

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2020

The Honorable Mike Pence
The White House
Office of the Vice President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Vice President:

We write this letter to urge you to fulfill the requests made by Director Jared Moskowitz of the Florida Division of Emergency Management for vital medical supplies, equipment, and personnel required to protect healthcare professionals, treat patients, and combat the spread of Covid-19.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), older adults and those who suffer from underlying medical conditions are at a greater risk to contract Covid-19. The State of Florida has a massive influx of tourism, which escalates the risk of spreading the virus to the 4.4 million residents over the age of 65 — the most likely to require hospitalization and intensive care. Separating healthy patients from those who are receiving treatment is imperative. Florida is requesting 5,000 ventilators, DMAT teams, mobile ICUs, 5,000 field cots and medical personnel with experience dealing with outbreaks.

Typically, patient care in Healthcare facilities, Assisted Living Facilities, and Long-term Care Facilities does not require the use of personal protective equipment (PPE). Therefore, the supply on hand is limited in these facilities. Florida has depleted the supplies requested from the Strategic National Stockpile and orders placed with private vendors are not expected to be received for over a month. The State of Florida is requesting 100,000 16oz bottles of hand sanitizer, 50,000 bottles of 2oz hand sanitizer, 3,150,000 N95 masks, 800,000 Tyvek Coveralls, 1,150,000 gloves, 300,000 goggles, 1,300,000 gowns, and 1,150,000 respirator masks equal to N95 masks to distribute to these facilities and hospitals across the State.

The burn rate for these supplies is approximately 350,000 per day. The State of Florida expects to deplete their resources within the next 48 hours. Time is of the essence, and there is a grave need to replenish these supplies. I urge you to send the necessary supplies to fulfill this request immediately. Lives are on the line.


Sincerely,



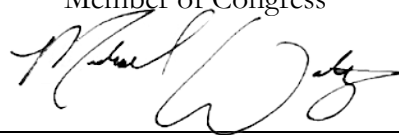
Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch
Member of Congress



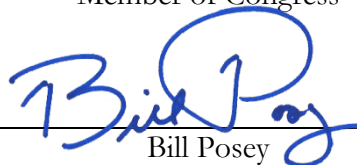
Al Lawson
Member of Congress



Michael Waltz
Member of Congress



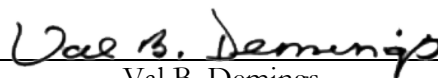
Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



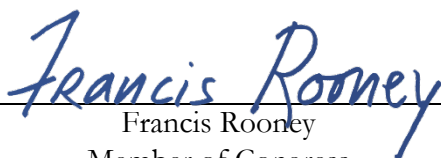
Bill Posey
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Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress



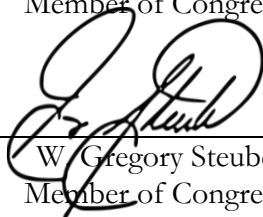
Val B. Demings
Member of Congress



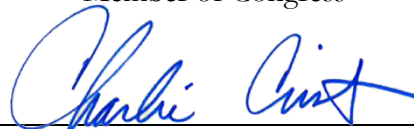
Francis Rooney
Member of Congress



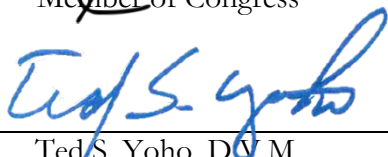
Daniel Webster
Member of Congress



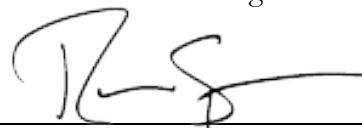
W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



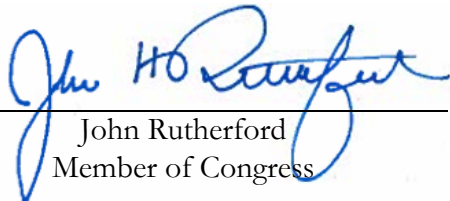
Charlie Crist
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Ted S. Yoho, D.V.M.
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Ross Spano
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John Rutherford
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