Under Emergency Declaration for COVID-19
([PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION HERE](#))

The federal government continues to take aggressive and proactive steps to address the COVID-19 threat as the health and safety of the American people remain a top priority.

Today, President Trump [declared](#) a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”). This increases federal support to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in its role as the lead federal agency for the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response. As a result of the President’s decisive, unprecedented action, FEMA is directed to assist state, local, tribal, territorial governments and other eligible

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000794

entities with the health and safety actions they take on behalf of the American public. Today's declaration does not make direct financial assistance available to individuals.

The emergency declaration does not change measures authorized under other federal statutes and HHS remains the lead federal agency directing the federal response to COVID-19. FEMA actions will be in support of HHS and in coordination with state, tribal and territorial governments. Eligible emergency protective measures taken at the direction or guidance of public health officials in response to this emergency, and not supported by the authorities of another federal agency, will be reimbursed strictly under the FEMA Public Assistance program. FEMA assistance will be provided at a 75 percent Federal cost share. Reimbursable activities typically include emergency protective measures such as the activation of State Emergency Operations Centers, National Guard costs, law enforcement and other measures necessary to protect public health and safety.

[Presidential Message to the Congress on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Outbreak \(March 13, 2020\) \(PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE HERE\)](#)

"Pursuant to section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), I hereby report that I have exercised my authority to declare that the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the United States constitutes a national emergency. This declaration invokes section 1135 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1320b-5, to allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to exercise the authority under that section to temporarily waive or modify certain requirements of the Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance programs and of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Rule throughout the duration of the public health emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 outbreak."

[Memorandum on Expanding State-Approved Diagnostic Tests \(FULL MEMORANDUM HERE\)](#)

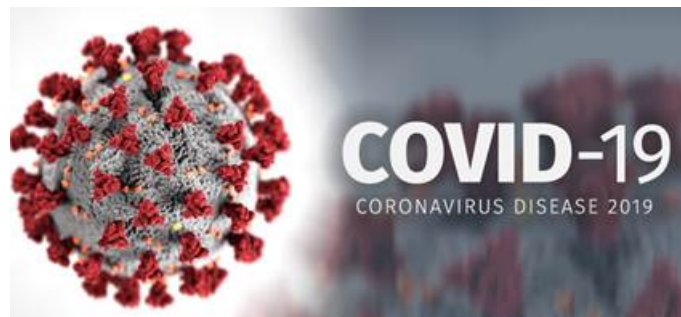
"By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows: It is the policy of the United States to take proactive measures to prepare for and respond to public health threats, including the public health emergency involving Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), which was declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (the "Secretary") on January 31, 2020, pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d). Our response must include heightened coordination among Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies, and we must offer States the flexibility they need to care for their citizens. In accordance with this principle, the Food and Drug Administration, in coordination with the State of New York, allowed the State flexibility in expediting State-approved COVID-19 testing. Should additional States request flexibility to authorize laboratories within the State to develop and perform tests used to detect COVID-19, the Secretary shall take appropriate action, consistent with law, to facilitate the request."

Below, please find additional information. The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) will continue to share pertinent information as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office directly if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
Nic

--
Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information



Background

Under the leadership of President Trump and Vice President Pence, the full weight of the U.S. Government is working to protect the health and safety of the American people. Since the beginning of the outbreak, President Trump has taken unprecedented steps – including prudent travel restrictions and an early containment strategy – to protect the health of Americans in response to the coronavirus. In January, the President formed a Coronavirus Task Force, led by Vice President Mike Pence and comprised of subject-matter experts, to organize a whole-of-government response ([President Donald J. Trump Has Taken Unprecedented Steps to Respond To the Coronavirus and Protect the Health and Safety of Americans](#)). The Coronavirus Task Force and broader Administration have and will continue to work with State-Local-Tribal officials and private sector and non-profit partners in preparing for and responding to the Coronavirus. ***It is important to note that at this time, the risk to the average American remains low. All agencies are working aggressively to monitor this continuously evolving situation and to keep our partners and the public informed.***

Up-To-Date Information

- The most up-to-date information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website ([here](#))
- HHS/CDC Community Framework for Mitigation ([here](#))
- Guidance for families, businesses, schools and others ([here](#)).
- The Coronavirus Task Force holds frequent national briefings which can be viewed live ([here](#))
- You are also encouraged to follow HHS, CDC, and other agency social media channels for up-to-date information.

What You Need To Know

- What You Should Know - How COVID-19 Spreads, Symptoms, etc. ([here](#))
- Situation Summary ([here](#))
- Travel Information ([here](#))
- Preventing COVID-10 Spread in Communities ([here](#))
- Higher Risk & Special Populations ([here](#))
- Healthcare Professionals ([here](#))
- Resources for Healthcare Facilities ([here](#))
- Resources for Health Departments ([here](#))
- Laboratories ([here](#))
- Communication Resources ([here](#))

Agency Resources and Contact Information

Below, please find agency-by-agency information, guidance, and contact information.

