

SENATE OF VIRGINIA

TODD E. PILLION
40TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
ALL OF GRAYSON, LEE, SCOTT, AND WASHINGTON
COUNTIES; ALL OF THE CITY OF BRISTOL; AND PART
OF SMYTH, WISE, AND WYTHE COUNTIES
851 FRENCH MOORE JR. BOULEVARD
ABINGDON, VIRGINIA 24210
(276) 220-1209



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
GENERAL LAWS AND TECHNOLOGY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
TRANSPORTATION

March 17, 2020

The coronavirus pandemic has many in our community concerned and confused as disruptions to normal daily life continue to develop. Please know that local, state, and federal officials are coordinating with public health authorities to take precautions that help keep our families and communities safe, prepared, and healthy so we can return to normal as quickly as possible.

My office has started receiving inquiries from local businesses regarding financial assistance during this time of uncertainty. In anticipation of these concerns, I have been in contact with Governor Northam's office and federal officials regarding Small Business Administration (SBA) programs and other opportunities that will be available to the business community. The U.S. Congress is also considering several pieces of bipartisan legislation to address the health and economic impacts of this crisis, including provisions for payments to small businesses, loan guarantees, a stimulus package to American workers, and penalty-free tax deferments on up to \$1 million for up to 90 days. Again, these are developing proposals in a very fluid situation. I encourage you to also be in contact with your federal officials regarding these developments as negotiations continue.

The Governor's office is working with the SBA to submit the requisite emergency declaration to make funds available to the Commonwealth. We are hopeful that is complete by tomorrow. For impacted businesses, state unemployment benefits remain available and the one-week waiting period has been waived. More information is at www.vec.virginia.gov.

Meanwhile, here is a list of resources that may assist you as we work through this pandemic:

- <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov>
- <https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus-updates/>
- <https://www.vachamber.com/covid-19/>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- <https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources>

This is a rapidly evolving situation with new information and updates daily, sometimes multiple times per day. We will do our part to help keep you informed. Please know that my office is also available to assist constituents with questions or concerns. You may contact us at (276) 220-1209 or by email at district40@senate.virginia.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Pillion".

Todd Pillion
Senator, 40th District