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Governor Ron DeSantis held an afternoon press conference, April 24th in the Cabinet Room.

- Testing
 - 320,000 people tested
 - Tested one for every 46 people in South Florida
 - Our testing will ramp up to focus on elder individuals who are at-risk
 - Positivity rate of new cases
 - Important to look at positivity results as testing ramps up
 - We had 21,000 test results
 - Our positivity rate is between 6-8%
 - Once someone tests positive, they have to test negative twice before they go to work
 - Many of our positives are repeat testers, so DOH is looking at how to accurately share that information
- Testing sites
 - 7 drive-thru testing sites
 - 67,000
 - Six walk up sites – 14,000 tests
 - 2 in Broward
 - Multiple in Orange
 - 2 In Hillsboro
 - One in Palm beach
- Long-term care facilities
 - Now have 50 (up from ten) pre-emptive testing teams
- Testing Labs
 - DOH contracted with two additional labs to test 18,000 samples a day
 - This is important because the instant tests will not be produced in the mass quantities for businesses to utilize
 - We need labs to turn it around in 24-48 hours
 - More labs online because re-imbursement has gone up
 - Increase in serological testing to demonstrate anti-bodies prevalence
 - Federal government will send to state in May
- Testing
 - Directing Surgeon General to allow licensed pharmacists to order and administer Covid tests
 - Looking at home tests that are approved by the FDA utilizing saliva
- Hospitalizations
 - Between 40-45% consistently
 - Our flattening of the curve has been successful
- **For Covid-19 text FLCOVID19 to 888777**



Press Questions

- Lawsuits against the Governor and DEO regarding unemployment
 - The system, DEO has made almost 200,000 payments totaling \$100 million. Changes needed to be made. It was designed to basically fail. With this volume, it would have been an issue, but it certainly was not designed to handle this capability. Proud of the 24/7 work. 2200 trained workers who were surged over for this fight. They're processing the written application. Working with FSU on getting more space to work there. We had to work with the federal government on getting social security numbers verified.
- Testing for asymptomatic
 - Our screening should keep anyone out who is symptomatic, our 50 teams are taking offensive approaches to try to address those who are asymptomatic. We need to test both staff and residents to see if the anti-bodies are there as well.
- Pharmacist testing eligibility
 - We have to work through that, I would like to make this broad. I want someone who is asymptomatic but who may have been exposed.
- NASA launch
 - Brevard would be the ones to ask if they are closing the roads. Defer to them on that, they have had a low infection rate.
- Executive Order expiration
 - Not as concerned about specific dates, we want to make sure we are getting this right to enter Phase 1. No artificial date on that, have to identify what we need to do. Our task force's recommendations will be rolled out in the coming days.
- State running out of unemployment funds
 - We feel confident we will have the funds to make it through. Because we did have low unemployment, we have a good chunk of change.
- Extending expiration of Executive Order
 - We have a big diverse state, so there may be different paths forward for different areas in the state. Mayor Gimenez and I spoke, obviously they had issues more difficult than other areas of the state. All of the travel and events really seeded the virus strong there. I have been measured throughout all of this, we just tried to focus on the facts.



This morning, the Administrative, Education, Information and Technology, Manufacturing, Utilities, Wholesale Industry Working Group of the Governor's Re-Open Florida Task Force held a teleconference.

Agenda: <https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/covid19/Governors%20Task%20Force%20to%20ReOpen%20Florida%20Industry%20Working%20Group%20Focus%20on%20Hurricane%20Preparedness%204.24.20.pdf>

Overview of Hurricane Preparedness in Light of Covid-19 Pandemic

Jared Moskowitz, Director, Florida Division of Emergency Management

Director Moskowitz provided an overview

- Supplies & Supply Chains
 - Ordering PPE now specifically to be stored for hurricane season
 - Working with Publix and Walmart to make huge investments in products in the months leading up to hurricane seasons
- Power
 - Working with utilities, making sure they have the PPE they need to go into communities
- Funding
 - \$400 million since March 14th
 - \$2.4 billion distributed in 18 months, double what has ever been delivered
 - Returned \$134 million to general revenue
- Timing
 - While we think of the end of season as the most serious, we do need to worry about other storms in May and June with some smaller ones
- Alternatives to mass shelters
 - Examining conversations about hotels and other diversions
 - Do we divert to Covid only shelters
- Testing
 - 350,000 people in shelters before and after Irma
 - Working with Abbott Labs on getting the rapid tests specifically for that purpose
- Transportation
 - Thinking about how we transport people that were typically transported by charter buses
 - Partnerships with Uber possibly
- Volunteerism
 - Anticipating drop in volunteers
 - Possibly employing teachers or others out of work to help

