



VILLAGE OF LOCH ARBOUR
550 MAIN STREET
LOCH ARBOUR, NEW JERSEY 07711
TELEPHONE: (732) 531-4740
FACSIMILE: (732) 531-8778

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PAUL V. FERNICOLA, MAYOR
ALFRED J. CHESWICK
DENIS D'ANGELO

July 28, 2021

Via Email
Mr. Peter Jones

RE: OPRA Request dated July 19, 2021

Dear Mr. Jones:

The Village of Loch Arbour received an Open Public Records Act ("OPRA") request from you on Monday, July 19, 2021. Specifically, by this OPRA request, you seek access to the following: " See attached email.

Response: The request is improper because it is vague, ambiguous and overly broad, and would require the custodian to conduct research. In any event, the Village Clerk was able to locate the emails from vin@vingopal.com which are produced herewith. No emails from vin.gopal@directdevelopment.com, vgopal@marketmeprinting.com, ehough9554@optonline.net, or joannldowney@gmail.com were located.

If your request for access to a government record has been denied or unfilled within the seven (7) business days required by law, you have a right to challenge the decision by the Village of Loch Arbour to deny access. At your option, you may either institute a proceeding in the Superior Court of New Jersey or file a complaint with the Government Records Council ("GRC") by completing the Denial of Access Complaint Form. You may contact the GRC by toll-free telephone at 866-850-0511, by mail at P.O. Box 819, Trenton, NJ, 08625, by e-mail at grc@dca.state.nj.us, or at their web site at www.state.nj.us/grc. The GRC can also answer other questions about the law. All questions regarding complaints filed in Superior Court should be directed to the Court Clerk in your County.

Sincerely,


Marilyn Simons, RMG
Village Clerk

Loch Arbour clerk

From: Peter Jones <opra+request-24667-ee71e3ba@requests.opramachine.com>
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 11:52 AM
To: OPRA requests at Loch Arbour Village
Subject: [External] OPRA request - OPRA Request

Dear Loch Arbour Village,

This is a request for public records made under OPRA and the common law right of access. I am not required to fill out an official form. Please acknowledge receipt of this message.

Records requested:

- 1 All e-mails to or from any member of the governing body from vin@vingopal.com; vin.gopal@directdevelopment.com; vgopal@marketmeprinting.com; from January 1, 2017 through present.
- 2 All e-mails to or from town administrator or director of authority of the governing body from vin@vingopal.com from January 1, 2017 through present.
- 3 All e-mails to or from any member of the governing body from ehough9554@optonline.net from January 1, 2016 through present;
- 4 All e-mails to or from town administrator or director of authority of the governing body from ehough9554@optonline.net from January 1, 2016 through present.
- 5 All e-mails to or from any member of the governing body from joannldowney@gmail.com from January 1, 2016 through present;
- 6 All e-mails to or from town administrator or director of authority of the governing body from joannldowney@gmail.com from January 1, 2016 through present.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Jones

Please use deliver records electronically via email to the below UNIQUE address for all replies to this request:
opra+request-24667-ee71e3ba@requests.opramachine.com

Is clerk@locharbour.us the wrong address for OPRA requests to Loch Arbour Village? If so, please contact us using this form:

https://opramachine.com/change_request/new?body=loch_arbour_village

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies:

<https://opramachine.com/help/officers>

View this OPRA request & responses online:

https://opramachine.com/request/opra_request_1152308

Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.

If you find this service useful as an OPRA custodian, please ask your web manager to link to us from your organisation's website.

msimons@locharbour.us

From: Senator Vin Gopal <info@vingopal.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 3, 2021 12:14 PM
To: Marilyn Simons
Subject: [External] NJEDA Grant Webinar June 7



**NJEDA Phase 4 Small Business
Emergency Grant Webinar**

- ▶ Pre-registration NOW OPEN for Small Business Emergency Assistance Grant Program – Phase 4
- ▶ Grants up to \$20,000 for small and micro businesses and nonprofits
- ▶ Targeted funding for restaurants and child care providers
- ▶ You MUST pre-register in order to apply for grant funding

**Monday
June 7th at 1 pm**

Featuring

Senator Vin Gopal		Assemblywoman Cleopatra G. Tucker		The Adjutant General Colonel Lisa J. Hou, D.O.	
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NJEDA Click here to join: tinyurl.com/Phase4Grant | Passcode: GRANT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Marilyn --

I am pleased to inform you The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) is reopening applications for grants for small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through Phase 4 of the Small Business Emergency Assistance Grant Program.

Please join me for an informational webinar on the program with the NJEDA, The Adjutant General Colonel Lisa J. Hou, D.O., and Assemblywoman Cleopatra G. Tucker, on **Monday, June 7, 2021**.

[Click Here to Join](#)

- **Date:** Monday June 7, 2021
- **Time:** 1pm
- **Passcode:** GRANT

The webinar will provide information on grants available and the pre-registration and application process.

In order to apply for a grant, you must pre-register between Wednesday, May 26th at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday, June 30th at 5:00 p.m.

Interested business owners who DID NOT SUBMIT a pre-registration in April need to pre-register at programs.njeda.com.

Business owners who submitted a pre-registration in April, but did not apply, do not need to pre-register again. Pre-registration IS NOT first come, first served, but businesses are encouraged to begin the process as early as possible.

BUSINESSES THAT DO NOT PRE-REGISTER BY JUNE 30 WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR PHASE 4 GRANTS.

[Click here to pre-register](#)

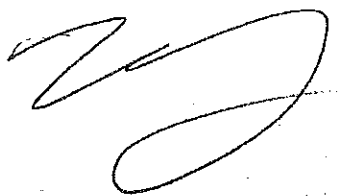
Applications will become available in July, following the pre-registration period. Pre-registration and the application will be available in English and Spanish. The NJEDA is also offering interpretation services to support speakers of ten additional languages: Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), Gujarati, Hindi, Italian, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, and Tagalog.

[Click here if you have questions or need more information.](#)

Senator Vin Gopal

www.senatorgopal.com

Sincerely,



Vin Gopal
Senator, 11th District (Monmouth County)
Majority Conference Leader

Legislative District 11 · 802 W Park Ave, Suite 221, Ocean Township, NJ 07712, United States

This email was sent to msimons@locharbour.us. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).
You can also keep up with Senator Vin Gopal on [Facebook](#).

Created with [NationBuilder](#), software for leaders.

msimons@locharbour.us

From: Senator Vin Gopal <info@vingopal.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 12:34 PM
To: Marilyn Simons
Subject: [External] Join Me for a Mental Health Forum May 24



SENATOR VIN GOPAL HOSTS:

MENTAL HEALTH FORUM

PANEL WILL INCLUDE
PROFESSIONALS IN THE FIELD

ONLINE FORUM WILL DISCUSS

• CURRENT MENTAL HEALTH POLICY IN NEW JERSEY	• MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES FROM COVID-19 PANDEMIC	• CHALLENGES & STIGMAS SURROUNDING MENTAL HEALTH
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DATE MAY 24, 2021	TIME 5:00PM
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RSVP
[TINYURL.COM/LD11MENTALHEALTH](https://tinyurl.com/LD11MENTALHEALTH)

Marilyn --

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and in honor of spreading awareness, I will be hosting a Mental Health Forum on May 24 at 5pm filled with professionals in the field to discuss this very important subject and the mental health challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

DATE: Monday, May 24 2021

TIME: 5:00 PM

RSVP at www.tinyurl.com/LD11MentalHealth

RSVP HERE

The panel will include professionals in the field and will be moderated by The Kennedy Forum. Remarks will be given by Senate President Steve Sweeney, Speaker Craig Coughlin and NJ Department of Human Services Interim Commissioner, Sarah Adelman.

A representative from the following organizations will be on the panel:

Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide

New Jersey Education Association

Garden State Equality

New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc.

The Association of Black Psychologists- New Jersey

Hackensack Meridian Health

Mental Health Association of Monmouth County

NJ State PBA

Assemblyman Herb Conaway, MD, LD7

Assembly Members Houghtaling & Downey, LD11

Richard J. Codey, LD27

M. Teresa Ruiz, LD29

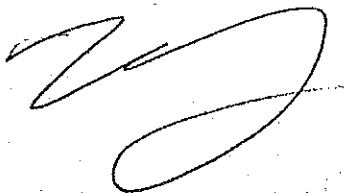
The Latino Mental Health Association

Talarico Counseling, LLC & Tides Wellness Center

Looking forward to this incredibly important discussion with everyone!

www.senatorgopal.com

Sincerely,



Vin Gopal

Senator, 11th District (Monmouth County)
Majority Conference Leader

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Legislative District 11 · 802 W Park Ave, Suite 221, Ocean Township, NJ 07712, United States

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You can also keep up with Senator Vin Gopal on [Facebook](#).

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From: Senator Vin Gopal <info@vingopal.com>
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 11:29 AM
To: Marilyn Simons
Subject: [External] Your April Senate Update



Marilyn --

With the weather starting to get warmer and the flowers starting to bloom, I sincerely hope everyone has enjoyed their April. Our office has continued our focus on helping our residents receive an appointment for the vaccine as well as keeping everyone informed on eligibility requirements and safety guidelines. My colleagues and I have also been working to move bills through the Legislature and get bills signed into law to assist residents and businesses through these difficult times.

The office of Legislative District 11 has been working around the clock to help our residents with various claims. This month alone we have helped over 230 residents address a host of challenges and questions from obtaining unemployment benefits to finding assistance for seniors through our Savings For Seniors (S.O.S.) program. Our team has been quite busy, helping a total of 700 residents since January.

It is an absolute privilege serving as your State Senator for Monmouth County, and as always, I welcome any and all feedback. If you need assistance or wish to share your opinions and ideas, please submit a constituent services request at senatorgopal.com/constituent_services, or call us at (732) 695-3371, and a member of our team will contact you.

Stay safe.

Senator Vin Gopal

May is Older Americans Month

Savings for Our Seniors

The month of May is considered "Older Americans Month" and we would like to send out another reminder of this office's Savings for Our Seniors (S.O.S.) program. S.O.S. provides access to financial assistance for senior citizens who may be struggling to keep up with rising cost of living expenses. The office of Senator Gopal and Assembly Members Houghtaling & Downey works with constituents to identify a wide-range of potential programs that they may qualify for, to help lessen their financial burden.

Eligibility for individual programs depends upon residency, age, household income, and expenses. After review of individual circumstances and research of available programs, information and applications are compiled for senior citizens, to put them on the path to obtaining much-needed financial savings.

For more information click [here](#)

Visit <https://www.senatorgopal.com/sos> to apply.

Legislative Update

Signed Into Law

A5444

- This law makes \$35 million in federal funds available to EDA to support food and beverage establishments in need. Many of these smaller restaurants and bars have been fraught with the potential of closing down permanently, which would not only have an effect on the local economies, but the job status of many workers within this industry. This funding will help ensure that these establishments can keep their doors open and help restore the jobs that have been lost due to the pandemic.

S1017

- Provides retirement allowance after 20 years of service regardless of age for current members of PFRS who retire within two years.

S2323

- Requires opioid antidote prescriptions for certain patients. The opioid overdose epidemic is still plaguing our communities—and in many ways has been made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic. Naloxone is an opioid

overdose antidote and can be used by first responders, family members, and friends to save the life of an overdose victim.

S2815

- Requires DMVA assist service members discharged solely due to LGBTQ status with petitions to change discharge designation. I am so happy this bill is now law. A vet is a vet. Nobody should be forced to forfeit their hard-earned benefits because of who they love and who they are.

S3521

- Makes \$15 million in federal funds available to EDA and New Jersey Council on the Arts to support arts and culture organizations in need. We all know that in difficult times the arts and cultural organizations are among the first parts of society to suffer. We have many wonderful arts and cultural programs in the Garden State and we need to do all we can to lift them up as they struggle to regain their footing in what is still a difficult and logistically trying time.

In the Community

Community Spotlight



It is our distinct pleasure to congratulate Bagel Masters for being named Best Small Town Restaurant in New Jersey! This is an extremely high level of recognition, and this shop in Shrewsbury is incredibly deserving of the title!

Read more [here](#).

Community Spotlight



Image taken prior to COVID-19 pandemic.

We are so proud Long Branch Free Public Library is a finalist for the 2021 National Medal for Museum and Library Service! They have been a staple of our community and we have relied on them for a host of events. We appreciate their countless veteran clinics and the amazing latino festivals they put on every year. We especially thank them for providing us a space in town for us to host our mobile office hours. It's a great way to speak with constituents without the need for them to make appointments with our office. Using their space and the connection they have with the community has helped us help our constituents tremendously over the years. Proud to share our story of how valuable Long Branch Free Public Library is to our office and residents.

In the News

Local Jersey Shore Pharmacy Begins COVID Vaccine Distribution

Patch April 8, 2021

Senator Gopal and Assembly Members Houghtaling and Downey have been strong advocates for independent pharmacies, and we are very happy we have received our first shipment of many to come, as we have already started vaccinating members of our community right here in Ocean Township," said Dev Tailor, owner of Pharmacy Town.

Gopal to introduce bill encouraging mobile vaccination sites

NJ Globe April 14

State Sen. Vin Gopal (D-Long Branch) said he would introduce a bill that would require the state Department of Health to coordinate the deployment of mobile COVID-19 vaccination sites with various groups.

A Historic Meeting: Homegrow, hemp and the CRC drove the conversation at NJCI Speaker Series

NJ.com April 15

Longtime patient advocates and Sen. Vin Gopal, D-Monmouth, who recently introduced a new homegrow bill, spoke about the possibility of it becoming reality sooner than later.

"It's going to be done in a way that's really not competing with the private sector," he said.

COVID-19 Update

Who is eligible to receive the vaccine?

Everyone 16 or older who lives, works, or studies in New Jersey is now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and highly effective at preventing you from getting sick. They are one of the most important tools to ending the COVID-19 pandemic and getting back to what you love.

A Look Ahead

LD11 Annual Food Drive



Senator Vin Gopal is joining Assembly Members Eric Houghtaling and Joann Downey to host a Food Drive dedicated to helping our seniors. COVID-19 has caused too many households to go hungry, with car lines miles long waiting to get help at local food banks.

The Office of Legislative District 11 will be collecting non-perishable food items mailed to the 11th Legislative District office or left outside at our drop off box at:

802 West Park Avenue,

Suite 302

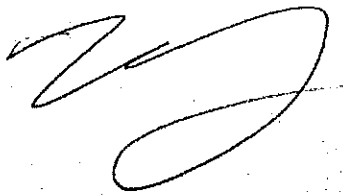
Ocean Township, 07712

You can also donate through our **Amazon Wishlist** at www.Tinyurl.com/LD11FoodDrive.