Resources – Below, please find agency-by-agency resources and guidance.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ([here](#))
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid ([here](#))
- U.S. Food & Drug Administration ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Education ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Agriculture ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Labor ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of State ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ([here](#))
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([here](#))
- U.S. Department of the Interior ([here](#))
- U.S. Election Assistance Commission ([here](#))

Contact Information – Below, please find contact information for our Intergovernmental Affairs colleagues across the federal family. As State and local elected officials, they are your primary points of contact.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services: Darcie Johnston (Phone – 202-690-1058 / Email – darcie.johnston@hhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Cherie Short (Phone – 202-893-2941 / Email – cherie.short@hq.dhs.gov)
- U.S. Department of State: Bill Killion (Phone – 202-647-7595 / Email – killionw@state.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Sean Poole (Office – 202-597-5109 / Cell – 202-366-3132 / Email – sean.poole@dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Education: Susan Falconer (Phone – 202-320-6837 / Email – susan.falconer@ed.gov)
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Thayer Verschoor (Phone – 202-461-7385 / Email – Thayer.verschoor@va.gov)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Britt Carter (Phone – 202-440-0728 / Email – carter.brittanys@epa.gov)
- U.S. Small Business Administration: Ryan Lambert (Phone – 202-615-6570 / Email – ryan.lambert@sba.gov)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: Lillie Brady (Phone – 202-845-3872 / Email - lillie.brady@usda.gov)

Local Preparedness Tips

- Response is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported.
- Ensuring clear, open lines of communication with the public and making information and guidance readily available.
- Proactively sharing and disseminating *verified and accurate* guidance and information such as HHS/CDC [guidance for families, businesses, and schools](#).
- Reviewing Federal guidance such as the HHS/CDC [Community Mitigation Framework](#).
- Coordinating with State and local health authorities.
- Reviewing local preparedness plans and strategies.

Recent Task Force Actions

Below, please find pertinent updates on pertinent Administrations actions.

- Task Force Briefings (briefings are held on a frequent basis and can be viewed live [here](#))
 - March 10: [Video](#)
 - March 9: [Video](#)
 - March 6: [Video](#)
 - March 4: [Video](#)
 - March 2: [Video](#)
 - February 29: [Video](#)
- Remarks by President Trump in Address to the Nation (March 11) ([transcript/video](#))

- Remarks by President Trump and Vice President Pence at a Coronavirus Briefing with Health Insurers (March 10) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness (March 9) ([readout](#))
- Remarks by Vice President Pence in a Coronavirus Briefing with Cruise Line Executives and Port Directors (March 7) ([transcript](#))
- Remarks by President Trump After Tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (March 5) ([transcript](#))
- President Trump Signs the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (March 6) ([transcript/video](#))
- President Trump and Vice President Pence attend Coronavirus Briefing with Airline CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Vice President Pence meets with Long-Term, Post-Acute and Palliative Care Provider Executives (March 4) ([transcript](#))
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Announces Actions to Address Spread of Coronavirus (March 4) (more [here](#))
- President Trump Visits the National Institutes of Health and attends Roundtable Briefing (March 3) ([transcript](#))
- Vice President Pence attends Coronavirus Briefing with Diagnostic Lab CEOs (March 4) ([transcript/video](#))
- Readout from the Vice President's Discussion with our Nation's Governors on COVID-19 Coordination & Preparedness ([readout](#))

From: Christina Stephens

Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 3:48 PM EST

To: Aly Neel <Aly.Neel@LA.GOV>; Alexander Billioux <Alexander.Billioux@la.gov>; Jimmy Guidry (LDH) <Jimmy.Guidry2@LA.GOV>

CC: Mike Steele <Mike.Steele@LA.GOV>; Casey Tingle <Casey.Tingle@LA.GOV>

Subject: Trigger for school closures?

Hello – We have seen some news out Tennessee that they closed all of the county's schools to decontaminate them because a man in the county has COVID-19. It doesn't seem to be connected to the school, but some parents have been told that it is part of the plan for school there to shut down for two days to be cleaned.

Someone in our office is asking if 1) this is something that we have in our plans for schools and 2) what the trigger for closing school would be.

https://www.wsmv.com/news/williamson_county/williamson-county-schools-to-close-friday-monday-in-response-to/article_f0d0110e-5f01-11ea-9ad6-cf79dc9a1496.html

<https://www.newschannel5.com/news/williamson-county-schools-to-close-for-cleaning-after-first-confirmed-tenn-case-of-coronavirus>

