



News Release

LOUISIANA STATE LEGISLATURE

For Immediate Release

Friday, March 13, 2020

Contact: Senate Communication Office (225) 342-6270

House Communications Office (225) 342-9795

STATEMENT FROM SENATE PRESIDENT PAGE CORTEZ & HOUSE SPEAKER CLAY SCHEXNAYDER

“At this time there is no plan to cancel or suspend regular session. The Legislature is open for business.

After consultation with medical professionals, we are taking the necessary CDC recommended precautions to allow the Legislature to continue functioning, ensuring we meet our constitutional responsibilities. We are implementing strict CDC directed protocols to ensure the safety of the body, the staff, and the public while inside the Capitol.

Please know that we are in constant communication with each other, leadership, and necessary state and federal agencies and will closely monitor the ongoing COVID-19 situation.

Effective Monday, March 16, we will be implementing the following CDC recommended precautions to ensure the safety of the body, the staff, and the public while at the Capitol.

- Every entrant to the building will be required to have their temperature checked by authorized personnel. Any person with a temperature over 100.4°F (38°C) will not be allowed in the building. Individuals allowed in the building will be given a specific sticker for that day to indicate they were checked and will be asked to wear the sticker in plain view.
- We will be limiting the number of persons allowed into committee rooms and chamber galleries and will require spacing in seating. The number of individuals will be based on CDC recommended guidelines and is subject to change.
- All legislative desks, podiums, committee rooms and flat surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected daily prior to use.

We will continue to keep you updated as events develop. Without question, we will get through this situation as we always have and always will as Louisianans.”

Page Cortez, *President of the Louisiana State Senate*

Clay Schexnayder, *Speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives*

Reliable Sources of Public Information on Coronavirus

- United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>
- Louisiana Department of Health: <http://ldh.la.gov/coronavirus> / LDH coronavirus hotline: **1-855-523-2652** (8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday)
- Governor’s Office Coronavirus information page: <https://gov.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/89>
- La. Department of Education page featuring COVID-19 guidance for schools: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/newsroom/ldoe-weekly-newsletter-03-10-20.pdf?sfvrsn=36cc9b1f_6
- LDH coronavirus hotline: **1-855-523-2652** (8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday)
- Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness www.GOHSEP.la.gov

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