

April 26th, 2020
Honorable Governor Kristi Noem
State Capital
Pierre, SD

Dear Governor Noem,

First of all, let me commend you for your hard work in attempting to stem the COVID 19 threat to the citizens of South Dakota, especially with your heavy emphasis on testing. I was pleased to see, according to the data you have collected, that South Dakota is 15th amongst all of the states in testing for the virus.

With other data showing that South Dakota is consistently now as high as 15th in the nation in COVID 19 cases per capita and Sioux Falls is in the top 3 or 4 cities in COVID 19 cases per capita with only cities like New York and Newark, New Jersey surpassing us, we must work together to keep our state safe and keep our businesses open.

After studying this problem carefully and conferring with other state legislators and officials, the conclusion that many of us have reached, is not only should we support your efforts for intensive testing of our citizens, but we should ask you to increase your efforts to work towards total testing of all South Dakota citizens.

Testing all of us will solve the problem of who has the virus and who doesn't, so that we can isolate those that have the virus from those who may be carriers of the virus (particularly virus carriers who show no visible signs of having it). With the interesting results coming from testing already done and identifying possible blood donations from individuals who have been exposed to it for possible curative study. In other words, we could be on a successful leading edge and more quickly put South Dakota back to work!

We must TEST NOW!

We urge you to move forward immediately with this TEST NOW policy. Not implementing this policy will most certainly require us to take more drastic measures, so I urge you to act now and help to save our state businesses from further economic hardships.

Thank you for your attention and concern.

Sincerely,

Representative Michael Saba
District 9
Hartford , SD
Michael.saba@sdlegislature.gov