Thanks, Christina

From: Alicia Williams (GOV) <Alicia.Williams@la.gov>

Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2020 3:44 PM EDT

To: Juana Lombard (ATC) <Juana.Lombard@atc.la.gov>; Marketa Walters <Marketa.Walters@LA.GOV>; Chuck Brown <Chuck.Brown@LA.GOV>; Karen St.Germain <Karen.St.Germain@LA.GOV>; Thomas Harris <Thomas.Harris@LA.GOV>; Jay Dardenne <Jay.Dardenne@LA.GOV>; Jimmy Leblanc <jmleblanc@corrections.state.la.us>; Kimberly Lewis Robinson (Secretary of LDR) <Kimberly.Robinson@LA.GOV>; Shawn Wilson <Shawn.Wilson@LA.GOV>; James Waskom <James.Waskom@LA.GOV>; James Bueche <James.Bueche@LA.GOV>; Stephen Russo <Stephen.Russo@LA.GOV>; Don Pierson <Don.Pierson@LA.GOV>; Kevin Reeves <Kevin.Reeves@la.gov>; Ava Dejoie <ADejoie@lwc.la.gov>; Keith Waddell <Keith.Waddell@la.gov>; Butch Browning <Butch.Browning@la.gov>; Joey Strickland <Joey.Strickland@LA.GOV>; Jack Montoucet <JMontoucet@wlf.la.gov>; mjchabert@aol.com <mjchabert@aol.com>; Chip Kline <Chip.Kline@LA.GOV>; Samuel Jones <Samuel.Jones@la.gov>

CC: Mark Cooper <Mark.Cooper@la.gov>; Adam Eitmann <Adam.Eitmann@la.gov>

Subject: URGENT - Information Needed re proposed federal legislation

Please review the following from Adam Eitmann.

Cabinet Members,

Chief of staff Mark Cooper asked that I follow up with everyone regarding the president's emergency declaration, the additional FEMA declaration, and the proposed federal legislation "Families First Coronavirus Response Act". The administration would like for your agency to closely review all pertinent federal declarations, proposed bills, rules, etc for any and all impacts to your agency, opportunities for the state to leverage additional federal resources, any changes that may be needed to the proposed federal legislation, and any documentation that agencies may need to work with our federal partners.

I am asking that you compile this information and send it to me before noon tomorrow, so we can provide an update to the Governor on your efforts.

Thank you all for your hard work, please let me know if you have any questions.

Adam

Adam Eitmann

Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs



225.342.6202 office

225.620.7678 cell

From: Lauren Leist <Lauren.Leist@la.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2020 10:48 AM EDT
To: amber.channer@hhs.gov <amber.channer@hhs.gov>
CC: Shauna Sanford <Shauna.Sanford@la.gov>
Subject: Video Script with LA Gov
Attachment(s): "COVID19 Script.docx"

See the proposed video script attached.

Lauren Leist

Deputy Communications Director



225.342.0410 office

225.936.6146 cell

lauren.leist@la.gov

gov.louisiana.gov

Talking Points

JBE: Hello. I'm Governor John Bel Edwards, and I am joined today by U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams.

We'd like to encourage everyone out there to take every precaution necessary to prevent the spread of coronavirus also known as COVID-19.

SG Adams: Some of the steps you can take include:

- Frequent hand washing
- Covering your cough appropriately
- Avoiding close contact with others
- And staying home if you are sick

For more information from the CDC, please visit [coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

JBE: By following these recommendations, we can limit the spread of COVID-19 and stay healthy.

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 9:15 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Roy, William <william.f.roy@fema.dhs.gov>
Subject: VTC Testing Opportunity - Governors-Only Briefings

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Governor's State-Federal Director and Scheduler,

We will continue to offer a video teleconference (VTC) option for the Governors-only Briefings with Vice President Mike Pence on COVID-19 preparedness and response. To ensure every governor has the opportunity to VTC into these briefings, we wanted to provide an opportunity for your state to test your state's VTC system connection into FEMA (who is the technical host of the VTCs).

Testing Opportunity

FEMA has set-up a video bridge to test your state's VTC connection with the Federal government's FEMA system. The testing can run **any time on Friday, March 6 between 8:00 a.m. ET to 4:00 p.m. ET.**

- **Ask:** If you want your governor to participate in the COVID-19 briefings via VTC on Monday, March 9 or anytime in the future, please contact your state's emergency manager to have them test your state's VTC (typically housed or based in your emergency management office). Some states have a separate VTC system, so you can contact the technical team who manages that system test. All you need to do is provide the VTC dial-in information below and indicate they should test sometime tomorrow, Friday, March 6 between 8:00 a.m. ET to 4:00 p.m. ET.
- **Note:** This testing will ensure your governor can connect smoothly on the VTC on March 9 or in the future. Governors will continue to be able to join the briefings by phone, and VTC is **ONLY** an optional way to connect into the briefings.

If you do not know if your state has a VTC to connect into the FEMA system, please contact Will Roy listed below.

William (Will) F. Roy

Director, Operations Division, Office of Response
DHS-FEMA
Office: 202-212-3321
Email: William.f.roy@fema.dhs.gov

Your FEMA Region has already connected your state emergency management office about this testing tomorrow as well.

