

NCCBG Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: 04.29.20



Executive Director Update - April 29, 2020 Coronavirus Information

Good afternoon,

The legislature convened yesterday to work on North Carolina's COVID-19 Recovery Act. The NC Senate filed S.B.704 which appropriates \$1.2B in relief versus the Governor's \$1.5B package. The NC House is taking up several bills (which will eventually be combined) that appropriates \$1.7B in relief. *Let the negotiations begin.* The good news is there are no surprises in any of the versions. We've attached <u>S.B.704</u>, if you would like to review it for yourself. In particular, please note Section 4.2. (a), (b), (c),(d) which deals with the Golden Leaf Foundation's small business relief process. Also, Section 6.27 which deals with Business Immunity for Essential Businesses. It is expected that a compromise bill will be reached in short order and then, this session will adjourn until the summer.

Anticipation grows around reopening, but it will be driven by the numbers. The metrics on a rolling 7-day average need to show decline and/or stabilization. So May 8th (our target date for Phase I reopening) is not etched in stone. That said, NCDHHS is actively working on protocols for reopening businesses, working with both health and impacted business associations. In order to ensure that the voice of our industry is heard, we continue to work cooperatively with NCRLA and NCRMA as our interests are closely aligned and all our organizations carry greater legislative weight. So far the approach to designing protocols has been pragmatic and appropriate. As soon as we have details, we will report them to you.

And because understanding what is happening in other states will help you. Some more interesting reads:

• From Inside Hook:

- <u>What Bars Will Look Like After Coronavirus</u>
- From *Restaurant Business:*
 - Can restaurants survive at 25% capacity?
 - OD ED Lenders weigh a new landscape
- From Brew Bound:
 - <u>A reality check from Monday Night Brewing Survey</u>

Numbers released by NCDHHS show the rolling seven day average is continuing to increase, albeit slightly, statistically it could be considered flat depending on the variance they consider significant. New diagnosed cases rose to 9,948 or 380, but nearly 6,000 tests were completed so that is a good sign. The death rate trend is tracking down and has for the past couple of weeks, but hospitalizations, which on a seven day rolling basis had been flat, jumped yesterday rising by 88 to 551.

It is important to continue to keep social distancing and safety protocols in place. It will accomplish two things: help move our contagion numbers in the right direction, and show the industry as responsible members of the community. Both are critical in these uncertain times.

Hang in there folks better days will come... just wish we all knew when.

Stay healthy my friends.

Remember...

- You are on the front lines to help keep your patrons and employees safe and healthy. Follow the Guidance and Executive Orders!
- Use common sense in planning and finding ways to market and sell your products.
- Keep perspective, as we are in the midst of a global crisis.
- The faster we stop the spread of the virus the faster we can get back to business.
- Stay focused on what you can control and be ready to adapt.
- And, as always, take care of each other, your employees, your customers, and yourselves, as this will be a long and challenging road

Please keep us posted on what is going on either by reaching out to me with your questions, <u>richard@ncbeer.org</u>, or posting consumer related information to <u>promotions@ncbeer.org</u>

UPDATES AND RESOURCES

https://www.ncdhhs.gov/es/divisions/public-health/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-response -north-carolina/nc-updates https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019 https://www.brewersassociation.org/brewing-industry-updates/coronavirus-resource-center/ https://ncbeer.org/covid-19.php

