

Report on the 2020 Session 67th Day

REPRESENTATIVE ROD
PELTON

Friends and Neighbors,

As of the point that I am writing this, the number of cases in Colorado of COVID-19, known as Coronavirus, is at 101. It also saddens me that yesterday Colorado suffered the first fatal case of COVID-19. In light of all of this news surrounding the COVID-19 I wanted to share with all of my constituents what is happening with the General Assembly, and some advice on what everyone should be doing to protect themselves during this outbreak.

Firstly, the General Assembly spent a great deal of time deliberating over the best course of action to protect the importance of the people's contributions to county and state assemblies and the people's contributions to the legislative process. The first action taken was to pass HB20-1359 that would allow for the altering of rules that govern the assemblies so that some normalcy can be maintained during this election season. As for protecting the legislative process, the General Assembly wishes to follow the CDC's recommendation of social distancing. The significant contribution of citizens to the legislative process through committee hearings made us feel uncomfortable about the idea of restricting public access to the Capitol while continuing to conduct standard legislative business; for that reason, a joint resolution was drafted and passed through both chambers early today that has put both the Senate and House of Representatives in a recess until March 30th, with the option and understanding of that date potentially being extended if the circumstances of this outbreak require it. The Colorado Supreme Court will be offering a ruling as to whether or not the session will extend beyond the 120-day deadline due to this extended recess.

Despite the fact that we stand in recess, my office will still be available to listen to your needs and concerns through my email, my office phone number, and Facebook. Myself and my staff will be maintaining semi-normal business hours and will be available to you through those means.

I also wanted to use a part of this newsletter to pass along to you some important information about protecting yourself, your families, and your communities during this time. At this point, the CDC has stated that the best way to avoid getting sick is to avoid close contact with others whenever possible, keep your hands clean, and avoid touching your face. To protect your communities, the CDC advises that you stay home if you are sick, clean and disinfect surfaces regularly, and take standard precautions such as covering your nose and mouth if you sneeze or cough. I would advise that there is no reason to panic and I wish everyone in the State of Colorado and House District 65 peace and safety during this time of uncertainty. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if you have any concerns. Thank you and God bless you.

Faithfully,

Representative Rod Pelton



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