

Below are notes from Governor DeWine's daily press conference. In addition to the information below, the U.S. Senate is expected to go into session today at 4:00pm and approve a "3.5" package with additional COVID-19 response funding. House Majority Leader Hoyer indicated that the House would likely vote Thursday.

## Highlights

- Governor announced the formation of a Testing Strike Team that will be led by former Governor's Dick Celeste and Bob Taft. "These individuals know how to get things done and make things happen". They will work with research institutions and public health entities. Both Governor's served in the Peace Corps and work in higher education now.
- Governor talked about the 94 independent fairs and the Ohio State Fair. Director Pelanda and Ohio Dept. of Agriculture will waive matching requirements from agricultural societies so that they can get their \$50k facility grant that the state offers. Fair boards must apply by May 30th.
- Both Governor DeWine and Dr. Acton talked about May 1st is more of a start to reopening and that each regulatory agency that oversees various businesses would deal with them separately
- Pickaway Correctional Institution reported 389 more cases and as of Monday had 1,163, or 58% of the inmates tested positive and Marion Correctional Institution reported 59 more cases, and had 1,950 cases, or 78% of inmates testing positive.
- Ohio has 13,725 confirmed cases and 557 deaths (806 new cases)

## Governor Mike DeWine

- RPM CEO Frank Sullivan and Lt. Governor are working on a re-opening plan for businesses
- Lt. Governor was not in attendance at the press conference today
- Governor gave a birthday shout out to his son Brian—"we will play baseball again someday"
- Gov wore a University of Toledo tie—mentioned two staffers that went to UT and he relies on them everyday
- Highlighted Joe Mama's Kitchen in Marietta, Ohio and spoke to the work they have been doing. They stopped selling food to the general public, and only do deliveries to senior citizens. Every meal is only \$5/per and if people can't pay, they have raised \$\$ to donate the food.
- Gave a shout out to "national public labs day" and commended them for the work they do
- Thermo Fisher (Ohio company that provides machines to test the samples) has an application on a "reagent" in front of the FDA—DeWine got a call directly from the commissioner of the FDA today to tell him that they have been approved. This will significantly expand the capacity of our labs. Governor said that they were working with other companies to make additional reagent kits available. The reagent is the "secret sauce" to testing kits.
- By mid-may we will see a big increase in the number of kits we can test each day.
- Governor said that Ohio had its first resident of a developmental center die of COVID-19.
- Spoke to the fairs noted above in the Highlights

- JobsOhio with People's Bank and another bank in Defiance Ohio to form a partnership to help small businesses . JobsOhio has committed \$50 million to provide businesses in good standing with loans (working capital, payroll, rent, etc.)
- Governor highlighted the BWC decision to give \$1.6 billion back to Ohio employers. 170k checks will be made over the next week. Again, this is 100% of the dividends of 2018. \$1.4 billion will go to private employers and \$200 million to local governments and schools

### **Ursel McEroy, Director of the Ohio Department of Aging**

- The Director joined as the special guest. She was on yesterday but her audio was bad and people could not hear her comments
- Spoke about co-chairing the minority strike force on addressing minority populations during the COVID-19 crisis

### **Dr. Amy Acton**

#### *Ohio Specific Numbers*

- 13,725 confirmed cases (>1-106 years in age, with median age of 50) (5,445 females—40%) and (8,230 males—60%)
- 2,779 hospitalizations
- 838 admissions to ICU
- 2,169 healthcare workers (16%)
- 87 out of 88 counties have confirmed cases
- 557 deaths

#### *Other information from Dr. Acton*

- Dr. Acton said that they are listening to Jim Yong Kim—former President of Dartmouth and World Bank President—on what other countries are doing to make advancements in public health around COVID
- Five things to work your way forward:

1. Social Distancing

2. Testing

3. Contact tracers (who has an individual been with in the last 14 days and make them quarantine for 14 days)

4. Isolation and quarantine

5. Vaccine and treatment

- Dr. Acton acknowledged that people will still need to stain their homes or with their “clans” and limit travel and interactions for some time
- At least 18 months we will be living with this virus