

Below are notes from the Governor's daily press conference.

Also here is a link to yesterday's EO and the CISA/DHS guidelines referenced in the EO.

https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/OHOOD/2020/04/02/file_attachments/1418062/Signed%20Amended%20Director%27s%20Stay%20At%20Home%20Order.pdf

https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CISA_Guidance_on_the_Essential_Critical_Infrastructure_Workforce_Version_2.0_Updated.pdf

Highlights

- The Governor wants judges to consider an early release of 38 people: 23 women who are pregnant, and 15 people over the age of 60 who are approaching release, and are non violent offenders
- Lt. Governor Husted said that he is working with mayors (mentioned a virtual town hall today with small businesses and Columbus Mayor Andy Ginther and Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley and small businesses. He said that some of the businesses said that they had already applied for the Payment Protection Program and that it was easy to apply. The LG talked about the PPP and how employers with 500 or fewer employees can apply for a loan (that will be forgiven) for things like payroll, interest on mortgage, rent, and utilities.
- Battelle is going to sterilize the masks for free for the next two weeks for Ohio healthcare providers. Hospitals can go to the Battelle website to learn more.
- Ohio has 3,312 confirmed cases and 91 deaths

Governor Mike DeWine

- Recognized distance learning, teachers, and administrators by saying, "from parades of teachers through neighborhoods, fun read-clouds, personal notes, zoom meetings, and unique classroom projects, teachers are helping students understand that we are all in this together and we will get through this."
- Remote learning research guide is available at www.coronavirus.ohio.gov
- Governor said that we need more testing and results more quickly. Hospitals are shifting testing over to hospitals instead of labs taking 5-6 days.
- Ohio is short on the chemicals necessary to run the tests and Ohio is working to make these available
- Governor talked about precautions the state is taking in our prisons. There is a five week wait for new prisoners in one area before they enter the prison.
- Ohio now has 48,991 number of prisoners
- The Governor wants judges to consider an early release of 38 people: 23 women who are pregnant, and 15 people over the age of 60 who are approaching release, and are non violent offenders
- The governor's office is contacting the judges and it will be up to them how their release will be held
- A reporter asked about curbside deliver for medical marijuana patients and gov said that they would look into that

Lt. Gov Jon Husted

- Talked about his virtual town hall today with small businesses and Mayors Ginther and Whaley (see highlights above)
- Said that he received a call today from a few banks who said that they finally got guidance from SBA for the loans in the Payment Protection Program.
- Said that the coronavirus is not just a health crises. but an economic crisis.
- Went through some decisions made to help protect small businesses like BWC payments through June
- Talked about the federal Payroll Protection Program and how this can be used for payroll, rent, and utilities—no personal guarantees, no collateral, and no fees.
- LG said that you should go to your bank or www.coronavirus.ohio.gov/businesshelp
- Spoke to the job search website. Said that they started with 11k yesterday and now we have 21k jobs posted. www.coronavirus.ohio.gov/jobsearch
- Made a personal plea to look at some of the unique jobs that help our veterans, like the Ohio Veterans home in Sandusky really needs people.
- Reminder that Election Day is April 28th—and this is absentee so you have to request your ballot now
- Battelle is going to sterilize the masks for free for the next two weeks for our providers. Hospitals can go to the Battelle website

Ohio Adjutant General Harris

- The National Guard is making sure that everyone that needs care, will have the appropriate level of care. We have a 3-4 week look at what we can expect and get ready for that
- We have the advantage because we have split our state into regions and can prepare accordingly. Each region will have a different approach based on their particular needs
- We can put acute care patients in acute care facilities, etc.
- Made a plea to protect your networks. More telework and e-commerce than ever before. Our computer networks are running at a higher capacity with more people working from home. Protect yourself and make sure that you are protecting your software. Change your passwords, etc

Dr. Amy Acton

Ohio Specific Numbers

- 3,312 confirmed cases (>1-101 years, with median age of 54)
- 51% female and 40% males
- 895 total hospital admissions (27% of patients hospitalized)
- 288 admitted to the ICU
- 628 of cases are healthcare workers (19% of patients are healthcare workers)
- 4% long-term care facilities
- 75 out of 88 counties reporting cases
- 38, 375 tests administered
- 91 deaths

Other Information from Dr. Acton

- Dr. Acton made a plea to be very careful with stigma about someone that may have the virus. They will need help too.
- Mentioned how her husband is a teacher and his school principal is making amazing and funny videos
- Dr. Acton said that there was a request to put zip code data on the website, but that this data is not helpful and made a point to be careful about perceived “hotspots” because there could have been more testing in certain areas and not in others.
- Dr. Acton said that her motto is “create the conditions that all Ohioans can flourish”
- During Q&A Dr. Acton suggested that after the fact you can get a blood test to determine if you have had the virus