

Report on the 2020 Session

COVID-19 Update

Friends and Neighbors,

There is a great deal of concern that has been voiced to me and to my staff over the last week or so about the effects of the current statewide lockdown continuing; the fact is I am concerned as well. This virus does present concerns worth considering but we cannot merely focus on the virus only. The impacts of our economy being essentially stalled in the present and the effects that it will have on our economy in the future will have just as much harm on the people of this great states. These effects will play out in both our physical health and well-being as well as our mental health and well-being. So, with your concerns and mine, I just wanted to share with you what I have been doing on behalf of all my constituents in House District 65.

The first thing that I have been doing has been to address the needs of our hospitals and retirement facilities. Our hospitals and retirements facilities need to have PPE for their staff to protect them whenever they are doing the great work they do to help our communities; while we have low numbers of cases in all of the counties that I represent, a fact for which I am particularly proud of and not the least bit surprised by, it is still important that our doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers are safe while testing and treating the cases that are present. I'd also like to ask everyone to take a chance to thank any healthcare workers that they may know. They are on the frontlines of the virus across our entire state.

The second thing that I have been doing is working with the Republican caucus in the House of Representatives and the other rural legislators in the House to stress the needs of the various industries in this state and, looking bigger picture, the need to reopen the state to restart our economy and get our state back on track to normal. We will all be continuing to stress this issue any way that we can to get back to functioning like normal and thriving.

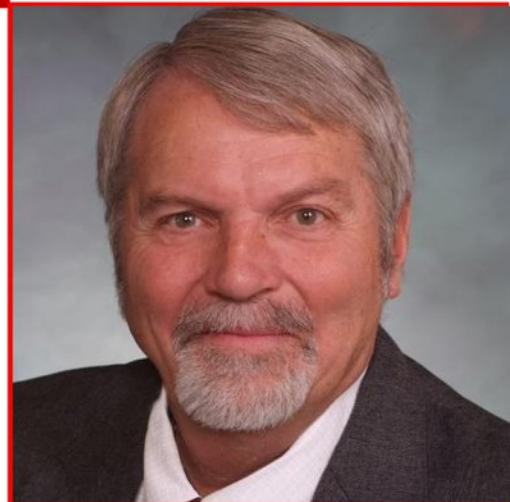
The final thing that I have taken on is to reach out to the Governor's office directly to plead that the "one size fits all" policy that is currently in place to deal with the virus is not adequate; rural Colorado, specifically the Eastern plains as it applies to my district, are not facing the same issues as the Front Range. As I stated earlier, we have extremely low case counts across our district, including 2 counties that have no cases to date. While I do not have positive results to provide you at this time resulting from this call, I will continue to be speaking with the Governor's office until they understand that the "one size fits all" policy is not right and they begin to address the needs of Coloradoans across the entire state, not just along the I-25 Corridor.

As always, if you have any comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself or my office. We are continuing to serve as we always do and in these times of uncertainty we wish to be as available as ever.

Faithfully,

Rep. Rod Pelton

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