

Good morning. As you are aware, the Capitol remains off limits to visitors, however we have transitioned from in person meetings with members and staff to conference calls, to continue our business during this time.

Many members, but certainly not all, were in the Capitol yesterday, although neither house gavelled into session as one of the bills they had anticipated acting upon did not appropriately age, nor was a message of necessity provided by the governor to suspend the three day aging requisite. We are aware that Budget negotiations will continue all week with the goal of wrapping up by Friday, however after speaking with several members it is clear that the schedule remains fluid. The Governor indicated in his 10:15 press conference on COVID 19 that he will send to the legislature today, the paid leave bill, for their action. Staffs in both houses remain in negotiations on the budget. Again, members have indicated that policy/programmatic issues originally contemplated are being removed from negotiations. It is my understanding that the legislature will resume session Wednesday of this week.

In his am press conference, the Governor indicated that the Budget Director has been briefed by the Comptroller regarding his review of available revenues for budgeting purposes, since the occurrence of COVID-19. The Comptroller has determined that the revenue estimates are approximately \$4-7 Billion higher than originally determined. The executive will seek the ability to modulate payments in the budget to allow for future calibration based on incoming state revenues, or the lack thereof. More to come to clarify the actual state dollars available. The legislature may certainly want to play a role in any future calibration as well.

Synopsis of the Governor's COVID-19 press conference:

This is an evolving situation that changes as new facts become available. Testing and containment are underway and have been ramped up. 1000 test are occurring daily. Yesterday the executive took significant containment measures in conjunction with New Jersey and Connecticut governments. The tri-state strategy has provided uniformity per the Governor. Restaurants, bars, gyms will remain closed, with various rules relaxed during this time. I.e. State Liquor Authority sales of off premises spirits. Schools are closed for 2 weeks, day cares remain open. The State Education Department will relax the 180 day requirement and will revisit after the 2 week period.

The Governor emphasized these rules are statewide and are made in the 'best interest of the state'. The Governor admitted that there is a significant impact on the business community, and that government will deal with the issues, to "manage the consequences" after the immediate public health crisis is under control.

The state has shifted emphasis to the health care system as a priority, with the continued effort in "flattening the curve". 10,049 individuals have been tested to date, 1374 testing positive statewide, with 12 deaths. NYS has 53,000 hospital beds and 3000- ICU beds. The rate of hospitalization is 19% of those infected. Experts working with the NYS Department of Health indicated that they expect the peak to be around 45 days, and approximately 55,000-110,000 beds will be needed to treat those impacted.

Drive through testing is and will be established in New Rochelle, Nassau, Suffolk, Staten Island and Rockland counties.

The plan is to:

1. continue to 'reduce density' – more closings may occur to eliminate interaction between people. However, there are no new rules announced today.
2. increase capacity of hospitals – identify surge capacity by allowing hospitals to expand their capacity by relaxing DOH rules
  - a. Mike Dowling from Northwell and Ken Raske from GNYHA will hold a call today with hospital executives to determine the maximum capacity of facilities, and their equipment and staff needs
  - b. outreach to retired healthcare workers; nursing and medical schools as well' to aid in the fight
  - c. temporary construction of medical facilities – working in conjunction with FEMA, National Guard, Army Corps of Engineers and the trades

Lastly, the Governor indicated in his morning call with the President that there was a willingness to work together; admitted NYS cannot handle this crisis alone without the resources of the Federal government. The governor indicated the President was sincere in his remarks, particularly assisting with hospital capacity issues.

We will continue to keep you apprised of all ongoing activities as the days and weeks continue. The Governor has issued a variety of Executive Orders during this crisis regarding various closures and directives, and we can provide those to you as requested.

Please remain vigilant!