



# 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

## NCCBG Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: 03.17.20 (#2)

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Well friends, it's been a helluva day to say the least. At 2pm today, Governor Cooper announced that all restaurants and bars are to close for dine-in guests effective 5PM to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. This action does include our brewery taprooms. Take-out, curbside pickup, and retail delivery are allowed.

The Governor also announced that, effective with this same executive order, unemployment benefits are being expanded to help those employees affected by COVID-19 shut downs. More specifically, Governor Cooper announced the following:

1. It removes the one week waiting period to apply for benefits
2. It removes the requirement to look for another job during the unemployed period
3. It allows employees who have lost their jobs, and in some case have had their hours reduced due to COVID-19 issues to apply for unemployment
4. It replaces the in-person interview requirement by allowing this to be done online or by phone.
5. It directs that unemployment losses will NOT be counted against employers

This is a great first step in helping your employees who may be furloughed. But there are still many unanswered questions about how your businesses may apply for relief. I am reaching out to the other affected Associations (NCRLA, NCRMA, and NCBWWA) to discuss how we can collectively bring our concerns forward in order to have greater impact at the state level.

On a national level, the BA is generating a position paper to our congressmen and women in Washington that seeks immediate business relief to help our industry weather this storm. I should have that communication by tomorrow and will distribute it out to you.. I anticipate things like; SBA relief on loans, access to liquidity, excise tax relief, general loan relief to name a few (see Bob Pease interview in BrewBound

[https://www.brewbound.com/news/2020/brewers-associations-bob-pease-discusses-canceling-cbc-the-road-ahead-for-small-brewers?utm\\_source=Brewbound&utm\\_campaign=d81977a36d-mailchimp&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_6026cb3473-d81977a36d-169799281](https://www.brewbound.com/news/2020/brewers-associations-bob-pease-discusses-canceling-cbc-the-road-ahead-for-small-brewers?utm_source=Brewbound&utm_campaign=d81977a36d-mailchimp&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_6026cb3473-d81977a36d-169799281))

The NC Craft Brewers Guild will continue to share information as we receive it. In addition to these notices, check the NCBeer.org industry resource page at <https://ncbeer.org/covid-19.php>. We have also now begun to collect information on how consumers can access your beer (send info to [promotions@ncbeer.org](mailto:promotions@ncbeer.org)). This information will be posted on the NCBeer.org consumer resource page titled, "Covid-19 NCBeer Finder". This webpage will be updated regularly, and as quickly as possible, as we receive your information.

These are crazy and unprecedented times, at this writing there are now 66 cases reported in the state and no fatalities thus far. Also, all cases can be traced to direct contact... meaning there have been no community cases. This is good news. The extraordinary measures being taken are for the collective good of our society, but that does little for the financial pain that will ensue. I ask that we stay calm, focus on what is within our power to affect, and execute on those actions in an appropriate manner. Be kind to one another and stay healthy... more tomorrow.

## **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>