

[TEMPLATE - PLEASE PERSONALIZE BEFORE SENDING TO YOUR GOVERNOR, AND BE RESPECTFUL!!!]

As a concerned constituent, I know that there are many issues you must deal with now and in the coming weeks to protect all the residents of our state and help contain the global threat represented by the coronavirus. It is with public safety and the necessity for uninterrupted healthcare in mind that I ask you now to ensure continued access to legal, regulated cannabis for the duration of this crisis.

There are so many people in this state that depend on reliable access to quality-controlled cannabis to maintain their health and well-being. At a time when health considerations are the top priority and our healthcare systems are soon to be overburdened, it is absolutely necessary that we allow every tool at our disposal to be employed in the safest possible manner.

Cannabis businesses are ready to continue providing this much-needed access. This industry is already practicing the highest standards in cleanliness and safety. Additional measures including curbside pickup and delivery options can help ensure social distancing and public safety.

By declaring cannabis businesses “essential,” or by otherwise assuring the public that your constituents will have continued access to regulated cannabis, the state can also stem panic buying and stockpiling that contribute to potentially dangerous conditions for everyone involved and may leave some of our most vulnerable residents without the medicine that works best for them.

If the state fails to ensure safe and legal access, the consequences could be severe. Not only will patients suffer, but staff and customers at cannabis businesses could be in danger in the coming days because of rushes and overcrowding. In the longer term, an important pillar of the national economy will be hurt far more than other industries. Lack of access through regulated channels will also push many consumers into the illicit market, where products are unregulated and untested, conditions are unsafe, and there is zero oversight or control.

At a time when there are many difficult decisions facing governors nationwide, this is an easy one. Please do the right thing and commit to continued legal cannabis access in the interest of mitigating the harms of this public health and economic crisis.