

NOTE: The press conference last less than 15 minutes, one of the shortest since the beginning outbreak. There was only one question from reporters

- Gov. said she had a phone call with Pres. Trump earlier this morning; Was able to discuss the federal funding that came to SD from the Congressional legislation and how the federal guidance limits SD's ability to utilize the funding; President included Treasury Secretary Mnuchin to the phone call; Gov. appreciated their time to help understand SD's challenges
- Gov. also had a call with USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue to discuss the Smithfield Foods plant and its proposed timeline for re-opening
 - o Gov. was then able to follow up with a call to Smithfield Foods executives
- Gov. just signed an executive order (EO) loosening up state regulations on titling of mobile homes, licensing and registration of vehicles and boats, and suspension of probationary periods for law enforcement officers and 911 operators
- Marcia Hultman (Dept. of Labor secretary) – Had 5,389 initial UI claims for week ending April 25
 - o During this past week, SD took UI claims for self-employed and gig economy workers for the first time
 - o In past 6 weeks, SD has accepted 32,295 initial UI claims
 - During a comparable 6 week period in “normal” times, SD normally takes about 1,140 UI claims
 - o Started to pay UI claims to self-employed and gig economy claimants-that was about 2 weeks earlier than DOL originally anticipated
- Hultman said that some businesses are starting to call workers back based on the Gov's Back To Normal plan
 - o Hultman cautions workers that if they are called back to work and decline to report, that it will jeopardize their UI benefits
 - If workers are uncomfortable reporting back to work for whatever reason, they need to talk to their employer to work through the issue
- Reporter ?: A group of organizations representing people of color and Smithfield Foods workers sent an email to the Gov earlier today requesting a meeting. Has Gov. seen the email and what is her reaction?
 - o Gov. said they just saw the email and were discussing options as they walked across the hall prior to the start of the press conference; will consider the request for a meeting
 - o Followup ?: Will Dept. of Health enforce CDC guidelines for meat packing plants on Smithfield Foods?
 - Gov. said the state is still working through an interpretation of the President's EO requiring meat packing plants to operate, and how the EO affects Smithfield
 - Kim Malsom-Rysdon (Dept. of Health secretary) – DOH will continue to work with Smithfield; some CDC guidelines are actually recommendations rather than requirements