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- Evacuation
 - With a Cat 1 or Cat 2, possibly issue a stay-at-home order for those in homes built to code
 - Will work with county managers on this, but we will put out guidance
 - Understand we'll have to help more than in the past
 - Thinking about evacuations to or from hot zones
- Business Owners
 - May want to get PPE for employees now, to provide for employees in case there is an evacuation needed
 - Thinking about furloughed employees, to make sure they don't have to self-isolate after return
 - Encourage businesses to think about this now
 - As rapid testing increases, it will make it easier for businesses
- Planning
 - Working with current and former FEMA Directors
 - Want to encourage people to also have seven days of cleaning supplies in addition to food and medicine
 - Guidance finalized in the next two weeks

Discussion

- Eric Silagy, FPL- we go through our service area to identify hotels that we may be able to utilize and evaluate them for a category wind rating.
 - Moskowitz- we welcome any data, obviously the rating is something we consider every time and whether they have generators. I think we have to be flexible, thinking about how there are more rooms available in June or July.
- Catherine Stempien, Duke- our network has learned in the northeast some of the best logistical practices to keep crews safe in the Covid world. Restoration times may be extended, an additional difficulty we found is that wearing PPE especially in the heat can decrease productivity. We try to be self-sustaining and not use state resources, but in terms of finding lodging, it will likely be difficult for our mass housing of workers.
 - Moskowitz- bring up great points, and we appreciate our partners. Educating the public it may take longer is important.
- James Conner, Florida Technology Council- great opportunity to get ahead of the game when it comes to hurricanes like tracking hotel beds.
 - Moskowitz- that would be very helpful and it would be good to track capability on food, everything we provide after a storm will be multiplied.



Recap of Committee Discussions for Re-Opening

- Commissioner Richard Corcoran, Department of Education
 - Goal is to re-open Florida
 - Things to think about
 - PPE needed on hand
 - Self-screening for visitors
 - Build out capacity of virtual school
 - 1:1 technology ratio
 - Cleaning protocols
 - Big one in education is addressing the achievement gap
 - Working with tech centers on accelerating certification processes
 - Transparency in communication
 - What is the response in a case of a positive screening
- Sid Kitzman, Board of Governors, State University System
 - As of today we have a plan for the summer
 - But our medical institutions are ready to help
 - While we face challenges, it provides opportunities
 - With students from around the world, testing will be our first line of defense until a vaccine is approved
 - Ability to test will determine how we re-open campuses

Closing Remarks, Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran

- Thank everyone, we're done having detailed conversation, now is the time to put pen to paper as we will do through the weekend.



This afternoon, the Executive Committee of the Governor’s Re-Open Florida Task Force held a teleconference.

Agenda: <https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/covid19/Governors%20Task%20Force%20to%20ReOpen%20Florida%20Executive%20Committee%20Meeting%20Agenda%20-%20Friday%204.24.20.pdf>

Introductory Remarks

The Governor and Lieutenant Governor welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for their participation.

Update on Industry Committee Meeting (Agriculture, Finance, Government, Healthcare, Management, and Professional Services)

Focus from Today’s Meeting

- Assisted Living
 - No community dining
 - Temperature checks of staff
 - Isolation units
 - Want to make sure there is continued access to PPE supply lines
 - Access to rapid testing
 - Clear protocols of re-opening
 - Concern of liability and financial viability
- Professional Healthcare Services
 - Dept of Health
 - Re-visiting sick leave policies for staff
 - Awareness of protocols
 - Training on symptom recognition
 - Plan for a second wave
 - Reviewing data regularly
 - Dentists
 - 90% of dentists are seeing less than normal volume
 - Screening patients before procedures
 - Re-classifying dentists as an essential provider to be able to procure PPE
- Insurance Industry and Financial Services Sector
 - Insurance
 - Insurance industry waiving cost share of testing
 - Insurers need to operate insurance planning for virtual transactions

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- Recognition of expanded telemedicine coverage
- Retroactively covering pandemics for business losses
- Concern about litigation
- Planning for 2020 hurricane season
- Long-term impacts of Covid and emerging risks
- Banking
 - Banks adjusting well
 - Florida 3rd in number of PPP loans processed
- Local Government and Public Safety
 - Mayor John Dailey, City of Tallahassee
 - Enhanced PPE for first responders
 - Reduced bus transit ridership
 - May need to extend executive order for local governments to still be able to meet virtually
 - Virtual building inspectors have now streamlined their process and its something that they may do in the future
 - City utility working with all customers to allow them to back-pay over time
 - Amy Mercer, Florida Police Chiefs Association
 - Want guidelines on what it is they need to make arrests
 - Don't want this to become a problem with law enforcement
 - Concern of re-lapse of Covid and how can we isolate
 - Need academies up and running to continue getting LEOs into system timely
 - Concern about litigation around Covid