We will be collecting items from **May 1 until June 30.**

Suggested donations include canned tuna chicken and salmon, soup, hot and cold cereals, canned vegetables and fruits, juice, ready-to-make dinners, small plastic jars of peanut butter and jelly.

Sincerely,



Vin Gopal
Senator, 11th District (Monmouth County)
Majority Conference Leader

Legislative District 11 · 802 W Park Ave, Suite 221, Ocean Township, NJ 07712, United States

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You can also keep up with Senator Vin Gopal on [Facebook](#).

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msimons@locharbour.us

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 22, 2018 5:25 PM
To: Paul Fernicola
Cc: Marilyn Simons; dmclaughlin@allenhurstnj.org; dcampagna@allenhurstnj.org; Dano - Gmail - 8JAN2016; Peter Email Avakian
Subject: Re: NJ Transit

Got it i will talk to them. Thanks

On Thu, Mar 22, 2018 at 12:22 PM, Paul Fernicola <pvf@fernicolalaw.com> wrote:

Senator Gopal:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding NJ Transit. The Village of Loch Arbour previously wrote to NJ Transit supporting the Borough of Allenhurst's objection to the proposed closing of the Allen Ave railroad crossing both to vehicular and pedestrian traffic. This closure would negatively affect the Loch Arbour and Allenhurst residents and businesses located on Main St. Mayor McLaughlin and I would welcome any assistance you could provide.

If you would like additional information on the issue, then the Village Clerk Marilyn Simons and/or Borough Clerk Ms. Campagna or our respective engineer Perter Avakian could supply additional information. Thanks.

Paul V. Fernicola, Esq.

Mayor, Village of Loch Arbour

732-345-0600

732-345-5117 (Fax)

From: Vin Gopal [mailto:vin@vingopal.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 11:34 PM
To: Vin Gopal
Subject: NJ Transit

Hello Elected Leaders:

I will be meeting with the Executive Director of NJ Transit later this week. If you have any specific concerns you would like me to discuss with him, please let me know.

Thank you

Vin

Senator Vin Gopal

Vice-Chairman, Senate Transportation Committee

Member, Economic Growth Committee

Member, Health, Human Services & Senior Citizens Committee

11th Legislative District - Monmouth County

Loch Arbour clerk

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2021 11:56 PM
To: Davis, Dyese
Subject: [External] Private Zoom with Senator Cory Booker

LD-11 is pleased to have U.S. Senator Cory Booker join us for a private Q&A for Superintendents, Business Administrators, Mayors and Council Presidents LD-11. This is invite only and by receiving this email you are invited and the invitation is not transferable.

Please RSVP and submit your questions ahead of time. Opportunities to ask questions related to the federal government will be available also. This is a government event with the opportunity for officials to ask direct questions to their United States Senator on federal issues.

RSVP to Dyese Davis at ddavis@njleg.org

June 25th at 1pm

Thank you,

Senator Vin Gopal
Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling
Assemblywoman Joann Downey

Loch Arbour clerk

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 2:10 AM
To: Vin Gopal
Subject: [External] Dead Fish Issue

Good Morning:

I am working to try to see if we can secure a vendor to help clean up all the dead fish in some of our Monmouth waters.

If your town has a dead fish issue and you would like to potentially partner in a cleanup effort (I am working to get the state to reimburse the towns for cleanup) please e-mail me ASAP so we can setup a call for Monmouth towns interested.

The County has also been great in potentially allowing us to use equipment.

Thanks,

Vin Gopal
Senate Majority Conference Leader
11th Legislative District - Monmouth County

Loch Arbour clerk

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Friday, April 16, 2021 2:19 PM
To: Eric Houghtaling; Joann Downey; Davis, Dyese; Little, Tom; Brennan, Aislinn; Gopal, Sen. D.O.; Houghtaling, Asm. D.O.; Downey, Asw. D.O.
Subject: [External] Alarming Number of Dead Fish in Local Waters

Good Afternoon and Hope this email finds you well.

At the request of some of our towns, we will be setting up a call on April 19th at 4pm with DEP Assistant Commissioner for Natural and Historic Resources Ray Bukowski along with other folks at DEP to give an overview and answer questions regarding the dead fish which are washing up on our waters.

This invite is open to Mayors, Council Presidents and Business Administrators but if you would like to invite someone on your team to attend who is handling this issue for you locally, please just let us know.

Please confirm RSVP on who is attending and Dyese will send out zoom info Monday.

Thanks so much and have a good weekend

Vin Gopal, Eric Houghtaling and Joann Downey

Loch Arbour clerk

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Vin Gopal
Subject: NJ Clean Grants
Attachments: Clean Communities - P29.pdf

Please see attached.

For a complete list of municipal and county grant awards, visit <https://www.njclean.org/images/grants/2020-FY-CC-Distribution.pdf>



IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 10, 2020

Contact: Caryn Shinske (609) 984-1795
Lawrence Hajna (609) 292-2994

DEP AWARDS \$19.4 MILLION IN ANNUAL CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANTS TO NEW JERSEY COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES

(20/P29) TRENTON - The Department of Environmental Protection is awarding \$19.4 million in annual Clean Communities grants to help municipalities and counties remove litter to beautify neighborhoods, improve water quality and enhance quality of life, Commissioner Catherine R. McCabe announced today.



In total, the DEP is awarding \$17.3 million to eligible municipalities and \$2.1 million to the state's 21 counties. The program is funded by a legislated user-fee on manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors that produce litter-generating products.

"Clean Communities grants help municipalities and counties with the important task of removing unsightly litter, often from roadways and around stormwater collection systems, to enhance quality of life," Commissioner McCabe said. "Beautifying our communities through these types of cleanups help improve water quality and natural resources while also protecting wildlife and their habitats."

The nonprofit New Jersey Clean Communities Council oversees the reporting requirements for the program. Disbursements are based on housing units and miles of municipally owned roadways.

"Municipalities and counties are strongly encouraged to use these grants to pay for volunteer and paid cleanups, badly-needed equipment purchases, enforcement activities and education," said Sandy Huber, Executive Director of New Jersey Clean Communities Council. "We are grateful for funding that helps keep New Jersey clean. We are proud to serve as an educational resource for communities, as we drive many of our campaigns to engage the younger generations to help mold positive, long-term behaviors toward discarding litter."

Municipalities receiving the largest grants this year are:

- Newark, Essex County, \$404,694;
- Jersey City, Hudson County, \$373,700;
- Toms River, Ocean County, \$210,009;
- Paterson, Passaic County, \$181,064;
- Hamilton, Mercer County, \$178,089;
- Edison, Middlesex County, \$167,329;
- Elizabeth, Union County, \$166,630;
- Woodbridge, Middlesex County, \$164,439;
- Brick, Ocean County, \$159,487;
- Middletown, Monmouth County, \$144,268;
- Cherry Hill, Camden County, \$141,869;
- Trenton, Mercer County, \$133,431;
- Clifton, Passaic County, \$129,674;
- Vineland, Cumberland County, \$125,346;
- Franklin, Somerset County, \$122,873;
- Berkeley, Ocean County, \$122,649;
- Camden, Camden County, \$118,720
- Gloucester Township, Camden County, \$116,662;
- Lakewood, Ocean County, \$112,531;
- Old Bridge, Middlesex County, \$112,307;
- Howell, Monmouth County, \$110,108;
- Jackson, Ocean County, \$107,743;
- Parsippany-Troy Hills, Morris County, \$104,355;
- East Orange, Essex County, \$103,657;
- Manchester, Ocean County, \$103,563;
- Wayne, Passaic County, \$100,900;
- Bayonne, Hudson County, \$100,525.

Counties receiving the largest grants are:

- Ocean, \$196,702;
- Cumberland, \$172,382;
- Burlington, \$161,449;
- Bergen, \$141,166;
- Gloucester, \$132,249;
- Camden, \$126,698;
- Monmouth, \$121,119;
- Atlantic, \$118,974;
- Salem, \$114,801;
- Middlesex, \$100,572;
- Sussex, \$100,175.

Litter comes from a variety of sources, such as pedestrians, motorists, overflowing household garbage, construction sites and uncovered trucks. Litter is often blown by the wind until it is trapped somewhere, such as along a fence, or in a ditch or gully. People tend to litter when an area is already littered, and when they lack a sense of ownership or pride in their community.

Activities funded by Clean Communities grants include cleanups of stormwater systems that can disperse trash into streams, rivers and bays; volunteer cleanups of public properties; adoption and enforcement of local anti-littering ordinances; beach cleanups; public information and education programs; and purchases of litter collection equipment such as receptacles, recycling bins, anti-litter signs and graffiti removal supplies.

For a complete list of municipal and county grant awards, visit www.njclean.org

###

Loch Arbour clerk

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 31, 2020 9:09 PM
To: Vin Gopal
Subject: Fwd: FW: Attorney General Grewal Announces Measures to Increase Number of Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs) Available to Shore Resorts This Summer

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Gingerelli, Antoinette <AGingerelli@njleg.org>
Date: Fri, May 29, 2020 at 7:25 PM
Subject: FW: Attorney General Grewal Announces Measures to Increase Number of Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs) Available to Shore Resorts This Summer
To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Cc: Davis, Dyese <DDavis@njleg.org>, Aislinn Brennan <aislinnbrennan6@gmail.com>

FYI

From: Banasiak, Paulina [mailto:Paulina.Banasiak@nj.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 6:21 PM

Good Evening,

Our office wanted to make sure you were aware of the below:

Subject: Attorney General Grewal Announces Measures to Increase Number of Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs) Available to Shore Resorts This Summer



Gurbir S. Grewal, Attorney General

For Immediate Release:

May 29, 2020

For Further Information Contact:

Peter Aseltine (609) 292-4791

Attorney General Grewal Announces Measures to Increase Number of Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs) Available to Shore Resorts This Summer

Links to AG Guidance and PTC Form:

http://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases20/AG-Guidance-for-SLEO-III-to-SLEO-II-at-Different-Agency_05.29.20.pdf

<http://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases20/MODIFIED-PTC-15-A-SLEO-III-to-SLEO-II-in-a-different-municipality-during-PHE.pdf>

TRENTON – As Shore resorts seek to augment their police forces with special officers for the busy summer season, Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal today issued guidance to law enforcement on a new expedited process that will allow special law enforcement officers who work in New Jersey's schools to be re-designated to perform general law enforcement duties as seasonal law enforcement officers in other municipalities.

The guidance is designed to help municipalities address law enforcement staffing issues caused by COVID-19, especially in those municipalities that see an influx of visitors during the summer months. This action is the latest step taken by Attorney General Grewal and the Police Training Commission (PTC), which establishes statewide standards for police officers, to ease the burden on local law enforcement agencies during the pandemic.

"We knew law enforcement resources would be stretched to the limit by this pandemic, not only because of officers being ill or quarantined, but because of the many new responsibilities imposed by this unprecedented emergency," said Attorney General Grewal. "Nonetheless, police across New Jersey have worked together, as they always do, to meet the challenges, and we are doing all that we can do at the state level to support their heroic efforts. I'm confident that the measures we have announced to address manpower issues – along with the recent re-opening of the police academies – will give our Shore communities the officers they need to ensure a safe and family-friendly summer season."

State law allows municipalities to hire "special law enforcement officers" (SLEO), who can perform certain functions for a police department but lack the full authorities of a typical law enforcement officer. The law establishes three categories: SLEO I officers, who handle routine traffic details, spectator control, and similar duties; SLEO II officers, who have full arrest authority but generally work on a part-time or seasonal basis; and SLEO III officers, who provide security at schools.

Generally speaking, law enforcement agencies must obtain approval from the PTC to transfer an officer from one category of SLEO to another. Earlier this year, the PTC created a program to streamline the transfer process, so long as the SLEO remained working in the same town. Today's guidance now makes it easier for SLEOs to transfer between municipalities as well, making it easier to deploy officers to the communities that need them most.

On March 16, AG Grewal issued guidance to law enforcement that encouraged the use of mutual aid agreements and SLEO IIs to address officer shortages caused by the pandemic. With that guidance, the Attorney General and PTC announced an expedited process through which a municipality or county could re-designate a SLEO III as a SLEO II, while retaining that officer in its employment.

The new guidance and process announced today adds a new dimension by allowing SLEO IIIs who are not working while schools are closed to change employers and serve as SLEO IIs in a different municipality or county, enabling Shore towns to recruit such officers from other parts of the state.

On April 6, AG Grewal announced additional measures to address police manpower issues caused by the COVID emergency, including steps to facilitate the hiring of retired officers as SLEO IIs.

Over the past two months, the PTC has re-designated over two hundred SLEO IIIs as SLEO IIs, and these officers have been supporting law enforcement operations throughout the state. However, there remain an estimated 200 SLEO IIIs who have not been converted by their employing agencies into SLEO IIs. The guidance issued by Attorney General Grewal today highlights that those remaining SLEO IIIs represent a significant pool of potential hires for Shore resorts, as do the many retired officers who can be hired on an expedited basis using the procedures put in place in April.

All police academies in New Jersey closed to on-site recruit training in March due to the pandemic. However, most academies continued to conduct whatever mandatory training could be performed remotely using virtual classrooms. Beginning in the second week of May, the Attorney General and PTC authorized partial re-openings of police academies, as academies submitted plans to guarantee safe and healthy training environments consistent with the guidance of the New Jersey Department of Health, county health agencies, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Additional information regarding the expedited process for hiring of retired officers as SLEO IIs can be found with the Attorney General's press release at this link: <https://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases20/pr20200406b.html>

#

Follow the New Jersey Attorney General's Office online at Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Flickr & YouTube.

The social media links provided are for reference only.

The New Jersey Attorney General's Office does not endorse any non-governmental websites, companies or applications.

Unsubscribe

Loch Arbour clerk

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 8:15 PM
To: bob sommer
Subject: Fwd: Bird Patroller
Attachments: Bird Patroller Deck.pdf; Bird Patroller One-Pager.pdf

If anyone is interested, contact Bob Sommer below. Interesting concept in our new Covid-19 world.

Contact **bob sommer** <bobsommer26@gmail.com>



Bird Patroller Community Policing and Patrol.

