

# COVID19 Policy

## Answer THE COL!

- ✓ Recognize the truth in science and propose a science-based solution
- ✓ Support funding and suggest a regulatory tool for local communities to limit the spread of the virus
- ✓ Offer hazard bonus pay to all workers who must work in direct contact with the public
- ✓ Believe that a national emergency requires a national response

## Define the Issue

- The COVID19 pandemic is real, killing hundreds of thousands and devastating our economy.
- To this point, the American response has been poor, resulting in the highest case count and the highest death rate among developed nations.
- Further, government regulation has worsened the scope of the economic problem and failed to provide directed, necessary relief.
- The scope of the problem overwhelmed state government resources and abilities.

## Comments on the Past

- The lack of a unified national strategy, relying instead on state initiatives, magnified the problem.
- The spread of COVID19 conspiracy and denial theories only magnified the problem.
- Many states over reacted with economic shutdowns that unnecessarily hurt the economy.
- Many states under reacted, failing to take reasonable precautions, increasing the problem.
- Spending money and waving regulations to speed the development of multiple vaccines was a shining example of good government policy.
- The failure to employ the Defense Production Act to manufacture the needed supplies to lower transmission rates and provide vaccination supplies and distribution was a monumental failure.

## What Needs To Be Done?

- Follow the science. Every government entity, business, and individual should follow all CDC guidelines. Simply put, we should wear our masks, wash our hands, and socially distance until the new vaccines achieve “herd immunity.”
- We support the use of the Defense Production Act to create any and all needed supplies to minimize the vaccination timeline and maximize immunization.
- We demand that Congress work together (setting aside the filibuster) to provide needed, directed relief to both individuals and businesses.
- We oppose “checks for everyone” policies.
- We oppose many of the current “shutdown business” proposals and offer an emergency regulation legislative act.
- We support hazard bonus pay of fifty percent, half funded by the government, for all workers consistently exposed to the public.

## What about Opening Schools?

- Elementary and middle schools should be open. Schools actually do better at controlling the pandemic than homes for this age group.
- High schools and post-secondary schools should be open or closed on a case by case response to the community contagion rate. This age group appears (as a group) unwilling to follow safety protocols regardless of their environment. Consequently, closing schools often restricts the scope of their interaction with the general population, decreasing the spread of the virus.
- Any teacher required to attend school with students immediately should be vaccinated and required to vaccinate unless religiously exempted.

## The COVID19 Emergency Regulation Act

- Every local community and or state that exceeds a CDC guideline on transmission rates must create a COVID19 Regulatory Board. The Board will have four permanent members - an epidemiologist or infectious disease specialist, local hospital representative, and a local and national official – and three “floating members” - a business and worker representative and a customer from the market directly affected by the proposed regulation. All decisions must be 3/5 majority of those present.
- So called “COVID deniers” may not be members of the Board.
- The Board will regulate business and social activities deemed hazardous in the transmission of COVID19.
- The national government will fund required operational changes within budget limits.
- Local government will pass the necessary but minimally sufficient regulation.