
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

March 23, 2020



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

COVID-19 — RHODE ISLAND — 3/23/2020

As of March 22, 2020, the state of [Rhode Island](#) has 83 confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus. No deaths attributed to the virus have been reported. According to [news](#) reports and the Governor's [website](#), Governor Gina Raimondo has taken the following actions in response to the COVID-19 virus:

- Signed a declaration establishing a state of emergency in response to the virus.
- Waived waiting period and health certification requirements for people applying for unemployment insurance benefits.
- Limited visitors to nursing home facilities.
- Activated approximately 1,000 National Guard service personnel to staff call centers, deliver food, operate drive-by testing centers, and perform other duties.
- Closed all K-12 schools in the state for at least two more weeks.
- Banned on-premise food consumption at restaurants, bars, coffee shops, and other eateries at least through March 30.
- Closed all day care centers.
- Banned gatherings of 25 persons or more.
- Directed the state Department of Health to provide free meals to all individuals aged 18 and under.

Rhode Island's two casinos are closed in response to the virus. News reports indicate that casino revenue is the third largest source of Rhode Island tax revenue.

The Rhode Island House and Senate cancelled all session activity and committee meetings scheduled for March 16 through March 27.

LSA Staff Contact: Jeff W. Robinson (515.281.4614) jeff.robinson@legis.iowa.gov

Doc ID 1133505