For VTC Dial-In Testing Only on March 6 between 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.ET

- **SIP:** 13101@fema.net
- **IP:** 13101@vtc.fema.net /Cisco <or> vtc.fema.net###13101/Polycom
- **Toll Free ISDN:** 888-600-5803 or 888-269-2114
- **Direct Dial ISDN:** 540-542-0816 or 540-504-1130

If you have any questions, please let me know. Happy to talk through.

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
O: 202-456-2132 | C: 202-881-7803 | E: Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov

From: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 1:12 PM EDT
To: Baker, Michael (OS/IEA) <Michael.Baker@hhs.gov>
Subject: What Governors Need to Know - HHS Issues New COVID-19 Resources
Attachment(s): "PRELIMINARY - NOT FOR FURTHER DISCLOSURE Initial State and Local Funding.pdf"

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Governor:

Thank you for your continued engagement and partnership with us to address and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

As you might imagine, a number of HHS divisions are releasing COVID-19-related information on funding and guidance. We thought it would be helpful to batch up information on key issues to keep you up-to-date.

Funding for States to Address COVID-19

Perhaps of keenest interest to you and your health officials is an update on funding for states and communities to address mitigation of COVID-19.

Today, at 1 PM EST HHS will be announcing that more than \$560 million will be made available to the 62 entities which have existing cooperative agreements with the CDC through its Public Health Emergency Program, known as "PHEP."

The \$8.3 billion dollar Supplemental passed by Congress included [statutory language](#) which prescribed the exact formula for disbursing the money: states will receive 90% of their [2019 CDC PHEP grants](#). So that you know what your state will receive, we have attached a document identifying the amounts going to states, territories, or cities. This marks the first tranche of funding to states from the \$8.3 billion supplemental. Your state health officers are receiving a letter today from CDC outlining what is needed to receive the funding, essentially they need to submit a spend plan and they will receive guidance on what that spend plan should contain.

Helping Communities Know Mitigation Strategies

Yesterday, CDC released their "Implementation." Essentially, this is a guide for communities describing possible mitigation strategies for communities dealing with transmission at three different levels: (1) None/Minimal, (2) Moderate, or (3) Substantial. Community mitigation strategies, which are non-pharmaceutical interventions, are often the most available interventions to help slow the transmission of COVID-19 in communities. The Mitigation Plans include a set of actions that persons and communities can take to slow the spread of respiratory virus infections. The Community Mitigation Plan can be found [here](#).

Guidance on Infection Control For Healthcare Workers

Yesterday, CDC released updated guidance on infection prevention and control recommendations. Healthcare workers are fighting this outbreak on the front lines, and this guidance is intended to provide assistance to healthcare settings that are handling suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19. This guidance is applicable to all U.S. healthcare settings, but not for non-healthcare settings. There is separate guidance for that. The new guidance on infection control can be found [here](#).

OMB Flexibilities

On March 9, 2020, OMB issued a memo that provides administrative relief for recipients and applicants of Federal financial assistance who are directly impacted by COVID-19. The grant flexibilities include 10 actions that HHS can take to provide short-term administrative and financial management relief, allowing funds to be awarded quicker and giving grantees the ability to focus on their critical response, research, or services. More information can be found [here](#).

General Preparation Information: On March 9, 2020, the White House Coronavirus Task Force released practical steps that we recommend posting and sharing to keep workplaces, school, home and commercial establishments safe. This information can be found [here](#).

CMS Specific Guidance:

- **CMS Guidance on Masks:** On March 10, 2020, CMS released guidance updating recommendations to expand the type of facemasks healthcare workers can use in situations involving COVID-19. This guidance aligns with the information by CDC regarding personal protective equipment as well. The memo sent to State Survey Agency Directors can be found [here](#).
- **CMS FAQs on Suspension of Non-Emergency Survey Inspections:** On March 10, 2020, CMS released a frequently asked questions document to further explain the changes in guidance issued on March 4 that suspends all non-emergency survey inspections. This guidance and FAQ will help to enable State Inspectors to address the spread of COVID-19. The FAQ document can be found [here](#).
- **CMS Nursing Home Guidance:** As you know, nursing homes and their residents are vulnerable populations for COVID-19. This week, CMS released updated guidance for infection control and prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes which can be found [here](#) (3/9). The Press Release can be found [here](#) and all CMS guidance related to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions on these items or other issues, please feel free to reach out.