2020



CONTENTS

- Bird Overview
- Introducing Bird Patrolter
- Connected Experience
- Customer Success
- Next Steps
- Appendix

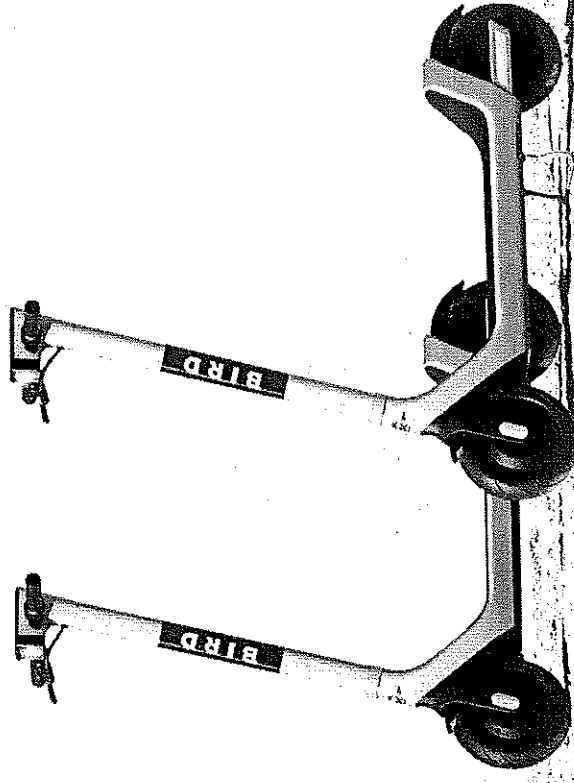


Bird Overview

Who we are



- Our CEO Travis VanderZanden is a former executive at Lyft and Uber with **an enormous amount of experience in rideshare.**
- But Travis saw that car ridesharing was actually increasing traffic congestion and pollution—**60% of their car trips only covered short distances.**
- So instead of using a 4,000-pound car to move a person less than a couple miles, Travis envisioned a compact, electric-powered vehicle designed for short distances. And just like that, **the shared e-scooter was born.**
- Bird was **the first company to deploy shared e-scooters** and currently operates in nearly 200 cities across the globe.
- We're **on a mission to make cities more livable** by taking cars off the road, reducing traffic, and decreasing carbon emissions—one ride at a time.



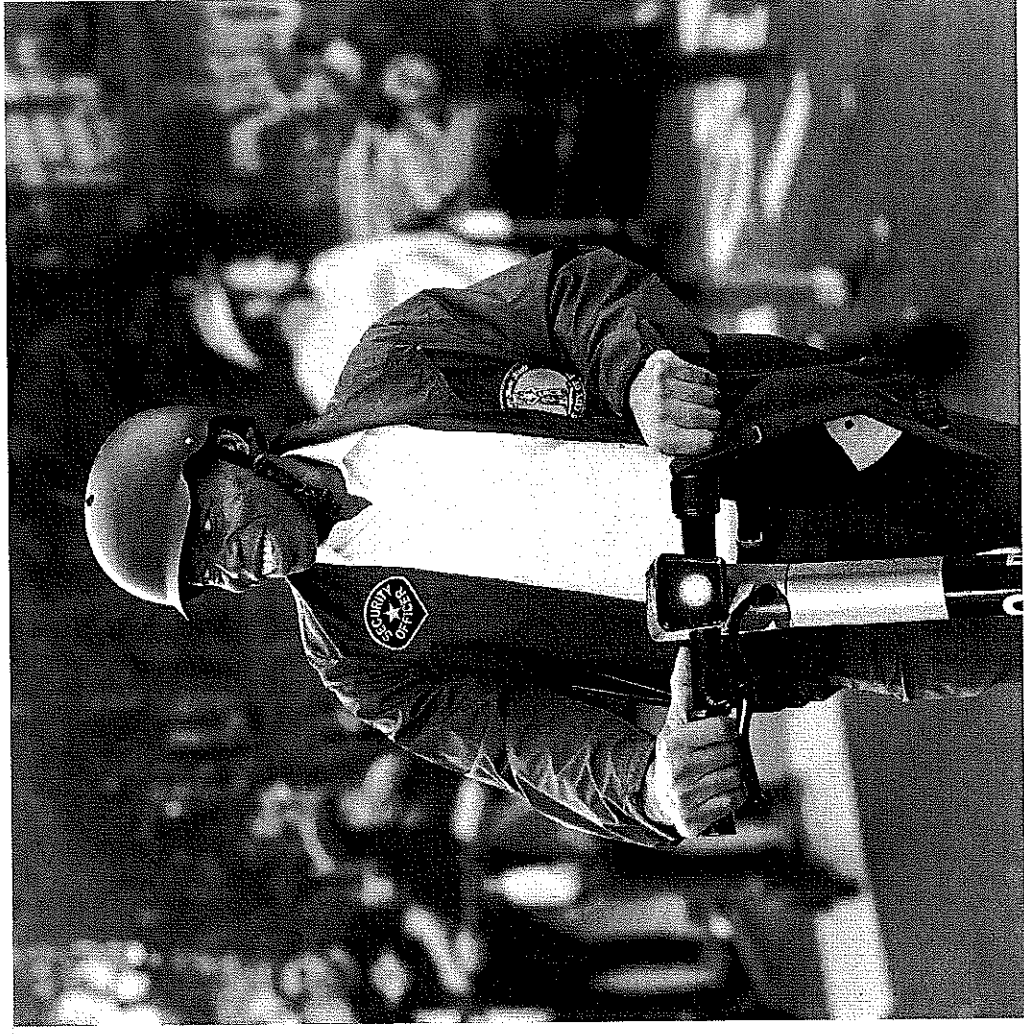


Introducing Bird Patroler

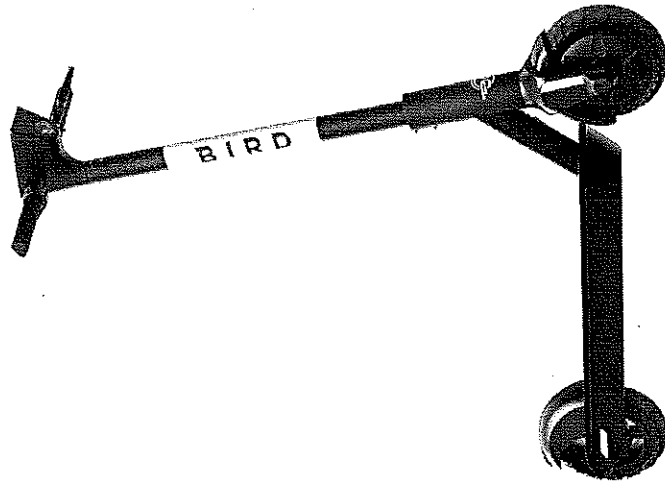
Overview

Bird Patroller partners with security and law enforcement professionals to provide electric vehicle fleets.

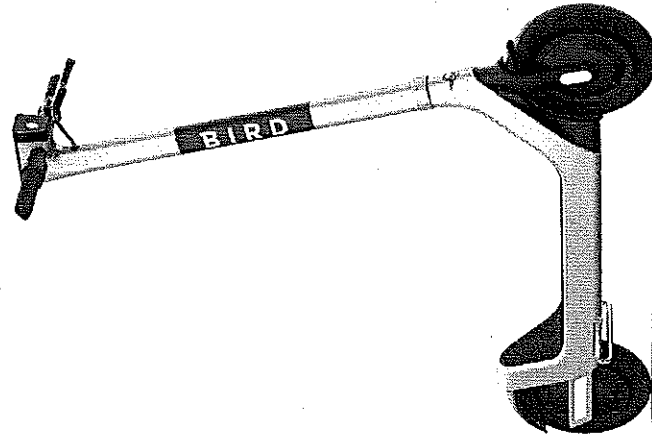
- Vehicles are commercial-grade and custom designed by Bird
- Silent, nimble and portable for easy handling and storage
- Over-the-air updates with geospeed and geofencing capabilities
- Eco-friendly with zero emissions



Your fleet of new e-scooters



BirdOne



BirdTwo

Vehicle Benefits

Bird Patroller provides a raised, secure platform to give your team increased presence, visibility, and versatility. Our vehicles are easy to ride and built to withstand anything the road throws your way.

- Steel-reinforced aluminum frame for a durable ride
- Semi-solid tires that never go flat
- GPS tracking with anti-tamper technology
- Less maintenance costs compared to other micromobility vehicles





Connected Experience

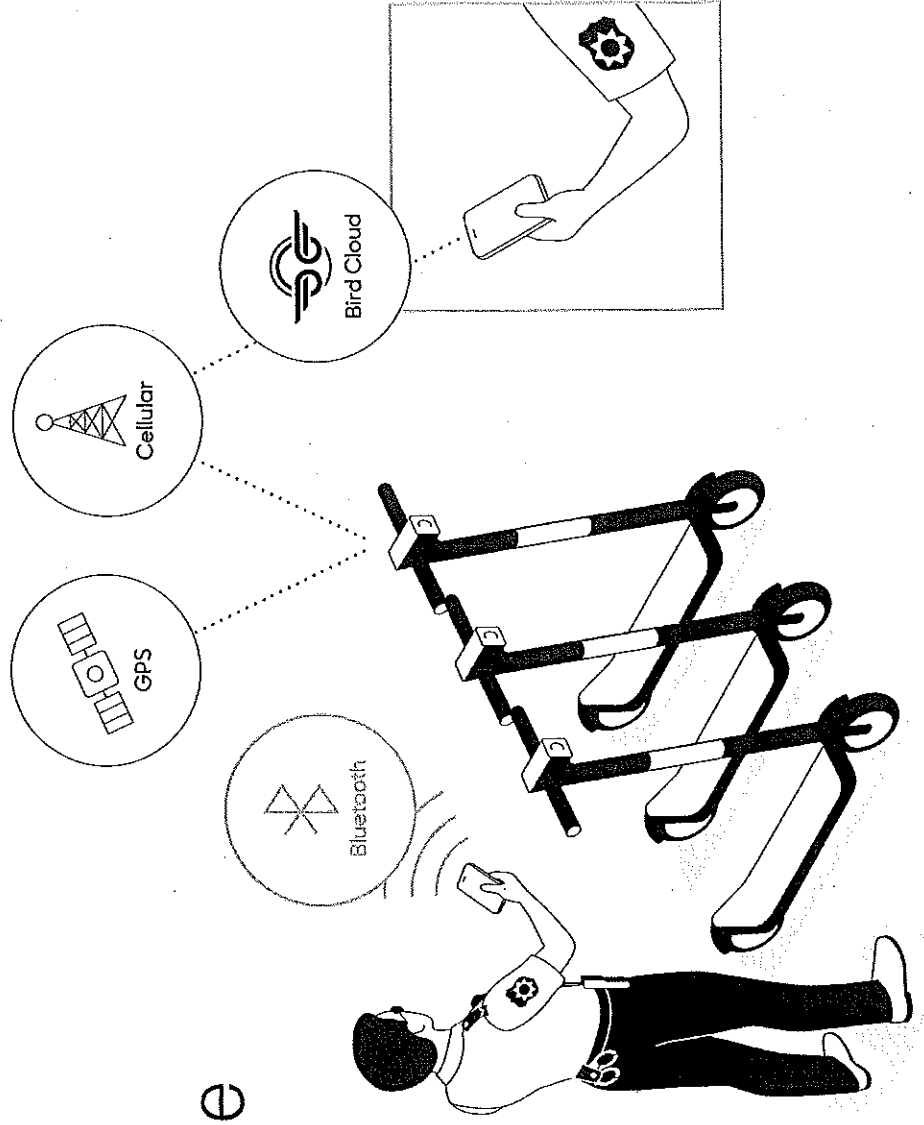
Technology Benefits

The Bird app is your command center for everything you need to customize, control, and monitor your vehicles.

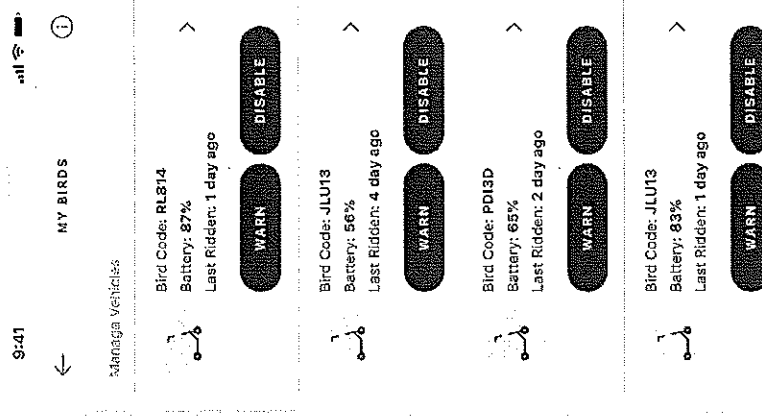
- Always know where your vehicle is with GPS tracking
- Get custom notifications whenever your vehicle is tampered with
- Restrict speed and access with geo-fencing technology
- Easy to use with a specialized training mode



A seamless,
connected experience
with one app



Manage Your Fleet



Never lose track of your vehicles with GPS tracking in the Bird app.

- Tap a specific vehicle to view location and other details
- Remotely disable and enable vehicles from the app



Customer Success



World-class support and endless resources

Online Resource Center

Search, find, and download in-depth guides and helpful checklists.

Step-By-Step Videos

Get the most out of your vehicles with training videos to make sure they're ready to ride at any time.

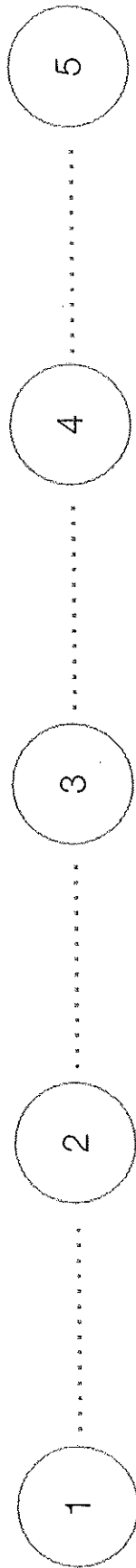
24/7 Dedicated Support

Bird's got your back with 24/7 phone and chat support in over a dozen languages.



Next Steps

How to partner with Bird



Contact
sales@bird.co

Reach out to a Bird Sales Manager to find the right solution for your force.

Receive a discount code

After deciding how many vehicles you need, we'll send you a discount code to purchase your Birds online at our agreed-upon rate.

Place your order

Place your order at shop.bird.co with your unique discount code. Your vehicles will be delivered through standard fulfillment.

Getting set up

After your order is placed, you'll get a follow-up email with instructions on how to setup and operate your vehicles.

24/7 support

Get support whenever you need help with returns, warranties, exchanges, troubleshooting, and more.