Discussion

- Speaker Jose Oliva- encouraging to hear that the committee is looking at law enforcement approach to not create a police state. The liability issue is crucially important.
- Eric Silagy, FPL- any discussion of investigation of back-up generators in the healthcare facilities?
 - Simpson- these facilities will have longer term restrictions until a vaccine is established
 - AHCA Secretary Mary Mayhew- this is something we have been working with every year. Every facility must have the permanent generator installed (98% of facilities) and the rest must have temporary generators on site.
- Rapid testing, how will we accomplish this?
 - Nunez- Governor has shared desire to acquire as many tests as possible in order to deal with specifically the nursing home scenario
- CFO Patronis- concern from Sheriffs about timeline to help locals to re-open



Update on Industry Committee Meeting (Administrative, Education, Information & Technology, Manufacturing)

- Department of Emergency
- Hurricane Preparedness
 - Reaching out to businesses for making sure they have supplies
 - Looking at alternatives for sheltering
 - As many rapid tests as possible
 - Thinking about transportation needs
 - DEM and DMS are laser-focused on hurricane preparedness
- Recap
 - Thinking about specific requirements
 - Screening
 - Social distancing
 - Capacity
 - Schools
 - Thinking about achievement gap
 - Getting colleges and tech schools to get the economy back up

Update on Industry Committee Meeting (Administrative, Education, Information & Technology, Manufacturing)

- Regulatory challenges for small businesses
 - Common sense ideas
 - One-in-one out
 - Two sets of equipment to increase sanitation
 - Small business specific support for PPE
 - Re-education on DBPR's website and emailed to allow license holders
 - Bars and restaurants
 - 2400 bars and restaurants closed doors and many not coming back
 - Ideas
 - Sanitation
 - Social distance
 - PPE
 - Some restaurants may need ramp up periods
- Rural communities and minority-owned small businesses
 - Rural businesses want to re-open, none of Okeechobee County's businesses could secure PPP
 - Small businesses could not endure much past May 1
 - Need for resources supporting minority-owned businesses



- Large gatherings, events
 - Because of Covid, 15 large scale convention center events were canceled (loss of \$122 million)
 - Phased re-opening is necessary
 - Convention centers should be instructional for large events at Florida's convention centers
 - Concern about the Super Bowl in Tampa

Dr. Rivera from the Department of Health reminded everyone that the CDC has information on their website and encouraged all to reach out to their local health department.

Executive Committee Discussion

- CFO Patronis- Florida just received another \$1.7 billion from the CARES Act

Closing Remarks, Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nunez

- We are trying to compile all this through the weekend and will continue to work through the weekend.
- Working groups are encouraged to email specific suggestions to reopenftaskforce@laspbs.state.fl.us
- Trying to open Florida's economy back up

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At noon on April 24, the Food, Tourism, Construction, Real Estate, Recreation, Retail, & Transportation Working Group of the Governor's Re-Open Florida Task Force met.

Agenda: <https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/covid19/Governors%20Task%20Force%20to%20ReOpen%20Florida%20Industry%20Working%20Group%20focus%20on%20Small%20Businesses%20Rural%20Communities%20and%20Large%20Gatherings%204.24.20.pdf>

Introductory Remarks by Dana Young, President & CEO of Visit Florida

- Have had discussions regarding tourism, retail, construction, transportation, theme parks, etc.
- Today is for regulatory challenges facing small these industries
- Dr. Lilian Rivera from FL Dept. of Health will add health-related information necessary
- Goal is to have recommendations to Governor's Office very quickly
- Suggests each member submit own recommendations to Governor's Office of Policy & Budget

Overview of Regulatory Challenges for Small Businesses

Greg Picnic, Tallahassee Barbershop Owner

- Owned nine-chair barbershop for ten years
- Already have safety guidelines as a licensed industry
- An industry with intimate contact with clients
- Suggests:
 - All barbers & clients wear masks and glove
 - Walk in & walk out to eliminate lobby wait times
 - Infrared thermometers for barbers & clients
 - Disinfecting between appointments
 - Two sets of tools to allow for proper contact time of barbicide
 - Contactless forms of payment
 - Rotating shifts
 - Eliminate all hand-held mirrors
 - Eliminate head rest
 - Eliminate facial shave
 - Eliminate lollipop jars
 - One of biggest concerns is sheer number of people touching the front door
 - Will increase costs so asking state if there will be resources to implement these changes and procurement of proper PPE equipment
 - Has been difficult to do this because of non-essential status

