

### **8.10.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:**

- Day 163 of pandemic
- 54,000 tests conducted yesterday, 476 were positive (0.88%)
- 2 lives lost on 8/9
- 535 hospitalizations
- 127 ICU patients
- 62 intubations
- Gov stressed the importance of compliance and enforcement
- SLA & State Police issued 19 violations last night

#### **STORM RESPONSE:**

- PSC will conduct an investigation on utilities
  - Gov to PSC: "be as aggressive as the law will allow"
- Gov said Con Ed and PSEG may have their franchises revoked if PSC finds them guilty

#### **SCHOOLS:**

- 107 school districts have not submitted a reopening plan
- Schools cannot open if they do not submit a plan by Friday (8/14)
- Gov: Parents do not have to send their children to school

#### **FEDERAL:**

- Gov announced he will be doing a briefing on the federal response at 1:30 p.m. today

#### **Q&A:**

- Why can schools reopen if indoor dining and museums are closed?
- Schools district plans are different; rely on "cohorting"
- Students will be in smaller, controlled, and isolated groups
- "Smart plans" will be determined by parents
  
- Asked about the joint legislative hearing on COVID-19 and nursing homes
- Gov does not support an independent investigation
- "Nobody will agree on who is an independent expert"
  
- Asked about school schedules, how do we get the economy up and running
- Gov said the locality must work with parents
- Some school districts are setting up child care facilities
- Gov expects school districts to revise their plans after talking with parents
  
- Gov press office will post a list of the 107 schools that have not submitted a plan

#### **Notes from the Governor's conference call #2 briefing:**

**(Joined by KY Gov. Beshear [D] - US Sen Maj Ldr McConnell is from KY)**

- Cuomo references role as Chair of the National Governor's Association (NGA)
- Fiscal situation used to be a "blue state problem" but is now also a "red state problem"
- Cuomo states Pres. Trump Executive Orders make the situation more complicated
  - increases the costs, and states can't afford it
  - the EOs will be challenged in court
  - "an anchor does not help a drowning man"
  - Reiterates points from Sunday's phone call

Beshear: COVID a 50-state challenge, references personal challenges and economic challenges.

- References vaccine, and states that KY has worked well with the Federal Government.
- "My motivation is not to criticize". The Pres. EO is "not workable in its current form"

- References direct aid, and its benefit on the KY economy
- Also disagrees with the 25% UI match in Pres. EO
- Requests admin costs to be assumed by Feds
  - What ever the agreement is, should be worked through the same system as the prior direct aid program
- Either need changes in the EO, or Congressional action

Cuomo additional points:

- Virtually every governor that administering the UI administration is very complicated. Second call to keep it within the prior program structure

Q&A:

- Can NY assume cost of EOs?
- Cuomo says he wouldn't pay it and would have a legal challenge to Pres' authority on this matter.
- Cuomo revives challenge to McConnell to pass law enabling states to go bankrupt. "He should propose it, if he was telling the truth."
  
- What role can Republican governors play?
- Urges them "not to play politics and to tell the truth", and again calls attention to their "silence" and describes it as "protective politics".
- Republican governors are expressing their concern, more privately
  
- Asked about airshows
- Mujica: Not the type of event that would be approved