Thanks,

Darcie L. Johnston

LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000803

Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Darcie.Johnston@hhs.gov

DRAFT: CDC FUNDING INFORMATION (MAR 11, 2020)

Jurisdiction	Initial \$25M (via Crisis CoAg) Complete	Initial \$10M (ELC) Complete	\$560M+ Award (Crisis CoAg) Underway	Total
Alabama			\$ 8,148,798.90	\$ 8,148,798.90
Alaska			\$ 4,902,840.00	\$ 4,902,840.00
American Samoa			\$ 370,246.50	\$ 370,246.50
Arizona	\$ 500,000.00		\$ 11,201,871.60	\$ 11,701,871.60
Arkansas			\$ 6,205,347.00	\$ 6,205,347.00
California	\$ 3,500,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 37,706,709.60	\$ 42,206,709.60
Colorado		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 9,331,323.30	\$ 9,831,323.30
Connecticut		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 7,058,270.70	\$ 7,558,270.70
Delaware			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
District of Columbia			\$ 6,148,297.80	\$ 6,148,297.80
Florida	\$ 500,000.00		\$ 27,296,306.10	\$ 27,796,306.10
Georgia	\$ 250,000.00		\$ 14,786,284.50	\$ 15,036,284.50
Guam			\$ 479,431.80	\$ 479,431.80
Hawaii	\$ 1,750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 7,317,500.00
Idaho			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
Illinois	\$ 1,750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 14,667,281.10	\$ 17,417,281.10
Indiana	\$ 250,000.00		\$ 10,374,951.60	\$ 10,624,951.60
Iowa			\$ 6,347,828.70	\$ 6,347,828.70
Kansas			\$ 5,940,546.30	\$ 5,940,546.30
Kentucky			\$ 7,464,394.80	\$ 7,464,394.80
Louisiana			\$ 7,805,064.60	\$ 7,805,064.60
Maine			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
Marshall Islands			\$ 367,754.40	\$ 367,754.40
Maryland		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 10,259,226.90	\$ 10,759,226.90
Massachusetts	\$ 500,000.00		\$ 11,649,309.30	\$ 12,149,309.30
Michigan	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 14,567,049.90	\$ 15,317,049.90
Micronesia			\$ 420,402.60	\$ 420,402.60
Minnesota		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 10,048,123.80	\$ 10,548,123.80
Mississippi			\$ 5,874,995.70	\$ 5,874,995.70
Missouri			\$ 9,888,657.30	\$ 9,888,657.30
Montana			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
Nebraska	\$ 1,750,000.00		\$ 4,796,664.30	\$ 6,546,664.30
Nevada			\$ 6,532,739.10	\$ 6,532,739.10
New Hampshire			\$ 4,902,840.00	\$ 4,902,840.00
New Jersey	\$ 1,750,000.00		\$ 13,860,160.20	\$ 15,610,160.20
New Mexico		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 5,974,364.70	\$ 6,474,364.70
New York	\$ 1,750,000.00		\$ 16,690,279.50	\$ 18,440,279.50
North Carolina			\$ 13,820,515.20	\$ 13,820,515.20
North Dakota			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
Northern Marianas			\$ 369,765.90	\$ 369,765.90
Ohio			\$ 15,620,977.80	\$ 15,620,977.80
Oklahoma			\$ 6,924,231.00	\$ 6,924,231.00
Oregon	\$ 500,000.00		\$ 7,298,826.30	\$ 7,798,826.30
Palau			\$ 336,793.50	\$ 336,793.50
Pennsylvania			\$ 16,904,048.40	\$ 16,904,048.40
Puerto Rico			\$ 5,870,358.00	\$ 5,870,358.00
Rhode Island	\$ 500,000.00		\$ 4,902,840.00	\$ 5,402,840.00
South Carolina			\$ 8,926,132.50	\$ 8,926,132.50
South Dakota			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
Tennessee		\$ 500,000.00	\$ 10,078,293.60	\$ 10,578,293.60
Texas	\$ 1,750,000.00		\$ 35,226,922.50	\$ 36,976,922.50
Utah			\$ 6,441,412.50	\$ 6,441,412.50
Vermont			\$ 4,902,840.00	\$ 4,902,840.00
Virgin Islands			\$ 419,100.30	\$ 419,100.30
Virginia	\$ 250,000.00		\$ 13,371,612.30	\$ 13,621,612.30
Washington	\$ 1,750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 11,480,798.70	\$ 14,230,798.70
West Virginia			\$ 5,000,803.20	\$ 5,000,803.20
Wisconsin	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 10,200,192.30	\$ 11,200,192.30
Wyoming			\$ 4,567,500.00	\$ 4,567,500.00
New York City	\$ 1,750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 16,911,778.50	\$ 19,661,778.50
Los Angeles	\$ 1,750,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 18,212,100.30	\$ 20,962,100.30
Chicago	\$ 1,750,000.00		\$ 8,743,674.60	\$ 10,493,674.60
Houston			\$ 5,000,000.00	\$ 5,000,000.00
Philadelphia			\$ 3,500,000.00	\$ 3,500,000.00
Cherokee Nation			\$ 750,000.00	\$ 750,000.00
Total	\$ 25,000,000.00	\$ 10,000,000.00	\$ 569,822,380.00	\$ 604,822,380.00

From: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2020 5:03 PM EST
To: Pottebaum, Nic D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO <Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov>; Imhoff, Olivia P. EOP/WHO <Olivia.P.Imhoff2@who.eop.gov>; Swint, Zachariah D. EOP/WHO <Zachariah.D.Swint2@who.eop.gov>
Subject: What You Need To Know: The Trump-Pence Administration Is Taking a Whole-Of-Government Approach To Address the Coronavirus

