

Kaye Kory



DELEGATE
38th District

Delegate Kaye Kory



Committee Appointments:

Governor's Update

Office of Attorney General Mark Herring

Attorney General Mark Herring [issued an advisory opinion](#) outlining the authority of public bodies to conduct meetings and critical public business while maintaining social distancing needs and important transparency and accountability obligations.

- Counties, Cities and Towns, Chair
- Finance
- Labor and Commerce
- Public Safety

Boards & Commissions:

- Joint Commission on Healthcare (JCHC)
- Civic Education Commission
- Advisory Committee on Adult Education

Caucuses:

- Animal Welfare Caucus, Chair
- Joint Women's Healthcare Caucus, Chair
- New Americans Caucus

[Please send me questions about Virginia's response to the coronavirus pandemic. I will contact the Governor to obtain answers. Please email me at \[Delkkory@house.virginia.gov\]\(mailto:Delkkory@house.virginia.gov\)](#)

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Quoting from his office's press release on the opinion:

"The opinion says that Virginia law allows public bodies to conduct meetings electronically if 'the purpose of the meeting is to address the emergency,' which includes meeting 'to make decisions that must be made immediately and where failure to do so could result in irrevocable public harm.' "

Cases in Virginia

The [Virginia Department of Health website](#) continues to update the status of cases in Virginia. As of noon today, 152 positive cases have been reported here in Virginia.

Executive Order 52

Yesterday Governor Northam issued Executive Order 52: Increases in Hospital Bed Capacity in Response to Novel Coronavirus, which lifts certain requirements in order to allow nursing homes and hospitals to add more beds quickly. For more details please click [here](#).

Department of Corrections

Virginia DOC has worked with GTL, the offender phone service provider, to provide inmates with two free phone calls per week beginning March 19, 2020 through April 15, 2020. The two free calls will be applied to the first two calls the offender makes each week.

SOL's

The Governor is working with both the federal Department of Education and the Virginia Department of Education to provide flexibility in the administration of federally- mandated assessments and state-mandated Standards of Learning (SOL) tests. For more details please click [here](#).

FAQ from INOVA

All Inova hospitals and care sites are open and serving patients. The most up to date information on Inova's response to the COVID-19 pandemic can be found at www.inova.org/covid19.

[Is COVID-19 testing available through Inova?](#)

STATE TAX LAW CHANGES

Starting Jan. 1, 2020, a number of new state and local tax laws go into effect in Virginia.

Some of the changes include:

- **Reduced Sales and Use Tax on Essential Personal Hygiene Products: Effective Jan. 1, 2020, the sales tax rate in Virginia on essential personal hygiene products will be reduced to 2.5%. This includes products such as:**
 - **Disposable diapers (regardless of age of user);**
 - **Disposable incontinence pads;**
 - **Disposable bed sheets; and**
 - **Feminine hygiene products like sanitary napkins and towels and tampons.**

Products that don't qualify for the reduced tax rate include but aren't limited to reusable cloth diapers, incontinence pads and undergarments, and reusable bed sheets. For more information, see [Tax Bulletin 19-8](#).

- **Changes to Standard Deduction of Virginia Individual Income Taxes: For taxable year 2019, the standard deduction will increase to \$4,500 for taxpayers filing single, or married filing separately; and \$9,000 for married taxpayers filing jointly.**
- **Extension of Time to Claim the Land Preservation Tax Credit: To receive credits for land or interest in land conveyed or transferred before Jan. 1, 2020, you must apply by Dec. 31 of the third year following the recorded year of the donation. For land or interest in land conveyed or**

Yes, testing is available across the Inova system based on clinical criteria outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Virginia Department of Health.

At this time Inova does not offer drive-thru screening and testing.

Inova has explored drive-thru testing, however due to limited testing kits available nationwide, Inova evaluates all patients and ensures necessary testing is conducted while preserving the capability to continue sustained testing.

Critical need for blood donation

Inova is currently experiencing a shortage of blood supply and inventory is expected to continue to drop with the shortage of donors due to COVID-19. Inova Blood Donor Services has implemented extra precautions to protect donors - it is safe to give blood, and your donation will save a life. Make an appointment at www.inovablood.org or 800-BLOOD-SAVES.

Visitation

Inova Health System will be suspending all in-person visitation as of Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 8 p.m. and encouraging video meetings between patients and loved ones.

More information on the temporary visitation restrictions may be found at www.inova.org/about-inova/temporary-visiting-hours.

Telemedicine

Inova offers the option for appointments to be conducted via telemedicine (video or phone), with flexibility to meet in person if a clinician determines necessary.

[CDC COVID-19 Page](#)

[Virginia Department of Health COVID-19 Page](#)

[VHHA COVID-19 Resources Page](#)

www.inova.org/covid19.

U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has officially announced Virginia's approval for the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program. For more information please click [here](#).

transferred on or after Jan. 1, 2020, you must apply by Dec. 31 of the second year following the recorded year of the donation. See [Land Preservation Tax Credit](#).

- **Telework Expenses Tax Credit**
Expiration: You can't claim this credit for any taxable year beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2019.
- **New Requirement for the Provision of Preparer Tax Identification Numbers:** If you are an income tax professional, for taxable years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2019, state law requires you to include your Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) on any returns you prepare.

For more information and a complete list of 2019 state and local tax legislation, view the [2019 Legislative Summary](#). For more details please click [here](#).

Virginia Employment Commission

You may file a claim for unemployment insurance through this Website by clicking the link below to [File a new claim for unemployment benefits](#) or through VEA Customer Contact Center by calling 1-866-832-2363 Monday through Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm. [Q&A on Claims Related to Coronavirus](#). For more details please click [here](#).

Remember to check on your neighbors

Be Careful and Stay Healthy!



Delegate Kaye Kory

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