

Stracco, Chris

Subject:

FW: Response from Senator Menendez



Dear Mr. Stracco:

Thank you for contacting me to share your concerns about the 2019 coronavirus disease (COVID-19). I appreciate the opportunity to respond to you about this critical issue. Please visit my website for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and resources that may be available to you (<https://www.menendez.senate.gov/coronavirus>).

I am working tirelessly to ensure that New Jersey quickly receives the resources we need to defeat COVID-19. On March 25, 2020, I voted for the bipartisan Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. During negotiations with my Senate colleagues, I fought to secure relief for our health care providers, working families, and small businesses. I am proud that the final bill included billions of dollars of aid and loans to hospitals and health centers so that our frontline health care workers have the resources they need to conduct testing, treat the sick, and ultimately save lives. The bill also included direct payments for working families, major improvements to unemployment benefits, and an unprecedented level of aid for America's small businesses and non-profits. However, as you know, New Jersey's hospitals, small businesses, and working families will need more resources to overcome this crisis. There is much more to be done, and I will continue fighting for New Jersey's priorities as I work with my colleagues in Congress on the next assistance package.

New Jersey is on the front lines of this crisis, and I am urging the Trump Administration to use all of the power and resources of the federal government to support our dedicated health care providers and COVID-19 patients. On March 17, I urged President Trump to invoke the Defense Production Act (DPA) to secure the supply chain and immediately ramp up production of masks, ventilators and respirators. Since the President signed an Executive Order for the DPA on March 18, I have been pushing his Administration to invoke these powers in a coordinated and comprehensive federal effort. I am in constant contact with federal, state, and local agencies, and in the days ahead I will remain focused on doing everything I can to ensure the safety and well-being of all New Jerseyans.

Again, thank you for sharing your thoughts with me. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance to you. I invite you to visit my website (<http://menendez.senate.gov>) to learn more about how I am standing up for New Jersey families in the United States Senate.

Sincerely,



BOB MENENDEZ
United States Senator



Please do not reply to this e-mail as this address is not monitored. To contact my office, please use the contact form found on my website at <http://menendez.senate.gov/contact/>