FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division March 20, 2020



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

VIRGINIA RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Virginia Legislature. The Virginia Legislature finished its regular legislative session on March 12, 2020, and is scheduled to return on April 22, 2020, for its regular reconvened session to deal with any gubernatorial vetoes and amendments. Because the legislature adjourned before COVID-19 became a national emergency, the legislature has not taken any actions to address the issue, although there are calls to reconvene for a special session.

Related Information. Governor Ralph Northam declared a <u>state of emergency</u> in response to COVID-19 on March 12, 2020. The governor has outlined measures similar to those in other states, including closing schools, deferring tax payments, making unemployment benefits easier to access, urging social distancing, modifying state childcare assistance, and increasing access to Medicaid. A complete list of actions is available <u>here</u>.

Cases. As of March 20, 2020, there were 114 cases of COVID-19 in Virginia, including 20 hospitalizations and 2 deaths. There have been 2,325 individuals tested for the virus in Virginia. Statistics on the number of cases are updated daily at 12:00 p.m. Eastern time here.

LSA Staff Contact: Jess R. Benson (515.281.4611) jess.benson@legis.iowa.gov

Doc ID 1133503