Contact
sales@bird.co.uk

2020





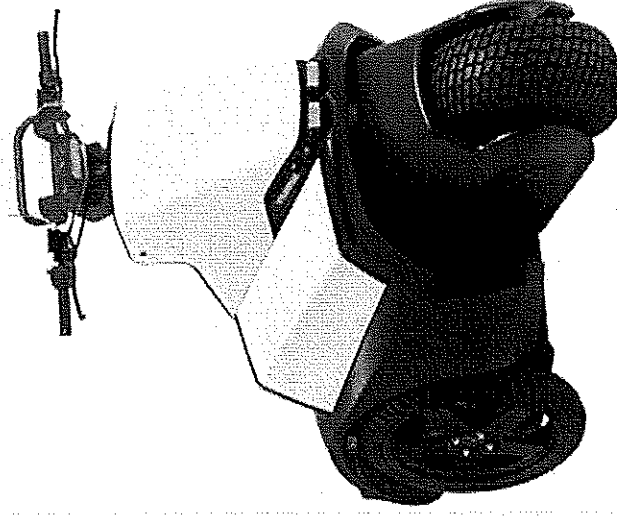
Appendix



Competitive Analysis

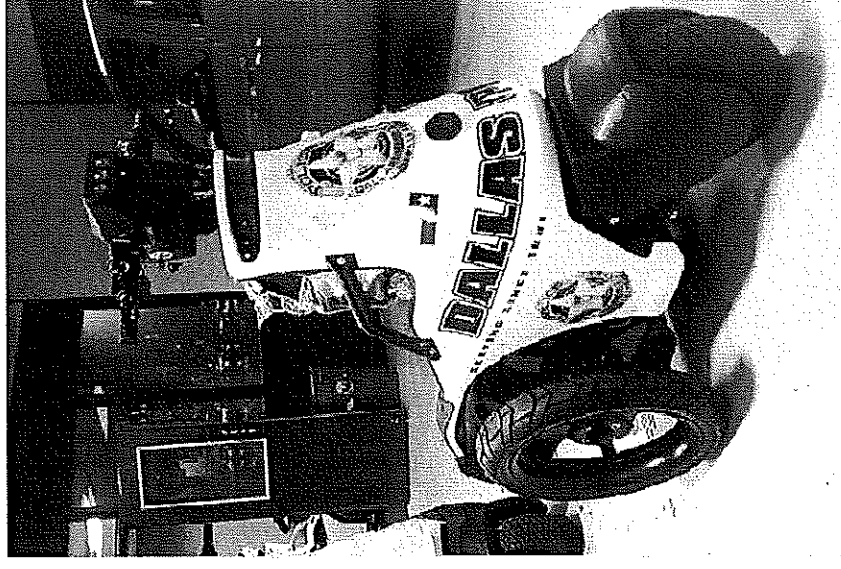
Competitive Analysis | Segway SE-3

	BirdOne	BirdTwo	SE3 Patroller
Price	\$1,299	\$1,499	\$12,000
Top Speed	18 mph	25 mph	15 MPH
Range	Up to 25 miles	Up to 25 miles	Up to 20 miles
Battery Charge Time	6 Hours	4 Hours with 4A charger	5 Hours
Hill Grade	10% grade	20% grade	15% grade
Firmware	Over-the-Air updates	Over-the-Air updates	No updates
Vehicle Weight	38 LBS	48 LBS	400 LBS
Portability	Over-all (LxWxH) 43.1" x 18.6" x 46.5" Foot board (LxH) 19.4" x 6.1"	Over-all (LxWxH) 42.5" x 16.9" x 44.9" Foot board (LxH) 23.0" x 6.2"	Over-all 32" x 61"
Connectivity	Bluetooth and cellular	Bluetooth and cellular	None
Splash Resistant	IP54	Chassis IP67, Motor IP67, Brain IP67, Battery IP68 2m 2hrs	IPX4
Weight Limit	220 lbs	250 lbs	480 lbs
Tiers	9" pneumatic - Puncture Resistant	10" pneumatic - Puncture Resistant	15" & 60" pneumatic
Serviceability	Modular design, easily serviced	Modular design, easily serviced	Requires trained service tech



Competitive Analysis | T3 Cart

	BirdOne	BirdTwo	T3 Golf Cart
Price	\$1,299	\$1,499	\$9,000
Top Speed	18 mph	25 mph	20 mph
Range	Up to 25 miles	Up to 25 miles	Up to 20 miles
Battery Charge Time	6 Hours	4 Hours with 4A charger	4 Hours
Hill Grade	10% grade	20% grade	15% grade
Firmware	Over-the-Air updates	Over-the-Air updates	No updates
Vehicle Weight	38 LBS	48 LBS	450 LBS
Portability	Over-all (LxWxH) 43.1" x 18.6" x 46.5" Foot board (LxH) 19.4" x 6.1"	Over-all (LxWxH) 42.5" x 16.9" x 44.9" Foot board (LxH) 23.0" x 6.2"	36" x 61"
Connectivity	Bluetooth and cellular	Bluetooth and cellular	None
Splash Resistant	IP54	Chassis IP67, Motor IP67, Brain IP67, Battery IP68 2m 2hrs	IPX4
Weight Limit	220 lbs	250 lbs	450 lbs
Tiers	9" pneumatic - Puncture Resistant	10" pneumatic - Puncture Resistant	15" & 60" pneumatic
Serviceability	Modular design, easily serviced	Modular design, easily serviced	Requires trained service tech





Vehicles

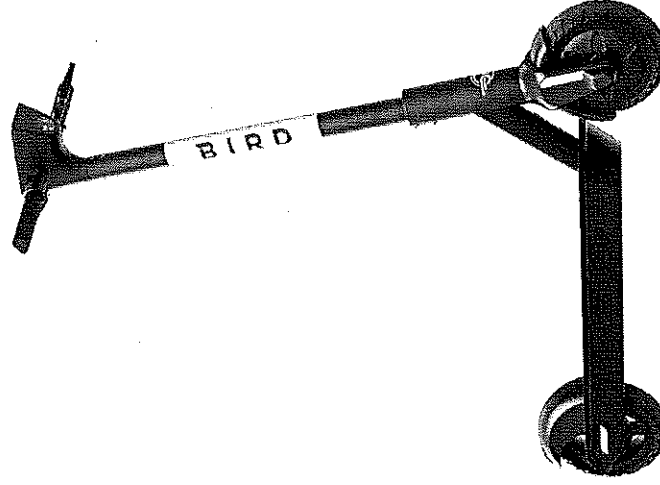
BirdOne

VEHICLE SPECS

Top Speed	18 mph
Range	Up to 25 mi
Battery Charge Time	6 Hours
Hill Grade	10% grade (175 lb load)
Firmware	Over-the-Air updates
Lights	Automatic front and rear LEDs, 30-40 lumens
Lock	Digital security
Braking	Regenerative front motor brake, rear drum brake
Connectivity	Bluetooth and cellular
Splash Resistant	IP34
Weight Limit	220 lbs
Wheels	9" Semi solid pneumatic
Charging	Power supply unit with charging cable
Package Dimensions	49" x 8" x 46"

Monthly technology service plan required

MSRP	Law Enforcement
\$1,299	TBD

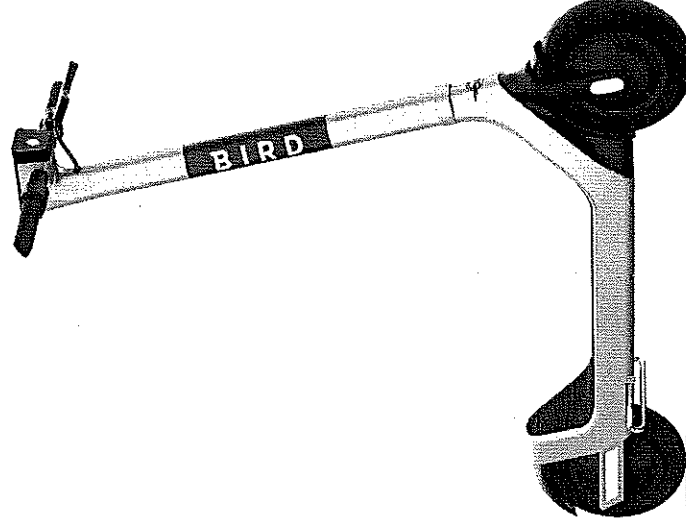


BirdTwo

VEHICLE SPECS

Top Speed	25 mph
Range	Up to 25 mi
Battery Charge Time	4 Hours with 4A charger (8.6 hours with 1.7A)
Hill Grade	20% grade (175 lb load)
Firmware	Over-the-Air updates
Lights	Automatic front and rear LEDs, 30-40 lumens
Lock	Digital security, Bluetooth Accessory Lock
Braking	Regenerative and disc brake on rear wheel
Connectivity	Bluetooth and cellular
Splash Resistant	Chassis IP67, Motor IP67, Brain IP67, Battery IP68 2m 2hrs
Weight Limit	250 lbs
Wheels	10" Pneumatic
Charging	Power supply unit with charging cable
Package Dimensions	TBD

Monthly technology service plan required



MSRP	Law Enforcement
\$1,499	TBD

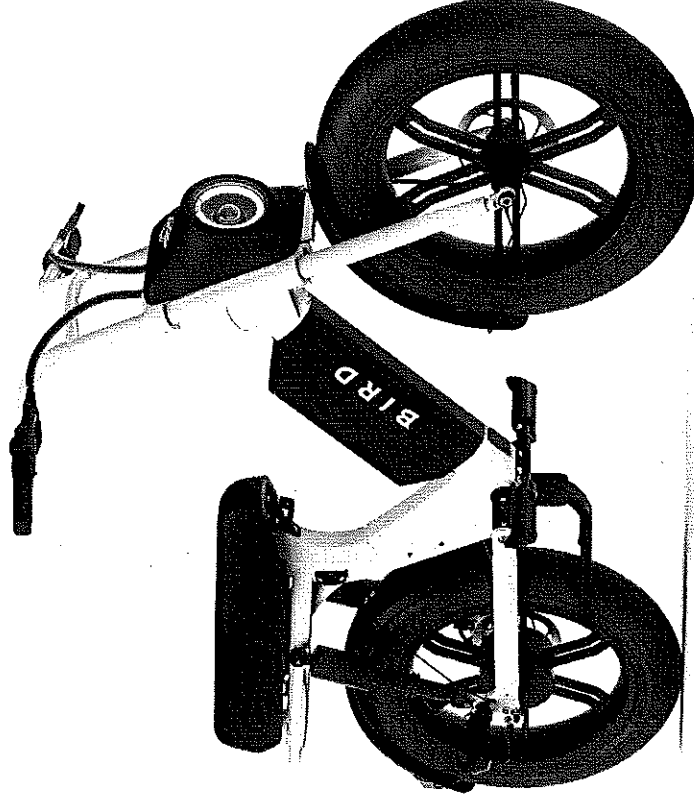


BirdCruiser

VEHICLE SPECS

Top Speed	30 mph
Range	Up to 50 mi
Battery Charge Time	5 Hours
Hill Grade	15% grade (175 lb load)
Firmware	Over-the-Air updates
Lights	Automatic front and rear LEDs
Lock	Digital security, Bluetooth Accessory Lock
Braking	Regenerative rear motor brake, Dual Hydraulic Disk
Connectivity	Bluetooth and cellular
Splash Resistant	IP54
Weight Limit	410 lbs
Wheels	20" Pneumatic
Charging	Power supply unit with charging cable

Monthly technology service plan required



MSRP	Law Enforcement
\$2,499	TBD





Your new partner in community policing and patrol.

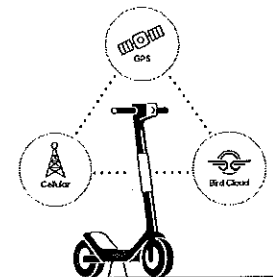
Now you can team up with Bird to add electric vehicles to your fleet. Bird Patrollers are versatile and compact e-scooters designed to tackle anything the road throws your way.



Patrol from a Bird's eye view.

Bird Patroller provides a raised, secure platform to give your team a presence, visibility, and versatility.

- Vehicles are commercial-grade and custom designed by Bird
- Silent, nimble, and portable for easy handling and storage
- Over-the-air updates with geospeed and geofencing capabilities
- Sustainable and electric—with zero emissions



Easy to ride. Built to last.

Built for commercial use, our vehicles go up to 25 miles on a single charge with a top speed of 18/25 mph.*

- Steel-reinforced aluminum frame for a durable ride
- Semi-solid tires that never go flat
- GPS tracking with anti-tamper technology
- Less maintenance costs compared to other micromobility vehicles

*Bird One top speed: 18 mph | Bird Two top speed: 25 mph



World-class support any time you need it.

Get access to 24/7 support and resources to make sure your vehicles are ready to ride at any time.

- Phone and chat support in over a dozen languages
- Online resource center to help maintain your fleet
- A dedicated team of experts ready to assist your department

Interested in partnering with Bird? Contact sales@bird.co to get started.

Loch Arbour clerk

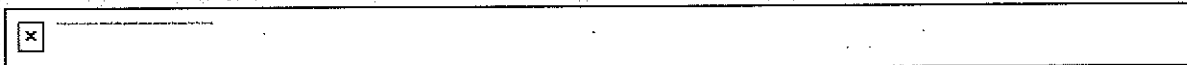
From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 3:23 PM
To: Vin Gopal
Subject: Fwd: Coronavirus Relief Bonds Webinar

My bill in the Senate I am trying to move. Good to get on for tomorrow if free.

Vin

----- Forwarded message -----

From: NW Financial Group, LLC <info@nwfinancial.com>
Date: Wed, May 6, 2020 at 9:57 AM
Subject: Coronavirus Relief Bonds Webinar
To: <vin.gopal.2008@gmail.com>



Upcoming Legislative Briefings on A-3971 for Coronavirus Relief Bonds

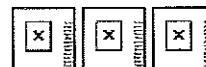
NW Financial's professionals will be one of many featured panelists on the New Jersey League of Municipalities (NJLM's) upcoming Legislative briefing on A-3971 for Coronavirus Relief Bonds.

As stated on the NJLM website, Mayors Keith Kazmark of Woodland Park, Colleen Mahr of Fanwood, and Matt Moench of Bridgewater invite you, your business administrators, and your chief financial officers to a panel discussion on prospective legislation (A-3971) that would permit counties and municipalities to issue Coronavirus Relief Bonds and Notes. This bill will be considered by the Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee on Thursday, May 7.

Register today!

- May 6 – 12:00 noon - 1 p.m., Registration
- May 7 – 5:00 p.m.- 6 p.m. Registration

NW Financial Group, LLC | www.nwfinancial.com



NW Financial Group, LLC | 2 Hudson Place, 3rd Floor, Hoboken, NJ 07030

[Unsubscribe vin.gopal.2008@gmail.com](mailto:vin.gopal.2008@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by info@nwfinancial.com in collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!

Vin Gopal

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Follow me on Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/senatorgopal/>

Loch Arbour clerk

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2020 7:12 PM
To: gestes@njleg.org; Gingerelli, Antoinette
Subject: Fwd: New Jersey COVID-19 Update - March 23, 2020

If you are not on our e-mail list, please e-mail gestes@njleg.org and he will add you.

