

From the House

Capitol Update on COVID-19

By Rep. Matt Ritter

The corona virus (COVID-19) is impacting every facet of life in Hartford. From schools, to families, to businesses – we are all impacted in a very real way. As we continue to navigate this new public health reality, please contact me at Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov, or by phone at (860)240-8489, if you have any questions or concerns.

Our schools are offering students with hot and cold food options for pickup at lunchtime.

A printable map of meal locations is available online at www.hartfordschools.org/understanding-coronavirus.

CT Small businesses and nonprofits are eligible for disaster relief loans of up to \$2 million from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). Small businesses and nonprofits can learn more and apply for financial assistance at www.sba.gov/disaster or call the SBA at 1-800-659-2955.

You can also call the state Department of Economic and Community Development at 860-500-2333 to learn more about the SBA program and other state programs that may be able to lend a hand including the new Connecticut Recovery Bridge Loan Program. The programs will make \$25 million available to Connecticut businesses and nonprofits that have 100 or fewer employees to assist with cash flow.

Small businesses and nonprofits can now apply for one-year, no-interest loans of up to \$75,000 under the program administered by the state's Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).

Other COVID-19 news:

Drive-through COVID-19 testing is available. Hartford Healthcare has opened its drive-through testing center at 560 Hudson Street and St. Francis Hospital has a location at 1000 Asylum Street...patients with symptoms and possible exposure can be tested without leaving their vehicles.

The deadline for filing state and federal personal income tax returns has been extended from April 15 to July 15, 2020.

Stop & Shop is offering special shopping hours for its customers over 60. From 6 a.m. to 7:30 a.m., shoppers 60-plus will have sole access to the store.

For the most up to date info on coronavirus visit the state's COVID-19 hub at ct.gov/coronavirus.