

Governor Kevin Stitt
State of Oklahoma
2300 North Lincoln Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

March 22, 2020

Dear Governor Stitt,

In response to your recent statement welcoming ideas on how to battle the deadly COVID-19 virus, I am responding with a plan of action. This plan is based on extensive conversations I am having with public health experts and scientists who recognize the acute threat of the public health crisis on our hands. It is serious, and the consequences of continued inaction on the part of the executive branch are severe.

“It’s not government’s job,” are words you echoed at a recent press conference. In the face of one of the greatest threats our nation has seen, you have chosen to defer the power – given to you by the people of our state – to mayors. With absent direction from state leadership, mayors of some of our largest cities stepped up, taking wise and courageous actions to protect their communities and I commend them. They made hard decisions with real economic implications, but they put the public’s health first. However, we are far from establishing the policies needed to mitigate the imminent destruction of the well-being of our people.

To curb this pandemic, it will take bold leadership; we need a united plan, across the state.

Are our hospitals prepared to treat the critically ill patients who have contracted COVID-19? Are we mobilizing medical supplies and resources to support those hospitals? Are we properly and urgently advising our citizens they should not patronize in close-proximity places like nail and hair salons, massage parlors and spas?

We can’t afford not to act any longer, Governor. In the interest of winning the battle against this virus and saving the lives of our fellow Oklahomans, I offer the following actions in response to your call for ideas:

Oklahoma’s COVID-19 Plan for Governor Stitt to Enact Today:

- Collect all essential medical supplies used for elective surgeries, or by med spas and other medical organizations conducting non-critical procedures. This means temporarily postponing these non-critical luxuries today.
 - This will restock and better prepare our hospitals in dire-need of these essentials, while also creating social distance for those health care providers and patients who otherwise would have been in close contact with one another.
- Contact foreign countries and others to secure supplies of masks, gloves and protective gear.
- Establish and implement best practices for medical providers to use during this outbreak.
- Immediately survey all health care providers for readiness and supply stock.
- Temporarily suspend personal-touch services in order to adhere to social distancing, which includes, but is not limited to, hair salons, nail salons, spas and massage parlors.

- Ensure all critical employees to the supply chain are working in safe environments. Coordinate plans with these essential businesses so they know best practices for:
 - social distancing
 - personal hygiene
 - shared space
 - business continuity
- Innovate how grocery stores operate by providing drive-thru pick up or delivery for all customers and encouraging the use of technology.
- Ensure critical supply chain businesses are coordinating with state government to maintain their services while protecting their employees.
- Mandate food preparation and other critical portions of the supply chain adhere to newly established uniform standards to prevent transmission of the virus.
- Ban all non-essential travel from Oklahoma airports.

We need to communicate clearly and openly with Oklahomans. As I have a duty to care for my employees at Paycom, you as governor also have a duty to care for and warn all Oklahomans.

To that point, it is my urgent and sincere hope you will take to heart the actions I have outlined. They will save lives and that alone should be foremost on your mind at this moment.

With Oklahomans at heart,



Chad Richison