Thanks,

Vin

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Senator Vin Gopal & Assembly Members Eric Houghtaling and Joann Downey <info@senatorgopal.com>
Date: Mon, Mar 23, 2020 at 5:18 PM
Subject: New Jersey COVID-19 Update - March 23, 2020
To: <vin.gopal.2008@gmail.com>

[View this email in your browser](#)



**SENATOR
VIN GOPAL
ASSEMBLY MEMBERS
HOUGHTALING & DOWNEY**



COVID-19 Briefing

What You Need to Know About Coronavirus in New Jersey

Monday, March 23, 2020

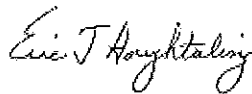
Dear Friend,

Here's our latest update on New Jersey's response to COVID-19 and further actions our state is taking to keep our communities safe. If you have any specific questions regarding COVID-19 or New Jersey's response, please submit them using our [Question Submission Form](#), and we will do our best to get back to you.

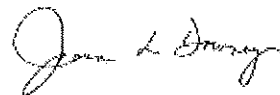
Sincerely,



Vin Gopal
Senator
11th District



Eric Houghtaling
Assemblyman
11th District



Joann Downey
Assemblywoman
11th District

New Website

Governor Phil Murphy announced the launch of the [New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub](#), a new, visitor-friendly website available at covid19.nj.gov.

The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub provides New Jerseyans with the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 and the State's response, including information about services such as food assistance and small business assistance.

The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub includes a COVID-19 Symptom Checker, so New Jerseyans can receive tailored advice depending on their symptoms, including information about testing. It will also increase the State's ability to analyze the spread of COVID-19.

The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub is accessible via mobile phone and for those with

disabilities. All the content is easily searchable via Google and other search engines so the information can be found widely and consistently.

Click Here to Visit the COVID-19 Information Hub

Unemployment Update

ATTENTION UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMANTS

Due to high claim volume, we must take steps to ensure the stability of our online application.

PLEASE CLAIM YOUR WEEKLY BENEFIT ACCORDING TO THE SCHEDULE BELOW.

If the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number are between:

- 0000 and 2500, please access the application between 8am and 10am
- 2501 and 5000, please access the application between 10am and 12pm
- 5001 and 7500, please access the application between 12pm and 2pm
- 7501 and 9999, please access the application between 2pm and 4pm

Regardless of the time you claim your benefit, your payment will be processed overnight.

**If you miss your designated window, you may certify 4pm - 7pm.
Thank you for your cooperation.**

The state announced new rules for New Jersey residents seeking to file for unemployment benefits. See the graphic above for more information.

Stay at Home Order & Closure of Businesses

Governor Murphy signed an executive order implementing a "stay at home" order throughout New Jersey. Under this order, all residents are to stay at home or at their place of residence unless they are leaving for the following reasons:

- Obtaining goods or services from essential retail businesses;
- Obtaining takeout or food beverages from restaurants;

- Seeking medical attention, essential social services, or assistance from law enforcement;
- Visiting family or close friends, caretakers, or romantic partners;
- Reporting to or performing their job;
- Walking, running, or engaging in outdoor activities with immediate family, caretakers, household members, or romantic partners;
- Leaving for an educational, religious, or political reason;
- Leaving because of a reasonable fear for health or safety; or
- Leaving at the direction of law enforcement or other government agency.

Governor Murphy's executive order further directs the closure of all non-essential retail businesses to the public, with the exceptions of:

- Grocery stores, farmer's markets and farms that sell directly to customers, and other food stores, including retailers that offer a varied assortment of foods comparable to what exists at a grocery store;
- Pharmacies and medical marijuana dispensaries;
- Medical supply stores;
- Gas stations;
- Convenience stores;
- Ancillary stores within healthcare facilities;
- Hardware and home improvement stores;
- Banks and other financial institutions;
- Laundromats and dry-cleaning services;
- Stores that principally sell supplies for children under five years;
- Pet stores;
- Liquor stores;
- Car dealerships, but only for auto maintenance and repair, and auto mechanics;
- Printing and office supply shops;
- Mail and delivery stores.

If you discover a business remaining open or violating another of Governor Murphy's executive orders, you can call 1-800-222-1222 or call 2-1-1 or text "NJ COVID" to 898211.

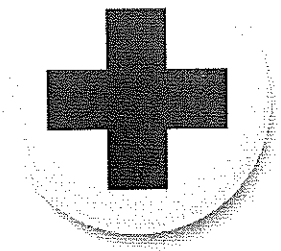
Volunteers Needed

Fulfill, Food Bank of Monmouth & Ocean Counties



Fulfill is working hard to get food and supplies to vulnerable Monmouth County families, but they can't do it alone. If you can volunteer to pack Crisis Relief Boxes for Fulfill, email vmartinez@fulfillnj.org. Thank you to everyone who's able to help!

Red Cross Blood Shortage



American Red Cross

The American Red Cross is working to continue delivering its mission, including the collection of lifesaving blood, but they have had a staggering number of scheduled Red Cross blood drives cancelled as more workplaces, college campuses and other venues send people home and encourage social distancing. Disruptions to blood donations can lead to shortages and cause delays in essential medical care.

To learn more about hosting a blood drive for patients in need, please visit RedCrossBlood.org. If you know of a site where the Red Cross can host a blood drive, please contact 646-784-4824.

Those who are healthy, feeling well and eligible to give blood or platelets, are urged to make an appointment to donate as soon as possible by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Latest Updates

Public Health

☒ As of today, we had 935 new positive COVID-19 cases, bringing our total to 2,844. A total county breakdown can be found at the [COVID-19 dashboard](#).

 Governor Phil Murphy announced the opening of a COVID-19 Community-Based Testing Site at Bergen Community College in Paramus. The drive-thru testing center will be open seven days per week, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. In order to be eligible for testing, individuals must be current New Jersey residents and experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness. Priority will be given to symptomatic individuals experiencing cough, fever (99.6F or above) and shortness of breath.

 The Murphy Administration required hospitals and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) to waive patient fees for testing and related diagnostic services for those who lack health insurance.

Consumer Information

 The US Department of Education announced that all borrowers with federally held student loans will automatically have their interest rates set to 0% for a period of at least 60 days. In addition, each of these borrowers will have the option to suspend their payments for at least two months to allow them greater flexibility during the national emergency.

 The Governor imposed a moratorium on removing individuals from their homes pursuant to an eviction or foreclosure proceeding. Evictions and foreclosure filings can still take place (but cannot be executed until the moratorium is lifted), so residents are advised to still pay what they can. If you foresee any problems with paying, contact our office so that we can forward you to the appropriate resources.

 All public utilities and regulated entities shall immediately cease any in-home or business visits unless there is an immediate risk to health and safety.

 The IRS extended the 2020 federal tax filing deadline to July 15.

 The Department of Banking and Insurance launched a COVID-19 website, including a health

[insurance FAQ page](#) with information on health insurance.

Business Information

 The U.S. Small Business Administration opened up access to the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program to New Jersey businesses hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. Click [here](#) for more details regarding the SBA loan program.

 All door-to-door sales activity by third-party suppliers or other sales persons selling energy or energy related products (for example: residential solar, community solar, or energy efficiency offerings) are to be suspended immediately

 Broadband internet providers may continue to connect new customers or repair existing service for homes with school age children, those who need internet access to meet job requirements, or other priority customers, as defined by each company, provided that such visits should only be done as a last resort after utilizing hotspots, self-install kits, and like measures to minimize in-home visits.

Public Services

 The US Department of Education announced that it will [waive standardized test requirements](#) for states affected by the virus. States must apply for the exemption.

 Governor Murphy announced the [mandatory closure of all state, county and municipal libraries](#). The order also includes all libraries and computer labs at private and public colleges and universities.

 NJ TRANSIT is now running special weekday service. The North Jersey Coast Line special weekday schedule may be found on [NJ TRANSIT's website](#).

Click [here](#) to see all updates from previous COVID-19 briefings.

Legislative Action

On Saturday, the following bills from the Legislature addressing the COVID-19 pandemic were signed into law:

A-3095/S-1982 – Provides county clerks with additional week to mail ballots for 2020 primary election; requires ballot position draw to occur one day early if statutory date falls on holiday

A-3840/S-2281 – Requires school districts to provide school meals or meal vouchers to students eligible for free and reduced price school meals during school closures due to COVID-19 epidemic

A-3843/S-2283 – Requires health insurance and Medicaid coverage for testing of coronavirus disease 2019 and for telemedicine and telehealth during coronavirus disease 2019 state of emergency

A-3849/S-2302 – Modifies deadline by which public agency is required to respond to request for government record during period of emergency

A-3850/S-2294 – Allows public bodies to conduct meetings, and provide notice, by electronic means during periods of emergency

A-3851/S-2295 – Permits extension of deadlines for adoption of county and municipal budgets under certain circumstances

A-3854/S-2286 – Authorizes all licensed health care facilities and laboratories to collect specimens to test for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); allows waiver of staffing ratio requirements

A-3855/S-2287 – Requires food access information be displayed on websites of 2-1-1 system and executive branch departments during public health emergencies to the extent practicable

A-3861/S-2290 – Permits corporations to hold shareholders' meetings in part or solely by means of remote communication during state of emergency

A-3865/S-2291 – Limits return of items purchased from retail food stores under certain circumstances

AJR-158/SJR-77 – Urges FCC to take temporary measures to secure broadband access for those affected by COVID-19

If you have any questions regarding these laws or any other legislation that has been passed or should be passed to address the COVID-19 pandemic, we encourage you to submit them through our [Question Submission Form](#).

Submit Your Questions

We are looking to compile a list of answers to common questions from residents regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and our state's response to it. We are also glad to answer any questions you might have regarding government programs and services that can assist you, your finances, your business, or your family during this difficult time.

To receive an answer, please [submit your question and contact information](#), and we will do our best to get back to you as soon as we can.

[Click Here to Submit a Question](#)

Follow Senator Gopal Online





Follow Assembly Members Houghtaling & Downey Online



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Vin Gopal

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Loch Arbour clerk

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 1:09 AM
To: Vin Gopal
Subject: Fwd: FW: DLGS Guidance on Public Meetings During Health Emergency
Attachments: image001.png; Health_Emergency_-_Public_Meeting_Guidance.docx; COVID LE Guidance 2020 0316 FINAL.pdf; NJ EO-104.pdf; PR Treasury Limited Closures.pdf; PR COVID Roundup PDF.PDF

Good Evening (or morning): Hope everyone is staying safe.

1) Please see attached on public meeting guidance. There are also other attachments of reference.

2) Fufill is available to help families in financial need right now. If you know families in your school district that may be specifically going through a difficult time, please connect them with Fufill or with me and I'll be happy to navigate for them. For any families who are going through a difficult time or expect to, please connect me to them as there are resources that can help. We also have programs and resources for restaurants, coffee shops etc.

3) We are working on a number of bills and legislation. I will send out a full report next week. The senate has an emergency meeting Thursday (today) to pass the below bills and many others. We are also working a big economic assistance program.

- NJ A3095 (20R): Provides county clerks with additional week to mail ballots for 2020 primary election;
- A3839: Makes supplemental appropriation of \$20 million from General Fund to DOE to support school facility cleaning and sanitization;
- A3840: Requires school districts to provide school meals or meal vouchers to students eligible for free and reduced price school meals during school closures due to Covid-19 epidemic;
- A3841: Extends time to file gross income tax or corporation business tax return by one month;
- A3843: Requires health insurance and Medicaid coverage for testing and treatment of the coronavirus disease 2019, and for telemedicine during the coronavirus disease 2019 state of emergency;
- A3844: Concerns business interruption insurance during the coronavirus disease 2019 state of emergency;
- A3846: Creates "Temporary Lost Wage Unemployment Program" to allow persons to claim for lost wages due to the coronavirus disease 2019;
- A3847: Provides paid leave without utilizing accumulated leave for local government employees under certain circumstances;
- A3848: Concerns time off from work in connection with infectious disease;
- A3849: Permits public agency to respond to request for government record within 21 calendar days during period of emergency or other exigency;
- A3850: Allows local government agencies to meet electronically during declared Public Health Emergency or State of Emergency;
- A3851: Extends deadlines for adoption of county and municipal budgets under certain circumstances;
- A3852: Allows conduct of state business and legislative sessions at locations other than Trenton during periods of emergency or other exigency, allows conduct of legislative business using electronic means;
- A3855: Requires food access information be displayed on websites of 2-1-1 system and executive branch departments during public health emergencies;
- A3859: Concerns prohibition of residential tenant eviction and eviction due to residential foreclosure during certain emergency circumstances;
- ACR165: Urges DHS to apply for federal waivers to facilitate and increase access to SNAP benefits during the coronavirus disease 2019 outbreak;

– AJR158: Urges FCC to take temporary measures to secure broadband access for those affected by Covid-19.

4) Please see below state updates

Human Services

The Department of Human Services sent to county and municipal welfare agencies guidance on enacting cautionary health and safety preventative measures in response to the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), specifically as it relates to the temporary cessation of certain requirements for the Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) and New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NJ SNAP). The guidance is attached.

Labor

In accordance with Chief Justice Rabner's COVID-19 Notices to the Bar, and in consultation with Workers' Compensation Executive Committee of the NJ Bar Association, Chief Judge of Compensation Russell Wojtenko, Jr. has closed Workers' Compensation courts to the public in a similar fashion as all NJ Municipal Courts and Landlord Tenant Courts.

While those courts are closed for two weeks, operationally it is more efficient and convenient for all attorneys, litigants and court staff to adjourn all WC matters for three weeks as workers' compensation courts routinely operate in three week cycles. A three week adjournment in workers' compensation is a routine and frequent occurrence and will cause a minimal disruption to the WC system if any.

In addition, Emergent Motions for Medical and Temporary benefits will continue without interruption to the extent possible, including the use of telephonic and video technology. Filings will also continue to be accepted electronically through COURTS On-line.

Also NJDOL has updated it's page for guidance for employers. <https://www.nj.gov/labor/employer-services/business/covid.shtml>

And employees <https://www.nj.gov/labor/worker-protections/earnedsick/covid.shtml>

DEP

Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Catherine R. McCabe announced today that public may still access the State Parks, forests, recreation areas and Wildlife Management Areas, including roads, parking areas, trails, lakes and other open space areas for healthful passive recreation. However, campgrounds, visitor centers, nature centers, restrooms and similar facilities at state parks, forests, recreation areas, Wildlife Management Areas and historic sites are closed until further notice in order to protect public health and safety as the state works to address COVID-19.

