



Louisiana

Representative Paula P. Davis

District 69
April 2020 District Update

During these unprecedented health and economic times, I hope you and your families are staying safe and sound. As there is currently no vaccine or specific medication to treat COVID-19, the best way to help flatten the curve is through collective action: social distancing; proper hygiene; and stay at home.

Also, fear and anxiety can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children. Take breaks from COVID-19 news stories, including social media. Eat healthy, exercise, and get plenty of sleep. Unwind. Do some activities you enjoy. Connect with others (using proper social distancing). Appropriately coping with stress will make you, the people you care about, and our community stronger.

The federal government is acting. For example, the Paycheck Protection Program prioritizes millions of Americans employed by small businesses by currently authorizing up to \$349 billion toward job retention and certain other expenses. If you have questions, please consult your bank or a trusted financial advisor. Assistance for Small Businesses may be found through the following link:

<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/top-priorities/cares-act/assistance-for-small-businesses>

Info may also be found through this link to the U.S. Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program that helps businesses keep their workforce employed during the COVID-19 crisis:

<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program-ppp>

On the state government level, here are links to Louisiana Departments and Agencies that are providing COVID-19 information and updates:

- Governor: www.gov.louisiana.gov/coronavirus
- LDH: www.ldh.la.gov/Coronavirus/
- LED: www.opportunitylouisiana.com/covid19
- LWC: www.laworks.net/PublicRelations/COVID_19_Information.asp
- Unemployment Claims: www.louisianaworks.net/hire/vosnet/Default.aspx
- DCFS: www.dss.state.la.us/page/coronavirus
- DOE: www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/covid-19
- BOR: regents.la.gov/covid19-response/
- DOR: revenue.louisiana.gov/NewsAndPublications/COVID19
- LHC: www.lhc.la.gov/covid19
- DOC: doc.louisiana.gov/covid-19-information/
- DEQ: www.deq.louisiana.gov/page/covid19
- DWF: www.wlf.louisiana.gov/news/category/covid19-state-feed
- LDAF: www.ldaf.state.la.us/covid-19/

- LDI: www.ldi.la.gov/cons.../insurance-type/healthinsurance/covid-19
- State Library: slol.libguides.com/c.php?g=602885&p=7301150
- OMV: www.expresslane.org
- ATC: atc.louisiana.gov/press-releases.php
- OGB: www.info.groupbenefits.org/.../COVID10OfficeRemoteWorking0320...
- State Parks: www.crt.state.la.us/louisiana-state-parks/
- AG: www.ag.state.la.us/
- Treasury: www.treasury.la.gov/
- SOS: www.sos.la.gov

Obviously, appropriately dealing with these health and economic emergencies caused by COVID-19 are our first priority. On the state legislative front, Senate President Paige Cortez and House Speaker Clay Schexnayder have adjourned the 2020 Regular Legislative Session until further notice based on the health and safety of the legislators, staff, media and public. We're following the projections and advice of health professionals to determine when everyone can safely return to the Capitol to handle constitutionally mandated legislative action (*e.g.*, adoption of a balanced budget). Final Adjournment must occur no later than June 1, 2020.

Also, Speaker Schexnayder has assigned certain responsibilities to each of his committee chairmen while we're adjourned. My role as Chair of the House Commerce Committee is to develop a menu of potential legislative instruments designed to stimulate economic activity to help pull us out of the adverse economic effects of COVID-19. The House Commerce Committee is responsible for the following subjects: Commerce generally; Banking and the regulation thereof; Communication by telephone, telegraph, radio and television; Registering and licensing of vessels and small boats; Navigation and laws relating thereto; Regulation of common carriers by water; Consumer protection; Laws relating to merchandising; Regulation, licensing, or certification of occupations and professions generally, except those fields which are health related; Interest rates; Savings and loan and homestead associations; Small loan companies; Regulation and licensing of businesses and occupations; Protection of trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies; Corporations; and Tourism.

Stay safe and breathe,

Paula

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