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- One of most important things moving forward is re-education of barbers on best practices
 - Good start is free online certification provided by Barbicide
 - Wants to see statewide email from DBPR regarding everything required for barber shops to re-open
- Long-term solutions:
 - New sanitizers available that are more instant disinfectants; suggests DBPR recommend this
 - Sink at every barber station but FL law requires that only one sink is required for every barbershop

Halsey Beshears, Secretary, FL Dept. of Business & Professional Regulation

- DBPR regulates over 1.4 million businesses; many brick and mortar locations have been immensely struggling; wants to help them re-open as soon as possible with a plan that is safe and reasonable
- 2,457 restaurants had closed their doors indefinitely after Executive Order 20-54
- Focused on ideas that implement basic safeguards for businesses, but small businesses also make decisions on how to best serve their customers
- Basic recommendations:
 - Re-opening barber shops:
 - Wash hands thoroughly between every customer
 - Headrests must be disinfected or have a clean towel
 - Proper ventilation
 - Limit people
 - Wear masks at all times & provide for clients
 - Recommendations from DBPR should be posted at entrance
 - Salons:
 - Clean all shampoo bowls, etc. after each use
 - Proper ventilation
 - Disinfect with bacteria-grade infectant
 - Log should be kept with all disinfectant procedures
 - Limit people
 - Wear masks at all times & consider providing for clients
 - Conspicuous place for customers to see all disinfectant practices
 - Restaurants & bars:
 - Clean & sanitize entire facility, focusing on high contact areas
 - Check restrooms regularly
 - Make hand sanitizer regularly available
 - Sick employees should remain closed

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- Taking employees' temperatures should be at employer discretion
- Train employees on increased handwashing
- Update floor plans for full-service restaurants for social distancing
- Do not allow guest congregation
- Public lodging:
 - Clean all surfaces & disinfect
 - Promote frequent handwashing & have signs reminding of this
 - Have disinfecting wipes where guests or employees will be touching things eg vending machines
 - Limit interactions between departments
 - Eliminate or reduce in-person check-ins
- FL is like three different states: North, Central, South
 - Rural counties are different than urban areas; they feel more ready to re-open than urban counties
 - Every county north of Orange has very few cases combined; almost equal to Broward
 - 59 of 67 counties has not had more than 500 cases; for those 8 counties, more stringent requirements will likely have to be met
- Will take 2-4 weeks for hotels to be fully functional
- Industry certification should come from industry itself
- We live in litigious society; how businesses act will determine how customers return
- These recommendations are starting points

Discussion

- **Walter Carpenter, Chairman, NFIB Florida Leadership Council**
 - Appreciates surgical nature of geography from DBPR
 - Encourages **Beshears** to look inside regulations to have flexibility with regard to some activities, at least on temporary basis; e.g. barbers & certain types of activities are usually not allowed to practice off-site, but could temporarily waive that
- **Jimmy Patronis, FL CFO**
 - Has been reading FL Restaurant Assoc. Guidelines; been telling them to get prepared to re-open; looks forward to working with **Beshears** and **Young** and everyone else
- **Blake Casper, CEO, Caspers Co.**
 - There needs to be some flexibility especially with independent restaurants; FL Restaurant Assoc. has good guidelines
 - Caspers is the largest McDonald's franchise owner in Florida but also owns full-service restaurants; independent restaurants are feeling this the most and must be most supported
- **Sheldon Suga, Chairman, FL Restaurant & Lodging Assoc.**

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- Supports DBPR
- **Dr. Lilian Rivera, FL Dept. of Health**
 - Restaurant & hotel industries have always been very responsible on confronting epidemics in the past
 - DBPR has very good guidelines on how to re-open a business
 - More information is coming out as we learn more about the virus, e.g. on different types of surfaces

