

**March 17, 2020**

**Governor Ralph Northam Announces Additional Measures to Combat COVID-19**

Today, the Governor announced action on the following measures intended to combat COVID-19:

- Further reduced public gathering restrictions to no more than 10 people
- Urged those with chronic conditions aged 65 or older to self-quarantine
- Required all restaurants, fitness center and theatres to reduce capacity to 10 patrons or close – details available on this [here](#).
- Outlined support for workers impacted by COVID-19, including no waiting for unemployment benefits, enhanced eligibility for unemployment and fewer restrictions on those receiving unemployment insurance
- For impacted employers, indicated that regional workforce teams will be activated to support employers that slow or stop operations and rapid response funding for use to clean facilities and support emergency needs will be authorized for employers eligible to remain open during the emergency
- Closed all Virginia DMV offices
- Requested that the Supreme Court of Virginia suspend all non-essential, non-emergency court proceedings in all district and circuit courts from March 16-April 6
- Utilities regulated by the Virginia State Corporation Commission have been ordered to suspend service disconnections for 60 days to provide immediate relief for those impacted by COVID-19

To read the full release, click [here](#). To view today's media briefing, click [here](#).