



Senate of Pennsylvania

April 07, 2020

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf:

It was brought to our attention on April 5th, 2020 that out-of-state individuals may be “bussing” into Lancaster and Lebanon Counties, to take advantage of our local healthcare facilities, as it relates to COVID-19 testing and treatment. We ask that you not dismiss this concern, as it was relayed to our offices by a medical professional working in a local emergency room.

Our local medical centers were designed to treat the communities they service, and not to be an outlet for those seeking treatment from outside of the Commonwealth. If this has begun to affect central Pennsylvania, it has most certainly already affected those healthcare systems in northeastern Pennsylvania. These actions by out-of-state individuals concerns us, as we fear their permeation into our counties healthcare systems will lead to less available resources for the actual residents of the Commonwealth.

We are lucky that our healthcare systems have been able to manage the patients they have, so far. With each passing day, that could quickly change. Our residents need to know that medical assistance is available should they need it, and that out-of-state patients aren’t draining the resources that should be readily accessible to them. We cannot allow out-of-state individuals to rob Pennsylvanians of available medical supplies and the healthcare to which they are entitled.

For this reason, we are requesting you prohibit interstate travel of non-Pennsylvania residents entering into Pennsylvania with the intent to seek or receive a medical diagnosis and/or treatment of COVID-19. If you are unwilling to prohibit out-of-state residents from traveling into Pennsylvania for purposes of receiving a medical diagnosis and/or treatment of COVID-19, we ask that you specifically address the immediate concern that our healthcare systems may become overwhelmed by non-residents, leaving Pennsylvanians to suffer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D J Arnold". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

David J. Arnold
Senator, 48th District

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Scott Martin
Senator, 13th District

cc: Senator Joe Scarnati, President Pro Tempore
Senator Jake Corman, Majority Leader