Overview of Impacts on Rural Communities and Minority-Owned Small Businesses

Commissioner Terry Burroughs, Chairman, Okeechobee County Board of Commissioners

- Thanks **Beshears** for his mention of rural counties
- Rural businesses are anxious to re-open
- Most are small businesses with less than 20 employees & much of Okeechobee's economy is based on rural tourism
- The county has implemented stay-at-home policies
- Despite federal loans, no Okeechobee businesses have been able to secure federal funding
- Dairy business has acutely suffered over the past month; so bad that a dairy tanker dumped out on ground due to lack of demand
- Cattle is seeing loss of \$111/cow; down 47% from last year; bad outlook for beef cattle ranchers
- Online school is difficult for students because poor broadband in rural FL
- 34% of budget comes from state sharing sales tax revenue
- Working with Chamber of Commerce on re-opening
- Protocols vary for each business
- Small business community cannot endure much past May 1
- In Okeechobee, there is a season that ends in March, so it has been extraordinarily difficult for small businesses who are depending on revenues to last them through October; if not in business for 60 days, they will not survive
- Sufficient time is required for businesses to meet DBPR requirements
- Gyms re-opening is an "interesting concept" with social distancing
- County government has parks and library closed

Glen Gilzean, President & CEO, Central Florida Urban League

- Works with six Urban League affiliates across FL to close equality gaps for ethnic communities
- Works for access to three E's: education, employment, and entrepreneurship
- Entrepreneurship has taken brunt of virus
- Must focus on minority entrepreneurship; nearly one million small businesses are owned by minorities but black-owned businesses generate only 43 cents on the dollar to white-owned businesses

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- Generational poverty spreads like a virus; it ends with opportunity including capital to start a business
- Must bring anchor institutions of urban communities back to life
 - FL should consider offering microloans coupled with outside investments
 - In addition to capital & investment, provide human capital and emotional support for minority entrepreneurs
- Small businesses make up fabric of economy

Overview on Reconvening Large Gatherings, Events, and Conventions

Santiago Corrada, President & CEO of Visit Tampa Bay

- Convention centers are huge economic engines, notably in Duval, Hillsborough, Orange, Broward, and Miami-Dade
- 15 convention events have been canceled in Hillsborough, with a conservative economic impact of \$122 million; more cancellations are occurring for June
 - \$100 million of that is not recoverable because these conventions are on multiyear and multi-city tracks; certain conventions might not be available again for another decade
- Layer recommendations from theme park conversations because convention centers are made for large gatherings
- Need recommendations for sanitation prior to opening; many convention centers have been focusing on this
 - Also sq. footage per attendee for social distancing
 - Biometric testing prior to admission
- Tampa Convention Center secured a very large convention for next year with assumption there will be gradual re-opening of economy
- Tampa is also scheduled to have the next Super Bowl

Discussion

- **Len Brown, EVP & CLO, PGA Tour, Inc.**
 - Asks that, where possible, there is consistency between sports, theme parks, convention centers, etc.
- **Rob Kornahrens, President & CEO, Advanced Roofing and Green Technologies**
 - Says he would like to be included in consistency
- **Corrada**
 - As situations change, restrictions and guidelines should change as well

Further Discussion

Young

- In April, Enterprise Florida announced it was going to start giving microloans to entrepreneurs employing 25 or fewer, with average revenue of \$1.5M or less per year

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- Designed to give loans of \$250,000 or less
- Recommends to contact **Jamal Sowell, President & CEO of Enterprise Florida**

Dr. Rivera

- Ideas dovetail with CDC & DOH guidance
- Especially in hotels, barbershops, cosmetology, look toward DOH infographics to post in businesses

David Kerner, Mayor, Palm Beach County

- Asks **Beshears** about licensing requirements; heavy emphasis on public health to begin with, so what exactly do they go through to keep community healthy
 - **Beshears** says that statutes & rules provide that these must be clean places to begin with; they could open very quickly as long as consumer feels safe and confident there; incumbent on business owner
 - **Kerner** asks if he can explain DBPR's geographical analysis
 - **Beshears** says the 8 counties that have 500 or more cases will be more phased in terms of re-opening; if 85% of businesses of these types could re-open, the rest could be slowly be phased back into business
 - **Kerner** says he is supportive of DBPR's guidance and is appreciative

Recap of Committee Discussions for Re-Opening

Closing by Dana Young, President & CEO of Visit Florida

- Appreciates everyone being involved
- Executive Committee will have received reports from every working group by end of its meeting today
- Again recommends that each member submit own recommendations to Governor's Office
- Next week, work will be compiled into one report to the Governor
- Members will be contacted for further input over the weekend

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4/24/20 Industry Working Group: Agriculture, Finance, Government, Healthcare, Management and Professional Services

Chair: Senate President-Delegate Wilton Simpson

[Agenda](#)

