

Alaska State Legislature



OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Governor Mike Dunleavy
3rd Floor, State Capitol
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811

March 26, 2020

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

Alaska is in crisis. COVID-19 has been detected in multiple communities across our state, and without extreme measures, the virus will continue to spread rapidly and impact us all for generations. Additional decisive action must be taken to protect the lives and well-being of all Alaskans.

We respectfully ask that you issue a statewide shelter in place order in Alaska. We ask that the duration of this shelter in place order should be determined with recommendations from the state's Chief Medical Officer and the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. While such an order would undoubtedly cause hardship for some Alaskans, it is our firm belief that the people of Alaska will bear this and even more sacrifices to keep their friends, family, and neighbors safe.

Cities, villages, and boroughs all over the state have already issued shelter in place orders to slow down the spread of the COVID-19 virus. These measures are aimed at reducing the burden on our healthcare system and avoiding preventable loss of life. However, many municipalities lack the legal authority to issue these types of mandates, and areas outside organized boroughs do not have these health care powers and need state action.

Alaska faces a particularly high risk of overwhelming our healthcare capacity and we must flatten the curve of this impact. Data has shown that the most effective way to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus is to limit travel and person-to-person interactions, and to do so in a far-reaching and comprehensive manner. A statewide shelter in place order would slow the spread of this deadly virus and allow our healthcare system to better manage this pandemic.

We thank you for the actions you have already taken to keep Alaskans safe, but more must be done, and it must be done quickly. A statewide shelter in place mandate will prevent illness, save lives, and give Alaska's healthcare providers the time they so desperately need. We urge you to implement a statewide shelter in place mandate immediately.

Thank you for your consideration,

The undersigned Alaska State Representatives:

Alaska State Legislature



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Handwritten signature of Adam Wool in black ink.

Representative Adam Wool

Handwritten signature of Chris Tuck in black ink.

Representative Chris Tuck

Handwritten signature of Steve M. Thompson in blue ink.

Representative Steve Thompson

Handwritten signature of Geran Tarr in black ink.

Representative Geran Tarr

Handwritten signature of David A. Talerico in black ink.

Representative Dave Talerico

Handwritten signature of Andy Story in black ink.

Representative Andy Story

Handwritten signature of Ivy Spohnholz in black ink.

Representative Ivy Spohnholz

Handwritten signature of Dan Ortiz in black ink.

Representative Dan Ortiz

Handwritten signature of Gabrielle LeDoux in blue ink.

Representative Gabrielle LeDoux

Handwritten signature of Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins in black ink.

Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins

Handwritten signature of Andy Josephson in black ink.

Representative Andy Josephson

Handwritten signature of Sharon Jackson in black ink.

Representative Sharon Jackson

Handwritten signature of Grier Hopkins in black ink.

Representative Grier Hopkins

Handwritten signature of Sara Hannan in black ink.

Representative Sara Hannan

Handwritten signature of Bryce Edgmon in blue ink.

Speaker Bryce Edgmon

Handwritten signature of Harriet Drummond in black ink.

Representative Harriet Drummond

Handwritten signature of Matt Claman in black ink.

Representative Matt Claman

Handwritten signature of Tiffany Zulkosky in blue ink.

Representative Tiffany Zulkosky