MVC

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission Chief Administrator Sue Fulton has announced that all New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission agency and road testing facilities will be closed effective immediately as a measure to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. We anticipate re-opening in two weeks, on Monday, March 30, 2020. All driver licenses, non-driver IDs, vehicle registrations, and inspection stickers expiring before May 31 have been extended by two months. Most renewals, replacements, changes of address, and other transactions can be processed online at NJMVC.gov

OAG

Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal announced today that, in an effort to protect the public by limiting in-person contact that could result in the spread of COVID-19, multiple divisions within Department of Law and Public Safety are extending by at least 30 days the deadlines for renewing or resubmitting certain licenses. ABC is extending by 30 days any Minor Employment Permits set to expire in March. DCA houses 51 professional licensure boards, which collectively oversee approximately 720,000 active licensed professionals. The licenses issued by those boards have staggered renewal dates. The licensure actions announced today by Attorney General Grewal pertain only to licenses issued by the professional boards that require renewals or resubmission in the coming weeks. The State Athletic Control Board (SACB) is extending for 30 days all Mixed Martial Arts (MMA), Boxing and Kickboxing licenses including: Pro Boxer; Pro MMA Contestant; Amateur MMA Contestant; Pro Kickboxer; Amateur Kickboxer and Amateur Muay Thai Kickboxer

Effective immediately, DCA is extending by 60 days licenses for Home Improvement Contractor, Home Elevator Contractor, Respiratory Care Practitioner and Product Warrantor that are due for renewal during the March renewal period. Similarly, the following CDS licenses are being extended by 60 days: Analytical Lab; Clinic Narcotic Treatment Center; Dog Handler/Trainer; Animal Shelter; Manufacturer; Wholesale Distributor, and Research Facility. DCA is extending by 30 days licenses for Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors and Professional Engineer & Land Surveyors, which are due for renewal during the April renewal period.

DCA

The Department of Community Affairs launched a screening tool to help people find out if they are eligible for NJ assistance programs.

<https://njdca-housing.dynamics365portals.us/en-US/>

Health

Since the establishment of the Hotline, the NJ Position Control Center has received 8,623 calls. Yesterday alone, NJPIES received 669 calls.

Today, Governor Murphy, the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management, the New Jersey Department of Health, and the United Ways of New Jersey announced today that NJ 211 has been activated to help handle COVID-19 related calls from New Jersey residents. All residents with questions or concerns about COVID-19 and resources available to them can call 2-1-1. NJ 211 is New Jersey's statewide, comprehensive, information and referral service operated by United Ways of New Jersey.

Residents call also text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive text information and stay informed. To receive live text assistance, residents can text their zip code to 898-211.

These enhancements to 211 will supplement, rather than replace, the existing COVID-19 hotline, operated by the New Jersey Poison Control Center. State residents with questions about COVID-19 illness can continue to call the previously shared numbers for the COVID-19 hotline, but they can also call 211 to get answers about their COVID-19 questions.

Additionally, the Department of Health has a COVID-19 website with resources including CDC updates, guidance for schools, colleges, businesses, long-term care facilities, health care professionals and public health professionals. The website is available at <https://nj.gov/health/coronavirus>.

Human Services

The Department of Human Service's Division of Family Development will implement the following policies, effective immediately:

- Continue to pay child care providers for an extended period of time encouraged for those required to close by the health department, school district, or county executive related to COVID-19;
- Ensure providers commit to clean at the highest level of disinfection cleaning during this period of time;
- Waive parents/caregivers' child care subsidy co-payments for parents who request it due to impacts from COVID-19;
- Provide child care providers who remain open during this critical time a differential of \$100 per child each month above the state reimbursed rate for children enrolled in the child care subsidy program;
- Compensate providers who remain open even if children are absent due to COVID-19;
- Give extended time to working parents to submit verification of works hours for the initial application process;
- Extend recertification timelines for at least three months in order for child care services to remain open;
- Allow parents or caregivers to continue their child care subsidy if their hours are reduced or if they are laid off due to COVID-19; and
- Make grants available for child care providers who participate in the child care subsidy program, including family child care providers, to clean and sanitize their facility or home; or to purchase additional supplies or services necessary to keeping centers and homes safe and sanitary.

Please find attached a press release from the department providing more detail on the actions taken.

Treasury

In order to protect public health, the Department of the Treasury on Wednesday announced the limited closure of a number of its offices that serve walk-in clientele while divisions work to review and revise existing protocols. The offices are expected to be closed through at least March 31, with an anticipated reopening of April 1. Taxpayers, individuals, and businesses will still be able to access these services online, over the phone, or through the mail during these limited closures. Please see the attached press release for more details.

OAG

On Monday the Attorney General issued guidance to law enforcement on Executive Order 104. Please see attached.

Senator Vin Gopal
Majority Conference Leader



PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
PO BOX 080
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0080

GURBIR S. GREWAL
Attorney General

TO: All Law Enforcement Chief Executives

FROM: Gurbir S. Grewal, Attorney General

DATE: March 16, 2020

SUBJECT: Law Enforcement Guidance During COVID-19 Pandemic

These are challenging times. As law enforcement agencies all confront this pandemic together, we have two goals: to protect the safety of the public and the safety of our officers. While we cannot meet these goals through "social distancing" like many other professions, there are certainly steps we can (and must) take to ensure we are fulfilling our duties as safely and effectively as possible. This guidance lays out the best practices on how to do so and answers some questions that we have already received from law enforcement on how to meet the challenges of this difficult moment.

Keeping Officers Safe

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has provided a list of important best practices for keeping officers safe during this difficult period. First, when it comes to protecting from exposure to COVID-19, the CDC instructs officers to do the following:

- Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from others whenever possible.
- Practice proper hand hygiene. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available and illicit drugs are NOT suspected to be present, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Do not touch your face with unwashed hands.
- Have a trained Emergency Medical Service/Emergency Medical Technician (EMS/EMT) assess and transport any arrestee you think might have COVID-19 to a healthcare facility.
- Ensure only trained personnel wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) have contact with individuals who have or may have COVID-19.



The CDC also recommends the use of PPE when possible, and we know a number of agencies are seeking to expand their supply of PPE. As Governor Murphy announced on Friday, the federal government has sent a significant number of additional supplies to New Jersey, but the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) will be requesting more PPE supplies—in consultation with each county emergency management coordinator. Under state law, including Executive Order 103 (which declared both a State of Emergency and a Public Health Emergency in New Jersey), requests for additional PPE and decisions about how to allocate the PPE we already have are made by each county's emergency management coordinator in consultation with NJOEM. Please contact your emergency management coordinator directly if you have any questions or requests for additional PPE.

The CDC also provides guidance to officers who come into close contact with another individual, including during an arrest:

- Clean and disinfect duty belt and gear prior to reuse using a household cleaning spray or wipe, according to the product label.
- Follow standard operating procedures for the containment and disposal of used PPE.
- Follow standard operating procedures for containing and laundering clothes. In particular, avoid shaking the clothes.

While each law enforcement agency needs flexibility to respond to the precise circumstances you are all facing, I urge everyone to adhere to the CDC's helpful guidelines, which you can find here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/guidance-law-enforcement.pdf>.

At the Department of Law and Public Safety, we have incorporated these best practices and ordered that our divisions may no longer hold in-person meetings and must instead use teleconference and videoconference capabilities whenever possible. We have also taken other steps to limit in-person interactions, including suspending work-related travel and external meetings. A copy of our announcement is enclosed for your review (as Ex. A). To the extent possible and practical, we recommend that all law enforcement agencies implement a similar approach, understanding, of course, that roll-call and other essential briefings will still be required. Even then, however, we encourage following the best practices outlined above.

Addressing Manpower Challenges

Our work as law enforcement officers is more important than ever. So if a law enforcement agency faces manpower challenges because one or more of its officers contract COVID-19 or are subject to quarantine, that agency has at least two options: expanded use of Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs), and reliance on mutual aid agreements.

First, agencies can turn to certain SLEOs for support. Under current law, agencies can rely on SLEO IIs to perform all law enforcement duties, which remains an available force multiplier. The statutory limitation on hours of work for SLEO IIs is inapplicable during periods of emergency. And while SLEO IIIs are limited by statute to performing duties on school or college grounds, a municipality or county has the ability to re-designate a SLEO III as a SLEO II, subject to approval by the PTC. Where a municipality or county does so, and where that officer has previously completed the Basic Course for

Police Officers, the New Jersey State Police Academy, or the SLEO III waiver course, the PTC will expedite such requests and has prepared a modified PTC-15 form—attached to this guidance as Ex. B—to facilitate that process. That waiver would extend for the duration of the Public Health Emergency. The converted SLEO III may not be used to offset regular overtime situations, of course, and should be used to address only staff shortage and mandatory overtime situations. There are almost 400 eligible SLEO IIIs, and the PTC will be issuing a list of those individuals this week.

Second, law enforcement agencies can look to existing mutual aid agreements with your county and municipal law enforcement partners. The appropriate time to seek aid from a municipal or county partner will necessarily depend on the precise circumstances your agency—and other agencies—are facing. Each agency should consult with your municipal or county emergency management coordinator when seeking mutual aid. Pursuant to Executive Order 103, your agency may only obtain mutual aid from a noncontiguous municipality upon the direction of your county emergency management coordinator (or his or her deputies), in consultation with NJOEM and the Department of Health.

Detaining Individuals Presenting Symptoms of COVID-19

A number of law enforcement agencies have requested guidance about detaining and housing arrestees who are presenting symptoms of COVID-19. We have contacted the Department of Corrections (DOC) and Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) for guidance and will share that with you as soon as it becomes available. In the meantime, law enforcement agencies should rely on their existing protocols for detaining and housing arrestees who present symptoms of communicable diseases, and should consult with local hospitals and health care facilities about options for the secure detention of arrestees inside those facilities.

Additional Information for Law Enforcement

Charging Decisions: The COVID-19 pandemic is creating significant challenges for New Jersey's court system and our county correctional facilities. While public safety must always be our primary concern, law enforcement is in a position to temporarily reduce the stress on the courts and county jails as we make charging decisions in individual cases. First, law enforcement officers and prosecutors should consider delaying the filing of criminal charges in cases, such as certain fraud cases, that do not imminently impact public safety. Second, relying on the framework already established by Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive 2016-6 v3.0, prosecutors and law enforcement officers should consider the issues created by the COVID-19 pandemic as a factor weighing in favor of a decision to seek a complaint-summons and against a decision to seek a complaint-warrant. While our short-term goal is to reduce the impact on the courts and the county correctional facilities created by additional defendants, I want to be absolutely clear that public safety and victim safety are always the most important factors to be considered in any charging decision.

Enforcement of COVID-Related Violations: Today, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order 104, which, among other things: limits social gatherings to 50 people or less, in accordance with CDC and NJ Department of Health guidance; directs all public and private schools to close no later than Wednesday, March 18; directs all casino gaming facilities, race tracks, and certain other entertainment centers to close beginning 8 p.m. today; directs all non-essential retail, recreational, and entertainment businesses to cease nightly operations beginning 8 p.m. today; and directs all restaurants, with or without a liquor license, to only offer take-out and delivery services. In light of these orders, we anticipate that

many enforcement-related questions will arise. I have directed each County Prosecutor and the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) to identify on-call Assistant Prosecutors and Deputy Attorneys General to be available 24/7 to pre-approve and provide guidance for any such charging decisions. County Prosecutors and DCJ will be providing this information to the law enforcement agencies in their jurisdictions. This letter relates only to violations of Executive Order 104, and does not extend to the violations of any COVID-related county or local orders.

At the same time, Executive Order 104 makes clear that our essential businesses—including grocery/food stores, pharmacies, medical supply stores, gas stations, and healthcare facilities—will be more important than ever. Because our law enforcement officers may not enforce any local ordinance that will in any way interfere with or impede the achievement of the Executive Order's goals, during the pendency of this Public Health Emergency, law enforcement officers must exercise their discretion to *not* enforce local ordinances that limit the hours during which those companies may receive deliveries, as well as to *not* enforce any other local ordinances (such as noise ordinances) in ways that would inhibit transportation companies from timely and effectively delivering food, medicine, and medical supplies to these essential businesses.

Temporary Restraining Orders and Temporary Extreme Risk Protective Orders: Notwithstanding any court closures, our law enforcement officers will continue taking all necessary steps to protect the public from harm, including in emergent situations. On any day where the court is closed, officers should handle all TRO and TERPO applications as they do on holidays, nights, and weekends. As always, courts are prepared to review and resolve these applications.

Title 39 Violations: When it comes to the enforcement of our motor vehicle laws, officers should be aware that the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission has granted an automatic two-month extension for driver licenses, registrations, and inspection stickers expiring in March, April, and May. As a result, a driver with a license that expires in March, April, or May can continue driving without violating Title 39 until that two-month period has passed. You can find more information about that extension here: <https://www.nj.gov/mvc/press/archives/2020/031320.htm>.

OPRA: Several agencies have raised concerns about their ability to fulfill non-emergency duties at this time, in particular the time required for addressing especially extensive OPRA requests. While we cannot counsel you on your responses to individual requests, OPRA allows agencies to seek “reasonable” extensions to fulfill OPRA requests. Although each case is fact dependent and turns on the particular challenges an agency is facing (as well as the nature of the OPRA request), the State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency are obviously two important circumstances demonstrating an agency's need for extensions, and we anticipate courts will take them into account. OPRA further provides that if a request would substantially disrupt agency operations, the custodian may deny access after attempting to reach a reasonable solution with the requestor that accommodates the interests of the requestor and the agency.

* * *

New Jersey has some of the best law enforcement leaders and officers in the country, and I know that together we will rise to this unprecedented challenge. While this letter offers guidance on how to keep officers safe and how to continue fulfilling our core mission of public safety, we know that other questions will arise. Please raise questions and concerns with your county's emergency management

coordinator and with DCJ—our DCJ team is available at covid19LE@njoag.gov—and we will provide additional advice as quickly as possible.



TREASURY NEWS RELEASE

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Phil Murphy, Governor
Sheila Oliver, Lt. Governor
Elizabeth Maher Munro, Treasurer



For Immediate Release:
March 18, 2020

Media Contact:
Jennifer Sciortino
(609) 789-8647

To Protect Public Health, Treasury Announces Limited Closure of Various Offices Serving Walk-In Clientele

Assistance can still be obtained online or via phone for Taxation, Pensions & Benefits, business applications and various certification services that are impacted

(TREASURY) – In order to protect public health, the Department of the Treasury on Wednesday announced the limited closure of a number of its offices that serve walk-in clientele while divisions work to review and revise existing protocols.

The offices are expected to be closed through at least March 31, with an anticipated reopening of April 1. Taxpayers, individuals, and businesses will still be able to access these services online, over the phone, or through the mail during these limited closures.

Updates and announcements on re-openings will be posted on Treasury's [homepage](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#), as well as each division's sites.