Overview of Impact on Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities

Steve Bahmer, CEO of LeadingAge

- LeadingAge represents the entire continuum of care for senior-assistance services, they serve a diverse population of seniors
- 37,000 assisted living facilities in the state, 130,000 beds. Ranges from assisted-living to nursing home.
- More than 500 providers of affordable housing for low-income seniors. Usually in dense populations and not as regulated, these seniors move independently.
- For prevention: They have been temperature-checking staff and residents at least once a day, monitoring even slight changes in health, visitor restrictions, canceled events, activities, communal dining.
- They've set up transition/isolation units for those that have tested positive
- They have been working hard to battle the negative effects of isolation, which are really problematic for the senior population. Actions: providing tablets, in-house dining, grocery and pharmacy pickup and delivery, telehealth, in-home fitness programs.
- While operations have been affected, they have not closed. Long-term care providers will be cautious about adjusting protocols because seniors are vulnerable
- Moving forward: prioritization of PPE and distribution to long-term care providers. This is a huge concern for them. They will always need more, especially as more residents test positive. They are continuing to go through their own purchasing channels, but there is more demand for PPE and more state assistance is needed.
- Widespread, frequent testing of all residents and staff with rapid results needs to be a priority. Testing is only a snapshot, it must be repeated in order to make sure that asymptomatic carriers are not in long-term care facilities.
- Need clear consistent protocols for re-opening and regulatory guidance. Keeping up with the pace of change in protocols has created lots of confusion.
- Long-term engagement of hospitals and long-term care providers is essential. These organizations work together often and doing so has created less confusion, especially with resource optimization and expansion of testing
- Share concerns with healthcare on liability concerns. They are asking staff to work in the context of the pandemic in unusual ways. Liability concerns are important.
- Occupancy is down for long-term care providers. Move-ins are down. There is a financial impact to the business side of this industry, and costs are on the increase. Financial support for long-term care providers should be a consideration.

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- Expressions of support are necessary. Keep in mind that nursing homes are a health decision, not a lifestyle choice.

Overview of Impact on Professional Healthcare Services

Cassandra Pasley, Division Director, Medical Quality Assurance, Florida Department of Health

- DOH licenses 1.3 million health-care licenses in 42 professions
- License and regulate several types of facilities and establishments
- Oversee E-force (prescription monitoring program)
- There's an existing statute that allows the Surgeon General to reactivate inactive licenses for health-care workers who are inactive without disciplinary actions
- Prioritize licensing clinical licensing personnel, EMTs, nurse, mental health professionals, those who were needed for the emergency response
- Focused now on the factors for reopening health-care services, like private practice
 - Reviewing policies and procedures to ensure protection
 - Assessing current supply of PPE and ability to maintain that supply
 - Ensuring staff know the proper PPE procedures needed for the particular service
 - Are employees up-to-date and trained on COVID-19 response
 - Are there flexibilities in sick leave that will allow employees to feel comfortable disclosing health status
 - Communication with county health guidance
 - Knowledge of symptoms, especially the less known, staying up-to-date
 - Having a contingency plan for potential outbreak in the office, especially with partnerships with other local providers
 - Having sufficient space in practices to ensure physical distance, either through a modified schedule or intake practice
 - Regular housekeeping practices, cleaning and disinfecting on a regular basis.
- DOH will continue to review all new guidance and share new information as needed
- DOH wants to emphasize to practitioners the importance of monitoring resources in order to follow guidance from the state, especially in establishing a surge plan in case of emergency
- Some professional resources from associations would be helpful. For example: American Dental Association should provide dental specific guidance.

Dr. Rudy Liddell, President, Board of Trustees, Florida Dental Association

- The American Dental Association came out with guidance and recommended dental offices close except for emergency care until the end of April
- They have now adopted the ADA regulations with a caveat that they will go with DeSantis' regulations if they are stricter

