

- Gov. spent a good share of the past 24 hours on the phone with federal officials including Dr. Fauci from the CDC
 - o Dr. Fauci said that based on what South Dakota and some other states are doing, a “one size fits all” approach does not work in every state
 - o Based on where SD is at today with plans and preparations, Dr. Fauci believes the state is in a good spot and is ready for the peak
- Gov. said that the state has used several different model to put together a plan for SD with input and info from Sanford, Avera and Monument Health
 - o Based on state’s plans and response so far, the expected June peak has been cut in half
 - o State is working to secure ventilators
 - o Positive cases are increasing, but that was to be expected; we have been telling people that for weeks
 - o Need to continue to practice social distancing, washing hands, etc.
 - o If you are age 65+ and live in Minnehaha or Lincoln counties, you need to stay home for the next 3 weeks
- Gov. thanked all who stepped up to date including those who have donated to charities, those who have helped neighbors, etc.
 - o Dr. Fauci was very impressed by response of everyday South Dakotans
- Gov. reminded all that she has declared today as Day of Prayer in South Dakota
 - o She said Easter will be very different this year, but encouraged everyone to start a new Easter tradition
 - o As people pray today, she asked people to pray for a cure, pray for an end to this outbreak, pray for health care workers, and those who had experienced a loss of life
- Reporter ?: Any planning being done to prepare for the Sturgis rally?
 - o Not yet; lots of events have already been cancelled
 - o We are learning more every day about how to respond to the virus, when the peak will hit, etc.
- Reporter ?: KELO has been getting calls into the newsroom from people who are concerned about a reported outbreak at Smithfield Food plant in SF. Can you comment?
 - o Gov. said that state Dept. of Health is working with SF Dept. of Health to work with Sioux Falls employers
 - o Kim Malsom-Rysdon (state secretary of Health) – state DOH is working to help employers minimize impacts on workforce and facility; there have been over 80 cases connected to the Smithfield facility
 - DOH does not feel there is a threat to anyone beyond those directly impacted at Smithfield
- Reporter ?: what should employers do for employees that are considered vulnerable?
 - o Malsom-Rysdon: follow CDC guidelines
 - Many employers in SD are continuing to pay sick employees so they can stay home from work
- Reporter ?: How big of a hit will the state budget take from economic impacts of virus
 - o Gov. said it is premature to guess how the state will fill the holes until more tax return data comes in from businesses; it is also premature to guess how state will fill the holes
 - Gov. said the economic downturn has already impacted the state budget, along with those of cities and families
 - When President asked people to stay home, the people of SD largely did so; that has had a direct impact on the state budget

- May not be able to use federal \$\$s that will flow to states from the CARES Act to replace \$\$s lost in the state budget; Gov. is hoping for clarity on guidance to this issue in next Congressional action
- Reporter ?: Have you heard of any price gouging and does it concern you?
 - Gov. said there have been some sporadic reports, but nothing widespread
- Reporter ?: Will you appoint a replacement for the late Rep. Glanzer prior to the convening of a special session in June?
 - That is a different set of circumstances; will work through that issue as we move forward and get closer to the special session
- Reporter ?: As there have been no new positive tests reported in Beadle County in recent days, will they be re-classified to having no community spread if the numbers stay stable?
 - Malsom-Rysdon: Not planning to change any classification at this time
- Reporter ?: Does Gov. play golf?
 - No
 - Does first gentleman play golf?
 - Yes, but not well
 - Have seen first gentleman in the batting cage. What about baseball?
 - He is a very good baseball player
- Reporter ?: Are you feeling well and are you practicing social distancing?
 - Yes, I am feeling well and I am practicing social distancing
- Reporter ?: Can you give us an update on the search for the remaining 2 escapees from the state women's prison?
 - Continuing to work with law enforcement on finding those two escapees
- Reporter ?: How is Hazel doing (FYI: Hazel is the Gov's dog who recently had several stitches to close up a wound-Gov referenced Hazel in a Facebook video over the weekend)?
 - Hazel is doing well and got her stitches out yesterday