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LA-GOV-20-1240, 20-1241, 20-1242-A-000806

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Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
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Vice President Mike Pence: [“Today, I led a meeting of the White House Coronavirus Taskforce at @HHSgov. Grateful for the work of @SecAzar, @Surgeon General, @NIH, Dr. Fauci and more. As President @realDonaldTrump said, we’re ready and we’ll continue to put the health and safety of the American people first.”](#)

Led by Vice President Mike Pence, the Task Force is leading the United States Government response to the novel 2019 coronavirus. The Task Force is composed of subject matter experts from the White House and several United States Government agencies and includes some of the Nation’s foremost experts on infectious diseases. The Task Force leads the Administration’s efforts to monitor, contain, and mitigate the spread of the virus, while ensuring that the American people have the most accurate and up-to-date health and travel information. Additional information about the Task Force can be found [here](#). If you would like to contact the Task Force, please reach out to White House Intergovernmental Affairs Staff.

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President Trump has made the safety, security and health of the American people his top priority from day one.

- There is no higher priority for President Trump than protecting the health and safety of Americans.
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Excerpt from On-The-Record Pen and Pad Roundtable by Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar and Other Senior Administration Officials on Resources Available to Combat the Coronavirus (*February 28, 2020*)

SECRETARY AZAR: Well, thanks for coming, everybody. In case you didn't hear from us enough the other night, wanted to give you an update on the budget issues, in particular.

As the President has repeatedly emphasized, there is no higher priority for us than protecting the health and safety of Americans. Thanks to the President's aggressive containment efforts, at this time, the risk from COVID-19 to the American public is low. But as we have all repeatedly emphasized, that has the potential to change.

The President's bold, decisive decisions have brought us extremely -- have bought us extremely valuable time to prepare for the possibility that the situation may worsen and we may need to mitigate its spread in the United States. That time is valuable for all sorts of things, including state and local preparation, and the development of diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines.

It's also helped us determine our funding and resource needs, allowing the White House to make its supplemental funding request of Congress earlier this week. We want to work with Congress to determine the funds we need for FY2020 first, because our priorities here are speed and flexibility.

HHS is already using up the \$105 million in the Infectious Disease Rapid Response Reserve Fund, which has been vital, but it's not enough -- which is why we are moving forward with a transfer of \$136 million to continue our public health response, which I notified Congress about on February the 2nd.

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cannot undertake all the preparation that it's widely acknowledged we need without more funding.

As chairman of the Coronavirus Task Force, I have already begun working alongside Vice President Pence, Acting Director Vought, Director Ueland, and others to begin productive discussions with Congress about what funding should look like.

We laid out five key elements of our supplemental request. First, surveillance. Second, state and local support. Third, therapeutics. Fourth, vaccines. And fifth, personal protective equipment, or PPE.

I want to mention some particular activities we plan with the funding. With surveillance funds, we'll build on existing influenza surveillance systems, covering all states and adding coronavirus testing and reporting to the current flu systems. We request funding for grants to state and local jurisdictions for epidemiology, lab capacity, infection control, and other activities, complementing CDC investments over the years. And we've requested new funding for the 62 recipients of our hospital preparedness program.

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We also request support for development of assays to ensure ready availability of diagnostics, plus funding to help the FDA support these development priorities -- pipelines.

On personal protective equipment, we propose almost half a billion dollars in investments for the Strategic National Stockpile to increase production, capacity, and purchase of respirators, ventilators, and antimicrobials for secondary infections.

These kinds of activities will build on activities that we have prioritized and generously funded over the years. Since FY2017, under President Trump, the CDC's budget has increased by \$668 million, while NIH's budget has increased by more than \$7 billion.

The FY2020 appropriations signed by President Trump include \$2.7 billion for preparedness programs in HHS's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, up about \$600 million from FY2017. That included a 130-million-dollar increase in annual spending for the Strategic National Stockpile, and a 203-million-dollar increase in our Pandemic Preparedness Program.

The President's 2021 budget for CDC, developed before we knew the coronavirus would present such an emergency, reflects similar priorities. It maintains the \$675 million in state and local preparedness investments, the FEP funding. It prioritizes infectious disease funding and proposes a \$50 million increase for CDC's Global Health Security Agenda efforts.

That reflects this administration's longtime focus on effective preparedness programs, the CDC's core mission of infectious disease response, and support for tackling infectious disease threats, especially ones that can cross borders.

I've been a strong advocate for this work and so have leaders across the Trump administration. Tragically, we are now reminded why we've made the case for these priorities over the years. And this situation demands more support from Congress, just as earlier potential pandemic situations have.

[...]