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- The hope with the ADA guidelines was to keep people from seeking emergency care in hospitals
- Many dentists donated PPE to other front-line workers
- Dental emergency: an infected tooth that causes swelling, it can compromise airway, physical trauma to the teeth, jaw, facial bone
- Elective care does not mean cosmetic care. Delaying elective care can become a dental emergency
- 80% of Florida's dentists are seeing emergency patients, 90% are seeing less than patient volume
- 90% of dentists are concerned that they will not be able to sustain their practice. 47% said they would not be able to reopen if restrictions continue until June.
- If these dentists cannot reopen, this will have an impact on access to dental-care
- Asks if governor can put money in bridge-loan program to help the dentists that are in danger of closing
- Screening will be the most important thing that they do. Before an appointment, they will call a patient and ask questions. Will be asked the same questions when entering the office and getting temperature taken. Plans to screen employees on a daily basis. Requesting that once the reliable rapid tests become available to give them access to that so they can quickly screen
- Will remove high-touch common areas from reception areas. Will have people call from their cars so they don't sit in the office and reduce patient-to-patient interactions
- Changes in PPE: to use the best PPE available. Face shield, level 3 mask, eye protection.
- Right now, dentists are not classified as essential front-line providers, which prevents their suppliers from fulfilling PPE orders. Asks to be classified as such in order to
- For re-opening: looking at a regional approach. They will not be opening to a pre-COVID level, planning on a gradual start.
- They want dental to be essential, do not support the extension beyond May 8th, and dentists will implement safety recommendations

Overview of Impact on the Insurance Industry and the Financial Services Sector

Florida Insurance Commissioner David Altmaier

- Florida insurance market is one of the largest and most unique
- Guidance to industries they regulate:
- To health-insurers: asked them to consider all options in order to help increase testing, waiving deductibles and copays, currently going until June
- OIR reminded them to allow early prescription filling, requested that insurance companies notify OIR if insurance operations become compromised
- Flexibility with premium payments, cancelations, virtual options
- April 6th: workers compensation insurers must comply with all regulations

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- Telehealth: encouraged insurers to allow access
- Encouraged PBMs to work remotely for auditing
- OIR has greatly expanded telehealth access, including access to mental health and behavioral therapy services.
- An emerging issue: business interruption insurance. Coverage usually does not include pandemic like COVID-19, and this has been an international issue in litigation.
- A lot of stakeholders have suggested that retroactively covering this issue should work, but this introduces financial ramifications to the insurers and legal ramifications
- OIR has been monitoring litigation on this issue in the nation as well as federal regulation with the CARES act.
- They are actively preparing for the 2020 hurricane season, but they are asking insurers to consider new methods in case social distancing protocols are in place when there is a hurricane.
- Reviewing filing requirements and other important business practices
- Reviewing the long-term impact of COVID-19. The insurance sector could have an issue pop up that wasn't an issue before, and this could bleed over into other areas of the economy.
- The impact of litigation due to COVID-19. This will also impact the insurance industry and it will bear the brunt of that litigation.

Alex Sanchez, President and CEO, Florida Bankers Association

- Banks of all sizes have adjusted their entire operations, and without interruption consumers have continued to have access to their money and accounts. While lobbies are closed, banks have been open with expanded drive-thru service and digital and phone services.
- Even before the pandemic hit, banks were creating hardship programs to help consumers who were impacted economically.
- Thanks to the modern banking system they have, transactions have been quick and safe.
- Concerns about small businesses: banks were already offering assistance options. They have partnered with the SBA to authorize the Paycheck Protection Program
- Despite early hiccups, banks across the country delivered \$350 billion in emergency loans to small businesses, 60% came from Florida banks, average amount was \$200,000. Florida was 3rd in the nation with 89,000 approved loans, with \$18 million approved for small businesses. Each loan means there are jobs saved in the state
- They are ready for the second wave of these loans due to the \$320 billion approved by the US House for this program
- Florida banks are open and there to help, they are a reflection of the local economies, and have worked extensively to make sure that they are well within their regulatory bounds.

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- When they are able to open lobbies full time, they will follow guidance to ensure the safety of employees and consumers

Discussion

- Jimmy Patronis: LeadingAge, Asks if there has been a trend in the transmission of COVID-19 in nursing-homes?
- Travis Cummings: Any projections they are seeing from the insurance industry about increase in premiums at a time when they are hoping to see decreases?
 - Altmaier: Right now, it's a little early to tell from a premium standpoint. They will have a higher claim volume than normal, but may be offset by the fact that elective services are not being filed. These are unique circumstances, and the conversation is ongoing.
- John Couris: Recommends that nursing homes should talk to their local hospitals about tapping into their supply of PPE. Suggests that when hospitals submit an order, they include what a nursing facility might need and include it in the order. Allocations are easing a little bit, and some hospitals are now slowly building a surplus. Suggests a requirement that health systems meet on a regular basis with skilled-nursing facilities to coordinate logistics, discuss high-risk patients, coordinate resources. Thinks that should be included in a set of recommendations to the governor.
- Alvin Cowans: Credit Unions throughout the state have continually provided full financial services to consumers even with lobbies closed. Have provided SBA loans through the PPP program. Asks if governor and task-force to consider a phase approach to ease fears of staff and communities.
- Mary Mayhew: We will be in this for the long haul with assisted-living facilities. As they focus on reopening, they must remain vigilant in their support for these facilities, and that there needs to be a strong relationship between local facilities. The supply chain is not strong for skilled-nursing facilities and assisted-living facilities like it is now for hospitals. Addressing the CFO's question: the staff are helping the individuals with everything, so the susceptibility of transmission, even with PPE, is difficult to contain because of the level of contact between the nurse and senior.
- Kevin Cairns: Wants Florida to be on the forefront of utilizing technology for risk stratification.

