DeWine Press Conference
March 24, 2020

• There are currently 564 confirmed cases in Ohio in 49 counties. There have been 8 confirmed deaths.
• Governor DeWine spoke to the economy, saying if people are dying the economy will not rebound. The priority has to be to save lives by flattening the curve.
• Director Acton gave a presentation on the state’s response to flatten the curve, highlighting how they are working to increase hospital capacity & reduce cases
  • Hotels and dorm rooms will be turned into hospitals in the coming days
  • All personal protective equipment on hand has been distributed to counties
• Attached is the stay-at-home order that is now in effect
  • Lt. Governor Husted asked that businesses not call the police or their health department to interpret the order
  • He urged reading the order, and if you do not feel you qualify based on the language of the order, close
  • Businesses that do not comply will be held accountable
• Reminder that financial services are still open
  • Coronavirus.ohio.gov/businesshelp is a go to website for all business owners
• Unemployment numbers will be shared every Thursday, as the state is not allowed to share daily per the U.S. Labor Department

Ohio General Assembly Update

Attached is a memorandum from Speaker House Householder to all House members regarding session protocol for this week. House session previously scheduled for today was cancelled. The House and Senate are still scheduled for tomorrow.

Prior to session, the House Chamber and other parts of the Statehouse will be disinfected along with electronic devices and electronics, and hand sanitizer will be provided. Members will be sorted alphabetically into small groups, and each group will be assigned to a different room or area. Members of leadership and members speaking on a matter will be in their seats, but will remain with at least 2 seats between everyone. Votes will be cast via roll call, voice vote. Staff will be limited, and session will not be open to the public or press. As always, it will be streamed on the Ohio Channel.

Operating protocols for Senate session have not yet been released.

Both chambers could suspend rules to forgo the committee process in order to act on the emergency legislation.

• Senate Session: Wednesday, March 25 at 1:30 PM
• House Session: March 25, 26, 31 and April 1 and 2 all at 1:00 PM