DIRECTOR VOUGHT: So the first one I want to tackle is the total amount for CDC of fighting infectious diseases and preparedness in the President's budget versus last year. So, last year, fiscal year 2020, there was \$4.182 billion for fighting infectious diseases and preparedness within CDC. We then increased that in the President's budget by 3 percent -- \$135 million -- to \$4.317 billion.

So from the standpoint of everything that -- all of the activities that are going on at CDC in this area, there's an increase of 3 percent.

There is a topline reduction in the President's budget for CDC in areas that are not infectious disease fighting and preparedness -- things like climate change research; things like occupational health research that is not going to go away, but is merely something that we no longer feel like we need to jumpstart research that universities are doing, and they have been doing it since 1970, when these programs were first created because it wasn't happening at universities.

We also think there's waste, fraud, and abuse in this area, where you have studies on how taxi drivers are taking too few bathroom breaks, and whether that's an important occupational health issue.

Those are the kinds of things that we still think, even in a time of making sure that all the resources are there for CDC, we can find inefficiencies and waste, and deal with mission creep at the same time.

So it is not true that we cut CDC infectious disease fighting -- which gets me to the second one, which I think this is the main inaccuracy out there, which is this notion that you see in some of the New York Post and CNN reporting that we cut CDC by 80 percent. It's flat-out inaccurate.

Let me explain how the numbers are concocted, comparing apples and oranges, to get that 80 percent. When the Ebola supplemental was passed, there was \$597 million provided over five years. It was not an annual spend; it was a five-year lump sum supplemental. Per year, that was \$119 million for global health activities that would apply to any infectious disease. But that was

passed by Congress as part of the Ebola supplemental.

The last two years of that five-year supplemental, we began to make sure that it would be funded within the base amount of resources. So we put forward \$50 million in Fiscal Year '18, \$50 million in Fiscal Year '19, \$125 million in Fiscal Year '20, and in this budget we propose \$175 million in Fiscal Year '21.

So, in -- while it was still available, we were taking steps to make sure it was funded within base resources. So when the supplemental emergency funding expired, there would still be there, and then when that expired we then pulsed it up to \$125 [million]. And this year we propose it at \$175 [million]. So significant resources there.

You hear, in the same kind of stories, about leaked memos regarding contingency plans. Those were -- we never got to the point where the funds were expired. And so the contingency plans were what they're meant to be: contingency plans if the funds go away. So, kind of -- we keep seeing this story out there. It's flat-out inaccurate.

I want to talk a little bit about the run rate. So when we talk about: Is there money in the account right now? There's money in the account. We have spent \$77 million of the \$105 million that Secretary Azar mentioned.

We will be able to get through into April. We can't tell you with a specific degree of certainty, but we're in a good place right now, temporarily. The difference between what we have actually spent, and the -- and the amounts that are provided, we have committed to other activities. We need a supplemental; we need it soon. There's no doubt about that. But we haven't run out of money. And we've got some time and we think that Congress is taking this very seriously.

Eric will speak to how quickly they will move a supplemental. But we're moving forward and we are making sure we have all the accurate data.

I've heard the argument from the Hill: "Well, you haven't given us all of the obligation rates." Well, that's because we're trying to get all of the obligation rates ourselves: collect them, make sure we have all of them from the various different accounts across the federal government, compile them, and get them to the Hill. And we will be as transparent as we always have.

And then the last thing I would just say from a comparison of -- this is our sup request versus their sup request. Remember that ours was based on the notion of what's needed for the seven months remaining in Fiscal Year '20. We put forward a two-and-a-half-billion-dollar request. The President has been very -- made it very clear. Secretary Azar, as head of our task force, has made it very clear. We are willing to go to a higher level if Congress feels the need to do that. But we put forward a two-and-a-half-billion-dollar request based on what was required in seven months, knowing that we're going to go right into Fiscal Year '21 appropriations, and build in additional resources for this area.

So when you see a big number from Senator Schumer -- again, not much detail there, but the assumption is that that is a five-year number. "No-year money" was what we call it. And so, to some extent, you're dealing, again, with apples and oranges. The Ebola supplemental was, again, no-year money, so it wasn't intended to be for what was needed in this particular fiscal year.

So those are the main things that I've seen that I wanted to make sure we definitely unpack. And I'm sure we'll do more of that in the Q&A.

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On personal protective equipment, we propose almost half a billion dollars in investments for the Strategic National Stockpile to increase production, capacity, and purchase of respirators, ventilators, and antimicrobials for secondary infections.

These kinds of activities will build on activities that we have prioritized and generously funded over the years. Since FY2017, under President Trump, the CDC's budget has increased by \$668 million, while NIH's budget has increased by more than \$7 billion.

The FY2020 appropriations signed by President Trump include \$2.7 billion for preparedness programs in HHS's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, up about \$600 million from FY2017. That included a 130-million-dollar increase in annual spending for the Strategic National Stockpile, and a 203-million-dollar increase in our Pandemic Preparedness Program.

