



NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

May 6, 2020

Governor Andrew Cuomo
NYS Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

We are writing to request the placement of a drive-thru COVID-19 testing facility in the County of Orleans. A drive-thru testing facility would help track and treat COVID-19 in a county that has suffered from a lack of testing since the outbreak began.

Rural communities are often left behind in these decisions because the state wants to concentrate resources in densely populated areas. However, low-density rural communities like Orleans County are precisely those who are in greatest need of mobile testing facilities.

Urban and suburban communities are fortunate to have a litany of doctors and hospitals in their communities, so access to testing is high. However, rural communities like Orleans County are severely limited in their number of healthcare facilities, and therefore, their access to testing. Adequate testing is a critical step in treating and preventing the spread of the disease, and mobile testing facility right in Orleans County would allow residents to get tested safely in their own community.

We urge you to bring a mobile drive-thru testing facility in Orleans County as soon as practicable. Thank you for your attention to this issue. Please contact us if you wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Robert G. Ort
Senator, 62nd District

Steve Hawley
Assemblyman, 139th District

Michael J. Norris
Assemblyman, 144th District

Lynne Johnson
Chairman, Orleans County Legislature

/S/ Paul Pettit

Paul Pettit
Director, Orleans County Health Department

CC: Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker
Hon. Bob Duffy

