

From: Representative Greg Walden Representative.Greg.Walden@mail.house.gov
Subject: Update on Coronavirus 4.10.20
Date: April 10, 2020 at 11:02 A



News from Representative Walden



As the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to spread across our state, our nation, and the world I wanted to update you on the latest information. My top priority is ensuring that our local health care providers have the resources they need.

The situation is rapidly changing, but I will continue to provide updates and resources. I am in constant contact with local and federal officials and will continue to provide updates on my COVID-19 [resource page](#). Additionally, you can stay updated by following my Twitter [@RepGregWalden](#) or my Facebook page [@RepGregWalden](#).

Below you will find some helpful updates and resources on the coronavirus.

It is an honor to represent you in the U.S. Congress.

Best regards,

Greg Walden
U.S. Representative
Oregon's Second District

The latest on the coronavirus: *The situation is rapidly changing, but I wanted to share the latest information and news on the outbreak and relief efforts.*

Senate Fails to Replenish Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Funding:

Wednesday, President Trump said that he asked Congress to pass \$250 billion in more funding for the Paycheck Protection Program "as soon as possible."

Thursday morning, Senate Democrats blocked a unanimous consent



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request from Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to pass standalone emergency funding for the hugely popular Paycheck Protection Program that is saving small-business jobs. Small businesses and the workers they employ are barely hanging on. This funding is specifically designed to keep people on the payroll at their jobs. If employers cannot retain employees, those people lose their job-based insurance. Read more [here.](#)

Bringing Home Americans:

The State Department as of 4/7/20 has brought home nearly 46,000 Americans from over 70 countries on 449 flights.

Currently, we have 13 open cases of Oregonians abroad that are trying to return to the United States. My office is in constant contact with these Oregonians, and the State Department and I are doing all we can to get everyone safely home.

The Department of State has advised that U.S. citizens avoid all international travel because of COVID-19. Citizens who remain in countries where commercial travel is available should arrange immediate return to the U.S. The situation surrounding COVID-19 is rapidly changing and as a result the Department of State's ability to provide assistance in arranging evacuation flights may become more limited. Learn more [here.](#)

We Are In This Together:

We are seeing many individuals and companies lend a helping hand during this pandemic.

In Hood River, a windsurfing company has started making medical face shields. Read more [here.](#)

In Redmond, a company that normally sterilizes surgical equipment has reconfigured their facility to be able to sterilize face masks. Read more [here.](#)

A Grants Pass-based company announced they will donate 100% of their April profits to an organization that helps provide supplies to medical workers on the front lines. Read more [here.](#)

You can find a list of more ways Oregonians are helping out [here](#) and a list of what people are doing across our nation [here.](#)

More Funding for Oregon:

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) awarded over \$23 million to Community Health Centers in Oregon, including 11 in the Second District. Read more [here.](#)

The CDC also awarded \$2.6 million to Oregon to support the COVID-19 response. The funding awarded will support numerous activities

including lab equipment, supplies, staffing, shipping, infection control, surge staffing, monitoring of individuals, and data management. The funding will also support the Emerging Infections Program (EIP) to enhance surveillance capacities.

Mitigating the Spread:

CDC is advising the use of simple cloth masks to slow the spread of the virus. Surgical and N95 masks should be reserved for health care workers. Learn more [here](#).

Helping Hospitals:

President Trump announced that the Army Corps of Engineers has assessed more than 100 facilities in all 50 states and is building temporary hospitals and alternative care sites in numerous states, including Oregon.

Application Now Open for Paycheck Protection Program:

Businesses can now apply through their local lender for the Paycheck Protection Loan Program that will provide businesses with up to eight weeks of funding to keep employees on the payroll. The Treasury Department released useful information for lenders and borrowers, and a copy of the application [here](#).

Vice President Pence announced that the Paycheck Protection Program has dispersed more than \$125 billion in forgivable loans for 30,000 new users with 3,900 lenders participating.

Checks for Social Security Recipients:

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin announced that Social Security recipients who do not normally file tax returns will automatically receive their coronavirus relief checks. Additionally, he said they will not have to file tax returns to receive their checks. Read more [here](#).

Watch out for COVID-19 Scams:

Both [the Federal Trade Commission](#) and the [Federal Communications Commission](#) are reporting a spike in coronavirus related scams including home testing kits, fake cures, and other malicious attempts to prey on COVID-19 fears. Read more [here](#).

What's Walden Doing: *An update on my latest actions.*

[Greg Walden Statement for National Public Health Week](#)

"On behalf of the people of Oregon's Second Congressional District, I want to thank our health care providers during National Public Health Week. You're on the front lines every day, but certainly these days fighting the coronavirus. We all say thank you to you and your families for what you're doing to help all of us..." said Walden. Read his full

statement [here](#).

[Greg Walden Releases Statement on Senate failing to pass needed funding to replenish the Paycheck Protection Program \(PPP\)](#)

Greg Walden released a statement in reaction to the Senate failing to pass needed funding to replenish the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) playing partisan games, delaying much-needed aid to Americans during a global pandemic. Read more [here](#).