The following Treasury offices will be temporarily closed to walk-ins, but can still be accessed through alternative methods:

DIVISION OF TAXATION

The Division of Taxation's seven regional information centers (RICs), including its Trenton walk-in office, are closed to the public as a precautionary measure through at least March 31. Taxpayers are encouraged to use the following avenues as alternatives for the time being:

- Anyone who typically drops off tax forms, correspondence, or payments, is asked to mail the documents to the address printed on the form, notice, or voucher.
- Visit [Taxation's webpage](#) for information on payment, filing, forms, publications, license renewals, and answers to Frequently Asked Questions.
- Taxation's call center remains open for general tax assistance at: 609-292-6400.
- For questions regarding the Senior Freeze property tax reimbursement, call: 1-800-882-6597.
- For questions regarding Homestead Benefit programs please call: 1-888-238-1233.

The division will also post updates and announce re-openings on its [webpage](#), as well as on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), as information becomes available.

DIVISION OF PENSIONS AND BENEFITS

The Division of Pensions and Benefits' Office of Client Service is suspending all reception desk services and in-person counseling as a precautionary measure through at least March 31. Members who have scheduled interviews will be contacted directly and offered alternative counseling arrangements. All other members are encouraged to use the following avenues as alternatives for the time being:

- Visiting the Division of Pensions and Benefits [website](#);
- Contacting the division's call center at: (609) 292-7524; or
- Emailing the division through its [online portal](#).

The division will also post updates and announce re-openings on its [webpage](#), as well as on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), as information becomes available.

DIVISION OF REVENUE AND ENTERPRISE SERVICES

All walk-in service at the Division of Revenue and Enterprise Service's Trenton office will be closed to the public as a precautionary measure through at least March 31. Individuals and business representatives are encouraged to use the following avenues as alternatives for the time being:

- General inquiries can be directed to the division's online [e-mail portal](#).
- Inquiries can also be directed to the division's Customer Service Center at: (609) 292-9292.
- Many services, including but not limited to business filings, uniform certification applications, apostille certifications, notary public applications, and some records requests, are available [online](#).
- Filings and records requests submissions can be done through the secure drop box at the division's Trenton office, located at 33 W State St, Trenton, 5th floor.
- Anyone who relies on paper processing services should send work orders to the division at the mail-in addresses listed on the paper forms or their corresponding instructions.
- Visit the division's [website](#) for a full list of options.





For more information: Email:
DLGS@dca.nj.gov

Division of Local Government Services (DLGS)

“The Division strives to help all local governments
achieve excellence, efficiency, and long-term fiscal
stability in their operations”

Given the recent attention to the potential impacts of coronavirus, the Division issues this notice as a general precaution and to remind local units of options available to ensure the continued regular operation of government.

The Division of Local Government Services reminds local units that, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq., (the “Open Public Meetings Act,” or “Act”), public meetings may be held in person or by means of communication equipment, N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), to include streaming services and other online meeting platforms. All meetings, including those held using communications equipment, must be noticed in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Act, unless the meeting is for emergent circumstances and held in a manner consistent with the requirements set forth at N.J.S.A. 10:4-9(b). Local units should also provide guidance to the public for remotely accessing and providing comment at a meeting. Local units should still have an advertised meeting place, which, is connected to the meeting through communications equipment, unless otherwise directed by state or local emergency management or health officials, consistent with Executive Order 103 (Murphy 3/9/2020).

This mechanism has been used by local governments during weather events and other circumstances that render in-person meetings less than optimal.

Local units are reminded that they are required to provide a means of public comment even if a meeting is held remotely. Further, if a local unit currently records the audio or video of its meetings, we recommend that it continue to record a remote meeting.

Local units holding meetings remotely are advised to avoid entering executive or closed session unless the topic of concern is urgent, directly affects the health, safety, or welfare of residents, and is an allowed exception as listed in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, given the difficulty of ensuring only appropriate individuals are on the line during a separate session. If an executive or closed session is necessary, local units must use a mechanism that ensures the confidentiality of closed session. To this end,

after announcing the executive or closed session at the public portion of the meeting consistent with the Act, a local unit may consider using a separate, non-public, dial-in mechanism for the executive or closed portion of the meeting.

In preparation for upcoming community events and meetings of public bodies, local units are encouraged to coordinate with legal counsel and local offices of emergency management to ensure continued compliance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 and other statutory obligations.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 104

WHEREAS, through Executive Order No. 102, which I signed on February 3, 2020, I created the State's Coronavirus Task Force, chaired by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health ("DOH"), in order to coordinate the State's efforts to appropriately prepare for and respond to the public health hazard posed by Coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, in light of the dangers posed by COVID-19, I issued Executive Order No. 103 (2020) on March 9, 2020, the facts and circumstances of which are adopted by reference herein, which declared both a Public Health Emergency and State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. App. A:9-34 and -51, I reserved the right to utilize and employ all available resources of State government to protect against the emergency created by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. App. A:9-40, I declared that, due to the State of Emergency, no municipality, county, or any agency or political subdivision of this State shall enact or enforce any order, rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution which will or might in any way conflict with any of the provisions of my Executive Orders, or which will in any way interfere with or impede their achievement; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, COVID-19 was declared to be a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency pursuant to his constitutional and statutory powers, including those granted by Sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. § 1601, *et seq.*) and consistent with Section 1135 of the Social Security Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 1320b-5); and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States also determined on March 13, 2020, that the COVID-19 pandemic was of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency determination under Section 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5121-5207; and

WHEREAS, as of March 16, 2020, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), there were more than 130,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide, with over 6,500 of those cases having resulted in death; and

WHEREAS, as of March 16, 2020, there were more than 4,900 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States, with 67 of those cases having resulted in death; and

WHEREAS, as of March 16, 2020, there were 178 positive cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, spread across numerous counties; and

WHEREAS, social mitigation strategies for combatting COVID-19 requires every effort to reduce the rate of community spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, as of March 15, 2020, the CDC recommends that for the next eight weeks, gatherings of 50 or more people be canceled or postponed throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, public and private preschool programs, elementary and secondary schools, and institutions of higher education are locations where significant numbers of students, educators, and support staff gather, often in close proximity in classrooms, hallways, cafeterias, and gymnasiums; and

WHEREAS, suspending in-person preschool programs, K-12 education, and in-person instruction at institutions of higher education are part of the State's mitigation strategy to combat COVID-19 and reduce the rate of community spread; and

WHEREAS, my Administration is committed to ensuring that all students will continue to have access to a quality education, in addition to school meals that are provided or subsidized for students from low-income families; and

WHEREAS, casinos, racetracks, gyms, fitness centers, movie theaters, performing arts centers, other concert venues, nightclubs, and other entertainment centers, which are vital to the economic health of the State, are also locations where large numbers of individuals gather in close proximity; and

WHEREAS, many individuals also come into contact with common surfaces at gyms, fitness centers, and other entertainment centers; and

WHEREAS, suspending operations at these businesses is part of the State's mitigation strategy to combat COVID-19 and reduce the rate of community spread; and

WHEREAS, even on casino floors, where slot machines or other casino games may be several feet apart, many individuals come into contact with common surfaces; and

WHEREAS, in contrast to gaming at brick-and-mortar facilities, online gaming provides a safe mode of entertainment during a time when physical proximity to other individuals can be dangerous; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has advised that COVID-19 spreads most frequently through person-to-person contact when individuals are within six feet or less of one another; and

WHEREAS, as a result, the CDC has recommended that individuals practice "social distancing" to prevent community spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has defined social distancing as the practice of "remaining out of congregate settings, avoiding mass gatherings, and maintaining distance (approximately 6 feet or 2 meters) from others when possible"; and

WHEREAS, bars and restaurants are locations where significant numbers of individuals gather in close proximity, making adherence to social distancing protocols impossible or impracticable; and

WHEREAS, to mitigate community spread of COVID-19, it is necessary to limit the unnecessary movement of individuals in and around their communities and person-to-person interactions in accordance with CDC and DOH guidance; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Dr. Anthony Fauci, called for "a dramatic diminution of the personal interaction that we see in restaurants and in bars," and recommended pursuing "[w]hatever it takes to do that"; and

WHEREAS, the provision of take-out and delivery services do not pose the same danger of widespread person-to-person contact while still preserving necessary food delivery services for New Jersey residents; and

WHEREAS, narrowing scope of service or hours of operation for restaurants and certain retail establishments permits individuals to access food, clothing, and other essential materials while also limiting unnecessary person-to-person contact; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to ensure that law enforcement resources, particularly those that might otherwise be required to respond to late-night incidents, not be unnecessarily diverted from responding to COVID-19 related issues and maintaining public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution and statutes of the State of New Jersey, particularly the provisions of N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et seq., N.J.S.A. App. A: 9-33 et seq., N.J.S.A. 38A:3-6.1, and N.J.S.A. 38A:2-4 and all amendments and supplements thereto, confer upon the Governor of the State of New Jersey certain emergency powers, which I have invoked;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PHILIP D. MURPHY, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. All gatherings of persons in the State of New Jersey shall be limited to 50 persons or fewer, excluding normal operations at airports, bus and train stations, medical facilities, office environments, factories, assemblages for the purpose of industrial or manufacturing work, construction sites, mass transit, or the purchase of groceries or consumer goods.

2. All public, private, and parochial preschool program premises, and elementary and secondary schools, including charter and renaissance schools, shall be closed to students beginning on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, and shall remain closed as long as this Order remains in effect.

3. All institutions of higher education shall cease in-person instruction beginning on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, and shall cease such in-person instruction as long as this Order remains in effect. The Secretary of the Office of Higher Education shall have the authority to grant a waiver to allow in-person instruction to students on a case-by-case basis where a compelling rationale to allow such access exists. The Secretary of the Office of Higher Education shall coordinate with institutions of higher education to determine appropriate student housing conditions for those students who reside in on-campus housing as their primary residence.

4. The Commissioner of the Department of Education ("DOE"), in consultation with the Commissioner of DOH, shall be authorized to permit schools to remain open on a limited basis for the provision of food or other essential, non-educational services, or for educational or child care services if needed in emergency situations after consultation with the Commissioner of DOH. The Commissioner of DOE shall also have the authority to close any other career or

training facilities over which he has oversight, after consultation with the Commissioner of DOH.

5. The Commissioner of DOE shall continue working with each public school district, and private and parochial schools as appropriate, to ensure that students are able to continue their educations during this time period through appropriate home instruction. Local school districts, charter schools, and renaissance schools, in consultation with the Commissioner of DOE, shall have the authority and discretion to determine home instruction arrangements as appropriate on a case-by-case basis to ensure all students are provided with appropriate home instruction, taking into account all relevant constitutional and statutory obligations.

6. The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the Commissioner of DOE, shall take all necessary actions to ensure that all students eligible for free or reduced meals shall continue to receive the services or supports necessary to meet nutritional needs during closures.

7. The following facilities are ordered closed to members of the public, effective 8:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 2020. These facilities are to remain closed to the public for as long as this Order remains in effect. The State Director of Emergency Management, who is the Superintendent of State Police, shall have the discretion to make additions, amendments, clarifications, exceptions, and exclusions to this list:

- a. Casino gaming floors, including retail sports wagering lounges, and casino concert and entertainment venues. Online and mobile sports and casino gaming services may continue to be offered notwithstanding the closure of the physical facility.
- b. Racetracks, including stabling facilities and retail sports wagering lounges. Mobile sports wagering

services may continue to be offered notwithstanding the closure of the physical facility.

- c. Gyms and fitness centers and classes.
- d. Entertainment centers, including but not limited to, movie theaters, performing arts centers, other concert venues, and nightclubs.

8. Other non-essential retail, recreational, and entertainment businesses must cease daily operations from 8:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m.. From 5:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., these businesses may remain open if they limit their occupancy to no more than 50 persons and adhere to social distancing guidelines. Examples of essential businesses excluded from this directive include: grocery/food stores, pharmacies, medical supply stores, gas stations, healthcare facilities and ancillary stores within healthcare facilities. The State Director of Emergency Management, who is the Superintendent of State Police, shall have the discretion to make additions, amendments, clarifications, exceptions, and exclusions to the list of essential businesses and to the timelines applicable to operating hours.

9. All restaurants, dining establishments, and food courts, with or without a liquor license, all bars, and all other holders of a liquor license with retail consumption privileges, are permitted to operate their normal business hours, but are limited to offering only food delivery and/or take-out services. If alcoholic beverages are to be sold from a restaurant, dining establishment or bar with a liquor license, such sales shall be limited to original containers sold from the principal public barroom. All retail sales of alcoholic beverages by limited brewery licensees, restricted brewery licensees, plenary and farm winery licensees (and associated salesrooms), craft distillery licensees and cidery and meadery licensees must be in original containers and must be delivered by licensed entities and/or by customer pick up.

10. In accordance with N.J.S.A. App. A:9-33, et seq., as supplemented and amended, the State Director of Emergency Management, who is the Superintendent of State Police, through the police agencies under his control, to determine and control the direction of the flow of vehicular traffic on any State or interstate highway, municipal or county road, and any access road, including the right to detour, reroute, or divert any or all traffic and to prevent ingress or egress from any area that, in the State Director's discretion, is deemed necessary for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the public, and to remove parked or abandoned vehicles from such roadways as conditions warrant.

11. The Attorney General, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 39:4-213, shall act through the Superintendent of State Police, to determine and control the direction of the flow of vehicular traffic on any State or interstate highway, municipal or county road, and any access road, including the right to detour, reroute, or divert any or all traffic, to prevent ingress or egress, and to determine the type of vehicle or vehicles to be operated on such roadways. I further authorize all law enforcement officers to enforce any such order of the Attorney General or Superintendent of State Police within their respective municipalities.

12. No municipality, county, or any other agency or political subdivision of this State shall enact or enforce any order, rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution which will or might in any way conflict with any of the provisions of this Executive Order, or which will in any way interfere with or impede its achievement.

13. It shall be the duty of every person or entity in this State or doing business in this State and of the members of the governing body and every official, employee, or agent of every political subdivision in this State and of each member of all other governmental bodies, agencies, and authorities in this State of any

nature whatsoever, to cooperate fully in all matters concerning this Executive Order.

14. Penalties for violations of this Executive Order may be imposed under, among other statutes, N.J.S.A. App. A:9-49 and -50.

15. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until revoked or modified by the Governor, who shall consult with the Commissioner of DOH as appropriate.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
16th day of March,
Two Thousand and Twenty, and of
the Independence of the United
States, the Two Hundred and
Forty-Fourth.

[seal]

/s/ Philip D. Murphy

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Matthew J. Platkin

Chief Counsel to the Governor



NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



NJ Human Services Works to Protect & Help Maintain Continued Benefits for Residents Amid COVID-19 Outbreak

Actions Address Child care, Seniors, Homeless, Medicaid, Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder and Disability Services

March 18, 2020

(TRENTON) –To protect the health and safety of the individuals we serve and help maintain vital social service benefits continue to do so, New Jersey Human Services Commissioner Carole Johnson today outlined steps the Department has taken to assist and protect those we serve amid the ongoing work to contain COVID-19.

