

MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

JOHN RIZZO
MINORITY FLOOR LEADER
11TH DISTRICT

July 14, 2020

Dr. Randall Williams, Director, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

912 Wildwood
P.O. Box 570
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Dr. Williams:

This letter is to formally request that the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services provide COVID-19 testing to anyone working within the Missouri Capitol in conjunction with any and every extraordinary session of the Missouri General Assembly called by the governor.

Recently, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Cole County increased significantly, with the largest share of confirmed cases occurring among people between 20 and 39 years of age. The General Assembly must not create further hardships for the Cole County Health Department, or local hospitals, by contributing to the spread of COVID-19, especially in the Jefferson City area where more than 40,000 people live and work.

The community testing events that DHSS has put on with the Missouri National Guard have been very successful, and I want to commend you and your staff for facilitating these important events. A similar testing event in the Capitol can help to ensure the health and safety of people within the building, while also demonstrating to state leaders the importance of COVID-19 testing.

As you are aware, the Missouri General Assembly has authorized significant amounts of federal money to provide COVID-19 testing, and a Capitol testing event would be well within the authority and responsibility of your department.

I greatly appreciate everything our healthcare heroes are doing to help test, track and slow the spread of COVID-19 in Missouri. If my office can in any way assist you in facilitating a COVID-19 testing event in the Capitol, please let me know.

I look forward to your response, in writing, to this formal request.

Sincerely,



State Senator John J. Rizzo
Missouri Senate Democratic Leader
Missouri State Senate District 11