[Greg Walden Announces over \\$23 million for Oregon Community Health Centers](#)

Greg Walden released a statement applauding the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for awarding over \$23 million to Community Health Centers (CHCs) in Oregon, including 11 centers in the Second District, to help with coronavirus response efforts. Read more [here](#).

[Greg Walden Encourages Oregonians to Follow the CDC Guidelines on COVID-19](#)

Greg Walden released a video statement encouraging that everyone follows the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) COVID-19 guidelines. Read more [here](#).

[Greg Walden: 'Take full advantage of the Paycheck Protection Program'](#)

Greg Walden released a statement encouraging small businesses to apply for the Paycheck Protection Program, the new Small Business Administration's 7A loan program. Read more [here](#).

Resources to Know and Share: *Here are some helpful resources and information on COVID-19.*

Helpful Resources on PPE:

CDC updated the PPE Burn Rate Calculator, a spreadsheet-based model that will help health care facilities plan and optimize the use of PPE for response to COVID-19. More [here](#).

You can now see PPE shipments to Oregon counties [here](#).

ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

The Paycheck Protection Program prioritizes millions of Americans employed by small businesses by authorizing up to \$349 billion toward job retention and certain other expenses.

Small businesses and eligible nonprofit organizations, veterans organizations, and Tribal businesses described in the Small Business Act, as well as individuals who are self-employed or are independent contractors, are eligible if they also meet program size standards.

- For a top-line overview of the program [CLICK HERE](#)
- If you're a lender, more information can be found [HERE](#)
- If you're a borrower, more information can be found [HERE](#)
- The application for borrowers can be found [HERE](#)

The Small Business Administration has also launched a hotline for lenders who need assistance accessing SBA's E-Tran system. That number is: 1-833-572-0502. More answers from the SBA can be found [here](#).

Other resources on the Paycheck Protection Program:

- [Coronavirus.gov Small Business Resources Page](#)
- [Treasury Department Overview On The Paycheck Protection Program](#)
- [SBA.gov/Coronavirus Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources Page](#)

INFORMATION FOR AMERICANS ABROAD:

The State Department is making efforts to bring home Americans, including through commercial flights, chartered flights, and military transport. Any American abroad who needs assistance should contact their local U.S. embassy and register with the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP), available [here](#) or by calling 1-888-407-4747.

If you decide to travel abroad or are already outside the United States:

- Consider returning to your country of residence immediately using whatever commercial means are available.
- Have a travel plan that does not rely on the U.S. Government for assistance.
- Review and follow the [CDC's guidelines](#) for the prevention of coronavirus.
- Check with your airline, cruise lines, or travel operators regarding any updated information about your travel plans and/or restrictions.
- Visit [travel.state.gov](#) to view individual Travel Advisories for the most urgent threats to safety and security.
- Visit Embassy webpages on COVID-19 for information on conditions in each country or jurisdiction.
- Visit the [Department of Homeland Security's](#) website on the latest travel restrictions to the United States.

ASSISTANCE FROM HHS AND FEMA:

HHS and FEMA have fielded many requests to assist or partner with the Federal Government in response to the COVID pandemic.

- Organizations or individuals seeking to contract with the federal government to import or manufacture medical products to aid the U.S. response submit information to FEMA through the a Request for Proposal, available [here](#).
- Organizations or individuals that wish to donate medical supplies or equipment can submit that information [here](#).
- Other inquiries from organizations or individuals, including individuals

- Other inquiries from organizations or individuals, including individuals who want to volunteer or organizations that want to produce a product related to the COVID response, among other inquiries, can be referred to <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus/how-to-help>.

How to schedule a blood donation appointment:

- Visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org). Click on “Schedule an Appointment” under the “Donate Blood” tab. From there you can enter your zip code to find a blood drive near you.
- [Red Cross Blood Donor App](#)
- Call 1-800-RED-CROSS
- Use Amazon Alexa [Blood Scheduling Skill](#)

Fast Facts: *Here are some helpful stats on COVID-19 as of 4/9/20*

Cases of COVID-19: (as of 4/9/20)

U.S. current case count - There are currently at least 465,750 cases and 16,684 deaths in the United States, as reported by Johns Hopkins and other media sources.

Oregon current case count: 1,321

Benton: 21

Clackamas: 109

Clatsop: 5

Columbia: 10

Crook: 1

Curry: 3

Deschutes: 50

Douglas: 12

Grant: 1

Hood River: 3

Jackson: 44

Josephine: 16

Klamath: 20

Lane: 33

Lincoln: 4

Linn: 49

Malheur: 2
Marion: 235
Morrow: 5
Multnomah: 302
Polk: 29
Tillamook: 4
Umatilla: 11
Union: 3
Wallowa: 1
Wasco: 7
Washington: 311
Yamhill: 29

Testing - in Oregon: As of 4/9/20

Positive: 1,321

Negative: 24,306

Total (since 1/24): 25,627

PPE in Oregon: *These numbers reflect the amount of PPE Oregon has on hand. We anticipate these numbers to rise as more are distributed. (Below is as of 4/6/20) You can now see PPE shipments to Oregon counties [here](#).*

N95 Masks: 519,327

Surgical Masks: 282,068

Face Shield: 33,039

Surgical Gowns: 71,837

Gloves: 1,445,237

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