Overview of Impact on Local Governments and Public Safety

Mayor John Dailey, Mayor of Tallahassee

- Have had success with 5 key priorities: Health and wellness of the community is important, as well as continuing services. Tallahassee started early and took a holistic approach by canceling events early.

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- Closed community centers and active parks. Implemented a stay-at-home policy with a curfew that is still in place.
- Implementing continuity of operations protocol. 1/3 of operations are working remotely. Some employees have tested positive, but they have mitigated the spread by closing.
- Implemented sanitation protocols. Limited capacity of public transit and cleaning the buses constantly.
- Enhanced PPE protocols with first responders and worked with 911 dispatch to make sure they are fully informed of COVID-19 cases that might be involved
- Communications were a priority between the different communities. They remain in constant communication and they have found that it's worked well. Communicating directly with citizens has worked well.
- Being able to meet online due to executive order was crucial to keeping the government running.
- Have gotten creative with providing services: virtual building inspection program, which actually helps streamline the process and is a system that they will continue to use after this situation ebbs.
- With the bus drivers: their fleet management were able to custom build and custom manufacture plexiglass shields for protection of bus drivers.
- They have a sock manufacturer in Tallahassee that they asked to make cloth masks, and 25,000 were purchased in Tallahassee. They are about to place a second order. They are handing these out to citizens
- They have been listening to the health care community. They are working closely with the two hospitals in Tallahassee. Created a drive-thru data collection facility for them.
- Small businesses were struggling, they dedicated \$1 million of local tax revenue for a small business loan program. One of the conditions was that they had to apply for either state or federal resources as well.
- The nonprofit community was also suffering. They made a similar \$1 million program for them like the small business program with the same requirements.
- Utilities: They announced they would not be disconnecting services for anyone that lost a job (for 60 days). Committed to working long-term with customers in order for them to pay their bills. Gave a rebate on all utility bills for the month of May.
- Moving forward: they will support and endorse the recommendations that come out of this task force. Are looking for clear guidance, will adopt a holistic approach.
- They recognize that their approach and needs may be different from the rest of the state.
- They want to open up businesses but there are other concerns. For example: parents need to work, but who is going to watch their kids. There needs to be a plan in place on all levels in order to address these issues moving forward.

Amy Mercer, Executive Director, Florida Police Chiefs Association

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- Clarity of direction: state governments should be a consistent source of guidance that can be easily followed. Ask for decisions to be communicated early on and for reopening to occur in phases. They don't want to overwhelm heavily-burdened law enforcement agencies
- The phases should specifically address restrictions on private recreation areas: example, condo pools. Phases should also address public recreation, like public beaches.
- State government should prepare for one or more waves of virus spread.
- Continuing role of law enforcement: asks the expectations of law enforcement to be very clear. Need to make sure that these expectations do not curtail constitutional rights. Law enforcement is responsible for enforcing distancing, but they should not be the social distancing police. They need clear guidelines for citizens and enforcement because confusion will lead to more calls to law enforcement.
- Their main job is to deter and stop crime. They should not sacrifice the rights of any citizens.
- Law enforcement agencies will likely be part of increased litigation in relation to the impairment of civil liberties. Asks the state government to review the applicable liability laws and make appropriate changes.
- Asks if the police academies can continue to operate to have a consistent pipeline of law enforcement personnel. There are 1,000 of law enforcement and correction officers in limbo
- First responders are aware that they will be asked to come in contact with COVID-19, and this will increase as the state reopens. Asks for prioritizing their safety with PPE, providing rapid, reliable testing at a low cost.
- Funding: law enforcement is also dealing with financial issues amidst this pandemic, and the costs will increase as more responding become infected.
- There is a huge burden for them when it comes to homeless people and drug abusers, and the pandemic has made it worse.

Closing Remarks, Wilton Simpson

- Protection of front-line workers, phase approach, partnerships of local services, geography matters and has created different needs and activities and thus it should have a say in how and how soon we reopen the state.