

July 1, 2020

Honorable Holly Mitchell, Chair
Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee

Honorable Phil Ting, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee

Honorable Anthony Portantino, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee

Honorable Lorena Gonzalez, Chair
Assembly Appropriations Committee

Disaster Response-Emergency Operation Account—Extension of COVID-19 Direct Response Operations Costs for Activities Continuing Beyond 120 Days

Pursuant to the provisions of Government Code section 8690.6, the following report is respectfully submitted.

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency for an outbreak of a respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus. Government Code section 8690.6 makes Disaster Response-Emergency Operations Account (DREOA) funds available, upon allocation by the Director of Finance, to state agencies for disaster response operation activities occurring within 120 days of a proclamation by the Governor of a state emergency. This statute also authorizes the use of DREOA for activities that occur beyond the initial 120 days of an emergency proclamation, subject to specified conditions and notification by the Director of Finance to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

As of June 15, 2020, California had 151,452 confirmed cases of COVID-19, with 3,103 positive COVID-19 hospital patients. There had also been 5,089 deaths in the state. These indicators have increased significantly over the past two weeks. As of June 29, 2020, confirmed cases have increased to 216,550 (a 43 percent increase), hospitalized patients have increased to 4,776 (a 54 percent increase), and COVID-19-related deaths are now 5,936 (a 17 percent increase). These figures highlight the need for the state to continue monitoring and responding quickly to the pandemic's effects.

Moving forward, as the state reopens the economy based on six specific indicators informed by science and public health guidance, the state's emergency measures will continue to be necessary to mitigate potential outbreaks and surges in positive cases and hospitalizations. These actions include securing personal protective equipment as well as other preparations such as strengthening hospital capacity and protecting vulnerable populations.

Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of Government Code section 8690.6 (c), the use of DREOA funding for COVID-19-related emergency operations costs is hereby extended for an additional 120 days.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this matter, please call Stephen Benson, Principal Program Budget Analyst, at (916) 324-0043.

KEELY MARTIN BOSLER

Director

By:



VIVEK VISWANATHAN

Chief Deputy Director

CC: Honorable Shirley Weber, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 5
Honorable Nancy Skinner, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 5
Honorable Jim Nielsen, Vice Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Honorable Jay Obernolte, Vice Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst (3)
Joe Stephenshaw, Staff Director, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Kirk Feely, Fiscal Director, Senate Republican Fiscal Office
Christopher W. Woods, Senate President pro Tempore's Office (2)
Christian Griffith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Cyndi Hillery, Budget Director, Assembly Republican Caucus, Office of Policy and Budget
Jayme Chick, Deputy Chief of Staff, Policy, Assembly Republican Leader's Office
Alex Khan, Chief Consultant, Assembly Republican Leader's Office
Jason Sisney, Assembly Speaker's Office (2)
Mark McKenzie, Staff Director, Senate Appropriations Committee
Jay Dickenson, Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Mark Ghilarducci, Director, Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Christina Curry, Chief Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Tabitha Stout, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration, Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Heather Carlson, Assistant Director, Administrative Services, Governor's Office of Emergency Services