

President Wisconsin State Senate

October 9, 2020

The Honorable Tony Evers Governor of the State of Wisconsin 115 East, State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Evers,

Last week after hearing directly from hospital leaders in Northeast Wisconsin regarding their need for more resources, I reached out to the White House to request options for assistance. Working with Admiral Brett Giroir of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), a number of untapped federal resources have been made available to these hospitals including testing machines and kits, additional staffing support, and a mobile testing center to aid in community testing.

Some of the supplies, like the testing machines and kits, have already been sent directly by HHS to our local hospitals with more on the way. Other resources like the mobile testing center and support staffing require state action to implement, with that action still pending.

I have been made aware that materials for the mobile testing center, which can be up and running over a period of 72 hours and provide up to 5,000 daily tests to our community, have been shipped to Wisconsin, however, further action is required by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) regarding a site determination and staffing implementation. Local hospitals have identified a potential site location, but DHS must transmit that information to HHS.

As my staff mentioned to your staff yesterday, I would like to speak with you as soon as possible to ensure that these federal resources are up and running so that Northeast Wisconsin can face this challenge head on.

I am requesting that you provide my office with a determination on the setup location for the testing site, an update on when the site will be operational, and the status of the state's application for federal medical staffing resources.

I cannot stress enough the importance of acting quickly to provide the necessary resources to the communities of Northeast Wisconsin. I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Sincerety

Roger Roth

Senate President

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