

Village of Hanover

From: "Congresswoman Cheri Bustos" <email.cheri@mail.house.gov>
To: <villageofhanover@jcwifi.com>
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2020 6:48 PM
Subject: Preparing for the Coronavirus

News from Representative Bustos

CONGRESSWOMAN
Cheri
FIGHTING FOR ILLINOIS' WORKING FAMILIES

Preparing for the Coronavirus

Dear Neighbor –

Many of you have seen news coverage of the Coronavirus as cases in Illinois have been confirmed. There has been a rapid increase in the Coronavirus in countries across the world and it is likely that the number of confirmed cases in the United States will rise.

As communities seek to avoid the continued spread of the virus, I want to share some common-sense preventative measures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that every Illinoisan can take.

DO

- Stay calm. *The majority of documented Coronavirus cases have exhibited mild symptoms that are similar to the common cold or the flu.*
- Wash your hands with soap and water often. Avoid touching your face.
- Disinfect school and work surfaces with soap and water or household cleaner.
- Stay home if you are sick. Call your primary care provider right away if you begin to exhibit symptoms.
- Make sure your vaccinations are up to date. Get a flu shot, if you have not yet. *While the flu shot will not protect against Coronavirus, keeping people healthy will keep people out of the hospital or doctor's office, which will allow physicians to focus on those in need.*
- Rely on trusted sources, such as the Illinois Department of Public Health and the CDC. *Be wary of relying on or sharing false information on social media platforms. When in doubt, check the source and date of the article or page!*

DO NOT

- Do not assume you need a medical mask. *You do not need a mask unless you are symptomatic. According to the CDC, masks should be used by people who show symptoms, to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. Medical masks are crucial for health workers. If masks sell out, patients and providers who need them are put at risk.*
- Do not be in close contact with people who are sick.

3/10/2020

•Do not travel to endemic countries. *Information about travel to specific countries can be found [here](#) through the CDC.*

As of right now, there have been a number of cases confirmed in Illinois. It is likely that this number may rise. I encourage everyone to follow the CDC's best practices. I also encourage all constituents to rely on the CDC and the Illinois Department of Public Health for the most accurate and up-to-date information on confirmed cases.

In Illinois, our state officials and health care system have well-developed practices and an infrastructure in place to manage the Coronavirus. At the national level, Congress is working to ensure that our public health system has additional resources to protect Illinoisans.

In the meantime, I urge everyone to do your part to prevent the spread of this virus. Please remember to take practical measures to stay healthy and protect the most vulnerable in our communities. By working together, we can help prevent the continued spread of the Coronavirus.

If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to my office at the Rock Island, Peoria or Rockford locations. For regular updates, follow my social media linked below or sign up for my newsletter [here](#).

Sincerely,

Cheri

**ROCK ISLAND
OFFICE**
2401 4th Ave.
Rock Island, IL 61201
Phone: (309) 786-3406

PEORIA OFFICE
820 SW Adams St.
Peoria, IL 61602
Phone: (309) 966-1813

**ROCKFORD
OFFICE**
119 N. Church St.
Suite 101
Rockford, IL 61101
Phone: (815) 968-8011

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