“During these challenging times, Human Services is committed to continuing to protect and care for those across the state who depend on our critical services,” Commissioner Johnson said. “Human service providers are first responders in this crisis and the health and safety of those we and our community partners serve is our top priority. We’ve taken steps to offer assistance to child care providers so that they can remain open and continue to provide care; to make it easier for Medicaid beneficiaries to refill their prescriptions early and stock a 90-day supply of their maintenance medications; to protect older residents and individuals with developmental disabilities by moving swiftly to end congregate activities; and to create opportunities to help New Jerseyans receiving opioid use disorder treatment retain access to care. We’re going to continuously review our policies and services as the situation evolves and take all available action to protect our most vulnerable residents.”

Actions taken by the Department of Human Services include:

Supporting Individuals and Families with Children:

Child Care

- Waiving parent co-pays in state's child care subsidy for parents who request it due to impacts from COVID-19;
- Providing an additional \$100 per child per month to child care providers for children in the State child care subsidy program to help child care centers remain open during this critical time to support working parents, emergency and essential personnel; and
- Making grant funding available to child care centers to support cleaning supplies or services.

Cash, Shelter and Food Assistance

- Automatically extending for 60 days WorkFirst New Jersey cash assistance to individuals whose case is up for renewal in March or April;
- Extending all Emergency Assistance cases through April 30;
- Deeming the current state of emergency as a good cause exemption for the work requirements in WorkFirst New Jersey and SNAP and suspending all adverse actions for non-compliance;
- Convening New Jersey food banks and community pantries to focus on preparedness planning and distribution; and
- Working with homeless shelters to address cleaning and self-isolation policies.

NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid

- Covering COVID-19 testing, visits for testing, and testing-related services at no cost;
- Waiving costs for COVID-19 testing, visits for testing, and testing-related services in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP);
- Covering 90-day supplies of prescriptions for maintenance medications and early refills of prescriptions in Medicaid and CHIP; and
- Directing hospitals to waive cost sharing for uninsured individuals who are eligible for charity care for medically necessary testing and testing-related services for the COVID-19 virus.

Supporting Older Residents

- Mobilizing nurse care managers at Medicaid health plans to call high risk populations to identify and address their critical needs including supplies such as durable medical equipment and food;
- Allowing older residents receiving prescription drugs through Medicaid or the state prescription drug assistance program (PAAD and Senior Gold) to refill their prescriptions early and receive 90-day supplies of maintenance medications;
- Working with our county partners to ensure that those receiving home-delivered meals continue to have access to food;
- Partnering with counties to end congregate dining in senior centers while helping to ensure that participants continue to have access to food;
- Working with counties to support telephone outreach to seniors known to be socially isolated;
- Encouraging health care providers to use telehealth for routine visits, as appropriate;
- Working closely with community and institutional providers to ensure resident needs are met; and
- Conducting telephonic outreach for our most vulnerable residents seeking enrollment in social service benefits.

Supporting Individuals with Disabilities:

- Temporarily closing congregate day programs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and supporting this transition;
- Providing flexibility to families to quickly hire workers and working closely with program providers and direct support professionals during the closure;
- Releasing guidance for community providers of services to the developmentally disabled on COVID-19 preparedness;
- Keeping residents who are deaf or hard of hearing informed through American Sign Language videos, interpreters at State emergency response press conferences, and other activities; and

- Conducting outreach to clients who depend on our Personal Assistance Service Program for individuals with physical disabilities and our Traumatic Brain Injury Fund to ensure needs are being met.

Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services:

- Issue guidance to Opioid Treatment Programs, which provide essential medication such as methadone or buprenorphine to individuals with an opioid use disorder, on ensuring the safe provision of medication including take-home medication;
- Releasing guidance mental health and substance use disorder providers on preparedness and response, including ensuring continued access to services for individuals in need of services; and
- Working closely with community providers to identify and ensure needs are met.

Follow the Department of Human Services at:



Loch Arbour clerk

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Gingerelli, Antoinette; ddavis@njleg.org
Subject: Coronavirus
Attachments: 89863089_274563250555571_1369132786807472128_n.jpg

As you all know, this virus is very serious. We had our first death in Monmouth and others in critical condition. I am in constant communication with our hospital heads and I am very concerned that the next week will get worse. The strength of a specific strand of this virus is very concerning and very contagious.

Please see the attached statement on curfews put out by the City of Asbury Park. I would strongly urge other towns to follow the outstanding leadership that Asbury Park just took. We must stop community spread.

If anyone has any questions, please e-mail or call me.

Thank you for your consideration.

Senator Vin Gopal

Loch Arbour clerk

From: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2020 7:12 PM
To: gestes@njleg.org; Gingerelli, Antoinette
Subject: Fwd: New Jersey COVID-19 Update - March 23, 2020

If you are not on our e-mail list, please e-mail gestes@njleg.org and he will add you.

Thanks,

Vin

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Senator Vin Gopal & Assembly Members Eric Houghtaling and Joann Downey <info@senatorgopal.com>
Date: Mon, Mar 23, 2020 at 5:18 PM
Subject: New Jersey COVID-19 Update - March 23, 2020
To: <vin.gopal.2008@gmail.com>

[View this email in your browser](#)



**SENATOR
VIN GOPAL
ASSEMBLY MEMBERS
HOUGHTALING & DOWNEY**



COVID-19 Briefing

What You Need to Know About Coronavirus in New Jersey

Monday, March 23, 2020

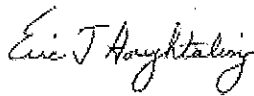
Dear Friend,

Here's our latest update on New Jersey's response to COVID-19 and further actions our state is taking to keep our communities safe. If you have any specific questions regarding COVID-19 or New Jersey's response, please submit them using our [Question Submission Form](#), and we will do our best to get back to you.

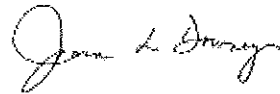
Sincerely,



Vin Gopal
Senator
11th District



Eric Houghtaling
Assemblyman
11th District



Joann Downey
Assemblywoman
11th District

New Website

Governor Phil Murphy announced the launch of the [New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub](#), a new, visitor-friendly website available at covid19.nj.gov.

The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub provides New Jerseyans with the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 and the State's response, including information about services such as food assistance and small business assistance.

The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub includes a COVID-19 Symptom Checker, so New Jerseyans can receive tailored advice depending on their symptoms, including information about testing. It will also increase the State's ability to analyze the spread of COVID-19.

The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub is accessible via mobile phone and for those with

disabilities. All the content is easily searchable via Google and other search engines so the information can be found widely and consistently.

[Click Here to Visit the COVID-19 Information Hub](#)

Unemployment Update

ATTENTION UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMANTS

Due to high claim volume, we must take steps to ensure the stability of our online application.

PLEASE CLAIM YOUR WEEKLY BENEFIT ACCORDING TO THE SCHEDULE BELOW.

If the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number are between:

- 0000 and 2500, please access the application between 8am and 10am
- 2501 and 5000, please access the application between 10am and 12pm
- 5001 and 7500, please access the application between 12pm and 2pm
- 7501 and 9999, please access the application between 2pm and 4pm

Regardless of the time you claim your benefit, your payment will be processed overnight.

**If you miss your designated window, you may certify 4pm - 7pm.
Thank you for your cooperation.**

The state announced new rules for New Jersey residents seeking to file for unemployment benefits. See the graphic above for more information.

Stay at Home Order & Closure of Businesses

Governor Murphy signed an executive order implementing a "stay at home" order throughout New Jersey. Under this order, all residents are to stay at home or at their place of residence unless they are leaving for the following reasons:

- Obtaining goods or services from essential retail businesses;
- Obtaining takeout or food beverages from restaurants;

- Seeking medical attention, essential social services, or assistance from law enforcement;
- Visiting family or close friends, caretakers, or romantic partners;
- Reporting to or performing their job;
- Walking, running, or engaging in outdoor activities with immediate family, caretakers, household members, or romantic partners;
- Leaving for an educational, religious, or political reason;
- Leaving because of a reasonable fear for health or safety; or
- Leaving at the direction of law enforcement or other government agency.

Governor Murphy's executive order further directs the closure of all non-essential retail businesses to the public, with the exceptions of:

- Grocery stores, farmer's markets and farms that sell directly to customers, and other food stores, including retailers that offer a varied assortment of foods comparable to what exists at a grocery store;
- Pharmacies and medical marijuana dispensaries;
- Medical supply stores;
- Gas stations;
- Convenience stores;
- Ancillary stores within healthcare facilities;
- Hardware and home improvement stores;
- Banks and other financial institutions;
- Laundromats and dry-cleaning services;
- Stores that principally sell supplies for children under five years;
- Pet stores;
- Liquor stores;
- Car dealerships, but only for auto maintenance and repair, and auto mechanics;
- Printing and office supply shops;
- Mail and delivery stores.

If you discover a business remaining open or violating another of Governor Murphy's executive orders, you can call 1-800-222-1222 or call 2-1-1 or text "NJ COVID" to 898211.

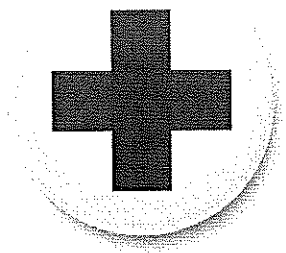
Volunteers Needed

Fulfill, Food Bank of Monmouth & Ocean Counties



Fulfill is working hard to get food and supplies to vulnerable Monmouth County families, but they can't do it alone. If you can volunteer to pack Crisis Relief Boxes for Fulfill, email vmartinez@fulfillnj.org. Thank you to everyone who's able to help!

Red Cross Blood Shortage



American Red Cross

The American Red Cross is working to continue delivering its mission, including the collection of lifesaving blood, but they have had a staggering number of scheduled Red Cross blood drives cancelled as more workplaces, college campuses and other venues send people home and encourage social distancing. Disruptions to blood donations can lead to shortages and cause delays in essential medical care.

To learn more about hosting a blood drive for patients in need, please visit RedCrossBlood.org. If you know of a site where the Red Cross can host a blood drive, please contact 646-784-4824.

Those who are healthy, feeling well and eligible to give blood or platelets, are urged to make an appointment to donate as soon as possible by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Latest Updates

Public Health

☒ As of today, we had 935 new positive COVID-19 cases, bringing our total to 2,844. A total county breakdown can be found at the [COVID-19 dashboard](#).

 Governor Phil Murphy announced the opening of a COVID-19 Community-Based Testing Site at Bergen Community College in Paramus. The drive-thru testing center will be open seven days per week, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. In order to be eligible for testing, individuals must be current New Jersey residents and experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness. Priority will be given to symptomatic individuals experiencing cough, fever (99.6F or above) and shortness of breath.

 The Murphy Administration required hospitals and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) to waive patient fees for testing and related diagnostic services for those who lack health insurance.

Consumer Information

 The US Department of Education announced that all borrowers with federally held student loans will automatically have their interest rates set to 0% for a period of at least 60 days. In addition, each of these borrowers will have the option to suspend their payments for at least two months to allow them greater flexibility during the national emergency.

 The Governor imposed a moratorium on removing individuals from their homes pursuant to an eviction or foreclosure proceeding. Evictions and foreclosure filings can still take place (but cannot be executed until the moratorium is lifted), so residents are advised to still pay what they can. If you foresee any problems with paying, contact our office so that we can forward you to the appropriate resources.

 All public utilities and regulated entities shall immediately cease any in-home or business visits unless there is an immediate risk to health and safety.

 The IRS extended the 2020 federal tax filing deadline to July 15.

 The Department of Banking and Insurance launched a COVID-19 website, including a health

[insurance FAQ page](#) with information on health insurance.

Business Information

 The U.S. Small Business Administration opened up access to the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program to New Jersey businesses hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. Click [here](#) for more details regarding the SBA loan program.

 All door-to-door sales activity by third-party suppliers or other sales persons selling energy or energy related products (for example: residential solar, community solar, or energy efficiency offerings) are to be suspended immediately

 Broadband internet providers may continue to connect new customers or repair existing service for homes with school age children, those who need internet access to meet job requirements, or other priority customers, as defined by each company, provided that such visits should only be done as a last resort after utilizing hotspots, self-install kits, and like measures to minimize in-home visits.

Public Services

 The US Department of Education announced that it will [waive standardized test requirements](#) for states affected by the virus. States must apply for the exemption.

 Governor Murphy announced the [mandatory closure of all state, county and municipal libraries](#). The order also includes all libraries and computer labs at private and public colleges and universities.

 NJ TRANSIT is now running special weekday service. The North Jersey Coast Line special weekday schedule may be found on [NJ TRANSIT's website](#).

Click [here](#) to see all updates from previous COVID-19 briefings.

Legislative Action

On Saturday, the following bills from the Legislature addressing the COVID-19 pandemic were signed into law:

A-3095/S-1982 – Provides county clerks with additional week to mail ballots for 2020 primary election; requires ballot position draw to occur one day early if statutory date falls on holiday

A-3840/S-2281 – Requires school districts to provide school meals or meal vouchers to students eligible for free and reduced price school meals during school closures due to COVID-19 epidemic

A-3843/S-2283 – Requires health insurance and Medicaid coverage for testing of coronavirus disease 2019 and for telemedicine and telehealth during coronavirus disease 2019 state of emergency

A-3849/S-2302 – Modifies deadline by which public agency is required to respond to request for government record during period of emergency

A-3850/S-2294 – Allows public bodies to conduct meetings, and provide notice, by electronic means during periods of emergency

A-3851/S-2295 – Permits extension of deadlines for adoption of county and municipal budgets under certain circumstances

A-3854/S-2286 – Authorizes all licensed health care facilities and laboratories to collect specimens to test for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); allows waiver of staffing ratio requirements

A-3855/S-2287 – Requires food access information be displayed on websites of 2-1-1 system and executive branch departments during public health emergencies to the extent practicable

A-3861/S-2290 – Permits corporations to hold shareholders' meetings in part or solely by means of remote communication during state of emergency

A-3865/S-2291 – Limits return of items purchased from retail food stores under certain circumstances

AJR-158/SJR-77 – Urges FCC to take temporary measures to secure broadband access for those affected by COVID-19

If you have any questions regarding these laws or any other legislation that has been passed or should be passed to address the COVID-19 pandemic, we encourage you to submit them through our [Question Submission Form](#).

Submit Your Questions

We are looking to compile a list of answers to common questions from residents regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and our state's response to it. We are also glad to answer any questions you might have regarding government programs and services that can assist you, your finances, your business, or your family during this difficult time.

To receive an answer, please [submit your question and contact information](#), and we will do our best to get back to you as soon as we can.

[Click Here to Submit a Question](#)

Follow Senator Gopal Online





Follow Assembly Members Houghtaling & Downey Online



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Vin Gopal

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