The President's 2021 budget for CDC, developed before we knew the coronavirus would present such an emergency, reflects similar priorities. It maintains the \$675 million in state and local preparedness investments, the FEP funding. It prioritizes infectious disease funding and proposes a \$50 million increase for CDC's Global Health Security Agenda efforts.

That reflects this administration's longtime focus on effective preparedness programs, the CDC's core mission of infectious disease response, and support for tackling infectious disease threats, especially ones that can cross borders.

I've been a strong advocate for this work and so have leaders across the Trump administration. Tragically, we are now reminded why we've made the case for these priorities over the years. And this situation demands more support from Congress, just as earlier potential pandemic situations have.

[...]

DIRECTOR VOUGHT: So the first one I want to tackle is the total amount for CDC of fighting infectious diseases and preparedness in the President's budget versus last year. So, last year, fiscal year 2020, there was \$4.182 billion for fighting infectious diseases and preparedness within CDC. We then increased that in the President's budget by 3 percent -- \$135 million -- to \$4.317 billion.

So from the standpoint of everything that -- all of the activities that are going on at CDC in this area, there's an increase of 3 percent.

There is a topline reduction in the President's budget for CDC in areas that are not infectious disease fighting and preparedness -- things like climate change research; things like occupational health research that is not going to go away, but is merely something that we no longer feel like we need to jumpstart research that universities are doing, and they have been doing it since 1970, when these programs were first created because it wasn't happening at universities.

We also think there's waste, fraud, and abuse in this area, where you have studies on how taxi drivers are taking too few bathroom breaks, and whether that's an important occupational health issue.

Those are the kinds of things that we still think, even in a time of making sure that all the resources are there for CDC, we can find inefficiencies and waste, and deal with mission creep at the same time.

So it is not true that we cut CDC infectious disease fighting -- which gets me to the second one, which I think this is the main inaccuracy out there, which is this notion that you see in some of the New York Post and CNN reporting that we cut CDC by 80 percent. It's flat-out inaccurate.

Let me explain how the numbers are concocted, comparing apples and oranges, to get that 80 percent. When the Ebola supplemental was passed, there was \$597 million provided over five years. It was not an annual spend; it was a five-year lump sum supplemental. Per year, that was \$119 million for global health activities that would apply to any infectious disease. But that was

passed by Congress as part of the Ebola supplemental.

The last two years of that five-year supplemental, we began to make sure that it would be funded within the base amount of resources. So we put forward \$50 million in Fiscal Year '18, \$50 million in Fiscal Year '19, \$125 million in Fiscal Year '20, and in this budget we propose \$175 million in Fiscal Year '21.

So, in -- while it was still available, we were taking steps to make sure it was funded within base resources. So when the supplemental emergency funding expired, there would still be there, and then when that expired we then pulsed it up to \$125 [million]. And this year we propose it at \$175 [million]. So significant resources there.

You hear, in the same kind of stories, about leaked memos regarding contingency plans. Those were -- we never got to the point where the funds were expired. And so the contingency plans were what they're meant to be: contingency plans if the funds go away. So, kind of -- we keep seeing this story out there. It's flat-out inaccurate.

I want to talk a little bit about the run rate. So when we talk about: Is there money in the account right now? There's money in the account. We have spent \$77 million of the \$105 million that Secretary Azar mentioned.

We will be able to get through into April. We can't tell you with a specific degree of certainty, but we're in a good place right now, temporarily. The difference between what we have actually spent, and the -- and the amounts that are provided, we have committed to other activities. We need a supplemental; we need it soon. There's no doubt about that. But we haven't run out of money. And we've got some time and we think that Congress is taking this very seriously.

Eric will speak to how quickly they will move a supplemental. But we're moving forward and we are making sure we have all the accurate data.

I've heard the argument from the Hill: "Well, you haven't given us all of the obligation rates." Well, that's because we're trying to get all of the obligation rates ourselves: collect them, make sure we have all of them from the various different accounts across the federal government, compile them, and get them to the Hill. And we will be as transparent as we always have.

And then the last thing I would just say from a comparison of -- this is our sup request versus their sup request. Remember that ours was based on the notion of what's needed for the seven months remaining in Fiscal Year '20. We put forward a two-and-a-half-billion-dollar request. The President has been very -- made it very clear. Secretary Azar, as head of our task force, has made it very clear. We are willing to go to a higher level if Congress feels the need to do that. But we put forward a two-and-a-half-billion-dollar request based on what was required in seven months, knowing that we're going to go right into Fiscal Year '21 appropriations, and build in additional resources for this area.

So when you see a big number from Senator Schumer -- again, not much detail there, but the assumption is that that is a five-year number. "No-year money" was what we call it. And so, to some extent, you're dealing, again, with apples and oranges. The Ebola supplemental was, again, no-year money, so it wasn't intended to be for what was needed in this particular fiscal year.

So those are the main things that I've seen that I wanted to make sure we definitely unpack. And I'm sure we'll do more of that in the Q&A.