



The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

May 21, 2020

Mr. Bruce Anderson, Director
Department of Health
1250 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Dr. Anderson,

As you are aware, the COVID-19 pandemic has provided the state with a unique circumstance. We must now work together to provide essential service for the people of Hawaii while also preparing to reopen our state properly. The Senate Special Committee on COVID-19 appreciates your efforts on behalf of the people, and we request that you answer the following questions in writing for the benefit of the Committee.

First, please submit the department's comprehensive pandemic emergency and recovery plan using the Public Health Recovery Framework. The Committee asks that you include all department divisions/programs and public health network agencies with responsibilities within this plan, as well as the department's budgetary needs to execute the plan.

Second, while our state has only been performing about 600 tests/day, our private labs appear to be ready to increase capacity from 3,000 tests/day to 5,000 tests/day. As such, it would appear that our state possesses the necessary laboratory capacity to meet the state's testing needs should there be another surge. Given these points, please justify the building of additional state lab capacity at this time.

Third, please detail the upgrades needed for state labs (across all islands) that will address the emergency response testing requirements under the CARES Act. Provide a detailed budget for all lab upgrades to be completed in the next six months.

Fourth, provide current and additional staff duties for contact tracing in each county. Are counties paying for the testing and contact tracing from their CARES allocation? What are the plans for funding these positions once CARES Act funding terminates on December 30?

Finally, what is the department procedure for sharing its resources with the public health network for testing, contact tracing, quarantine quarters, and, if needed, data collection/analysis?

May 14, 2020

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The Committee appreciates your attention to this matter and respectfully requests a response by **4:00 p.m., Friday, May 29, 2020**. Please email your response to all Senate Special Committee COVID-19 members. Should you have any questions, please contact Dane Wicker at 586-6639 or via email at d.wicker@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Sincerely,

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole
Senator Michelle N. Kidani
Senator Donna Mercado Kim
Senator Sharon Moriwaki
Senator Kurt Fevella

Cc. Senate President
All Senators