

Controlling the COVID-19 Virus in California

Sen. Steve Glazer (D-Contra Costa) called on Gov. Gavin Newsom to return most of the state to a Shelter-in-Place policy until the COVID-19 virus is under control in California and to implement other measures to support vulnerable people, gather and share information about the virus and set transparent metrics for reopening the economy.

Specifically, Glazer proposed:

Shelter-in-Place

- Return to sheltering in place for any county with a positive test rate greater than 2 percent over the past 14 days. This would mean all people in those counties are required to remain at home except for essential work and trips for food or health care.
- Remove the ability of counties to reopen using a process that grants local “variances” to the statewide order.
- A county that drops below the 2 percent threshold shall remain under the Shelter-in-Place order if it is adjacent to or in the same Metropolitan Area as a county with a rate greater than 2 percent.
- Require a 14-day quarantine for anyone entering the state from a state or country with a positive test rate of greater than 2 percent, including California residents who leave the state and then return. This rule would also apply to anyone entering California from a state or country that does not report its positive test rate on a daily basis.

Public information/Enforcement

- Mandatory signage warning seniors and vulnerable people not to enter non-essential workplaces or businesses.
- Community “surveillance” testing to provide better information about the extent of the infection’s spread.

- Aggregate and make public data from testing and tracing to identify the primary sources of the spread.
- Require state and county enforcement protocols

Support/Assistance:

- Expansion of program to deliver meals or groceries to seniors and other vulnerable people, including meals prepared by restaurants.
- Provide alternative housing to people who test positive and are not able to isolate from family members or roommates
- Require all grocery stores over a certain size to provide curbside pick-up of orders placed online.
- Increase unemployment benefits or direct assistance to affected workers

Begin lifting restrictions in phases:

- When a county and its neighboring counties have a positive test rate below 2 percent, and
- The state has sufficient testing to test every symptomatic person and asymptomatic people who have been exposed to the virus, and
- Sufficient contact tracing to trace all known contacts of every person who tests positive

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