

March 13, 2020

# Rebecca Seawright



Dear Neighbor,

*There are over 300 confirmed Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in New York State with 95 cases in New York City. We welcome this opportunity to share additional guidance on this important matter of public health. Along with my colleagues in the Assembly, we passed emergency legislation to waive cost-sharing associated with the Coronavirus to prevent New York State insurers from charging for testing and we appropriated \$40 million for the State's response. The state will guarantee two full weeks of paid leave for all state workers who are subject to a mandatory or precautionary order of quarantine as a result of the novel Coronavirus. Next week, we will vote on a Paid Sick Leave proposal for most private sector employees in New York State.*

*This week, we have seen additional measures taken on the national and local levels. The following institutions and organizations have changed their operations to slow the spread of the virus:*

- *The Metropolitan Museum of Art will temporarily close all three locations—The Met Fifth Avenue, The Met Breuer, and The Met Cloisters—starting March 13*
- *The New York Public Library has suspended all programming and events at its locations through March 31*
- *Broadway and any other gatherings over 500 are cancelled under the Governor's orders*
- *CUNY and SUNY are transitioning to distance learning for the remainder of the semester*
- *Marymount Manhattan will have distance learning from March 19 - April 3*
- *Cornell Tech RI will have remote learning for the rest of the semester*
- *St. Patrick's Day Parade is postponed*
- *All 19th Precinct Community Council and Build the Block Meetings are cancelled until further notice*
- *Public schools remain open with non-essential and non-instructional activities being cancelled or moved online. Athletic leagues, school assemblies, and PTA meetings included.*
  
- *Mass transit is uninterrupted at this time.*

*We can all do our part by taking the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and the Health Departments to stop the transmission of the virus including:*

- *Social distancing- avoiding contact with those who may be sick*
- *Staying home if you have symptoms*
- *Washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use alcohol based hand sanitizer*
- *Clean and disinfect frequently used surfaces. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks*

*If you are concerned for your health or the health of a loved one, please consider the following steps:*

- *If you are showing symptoms, seek guidance from a health professional. If you need assistance in finding a healthcare provider, contact the New York State Department of Health's Coronavirus helpline at 1-888-364-3065*
- *Locally, you may call the New York Presbyterian COVID-19 hotline at 646-697-4000*
- *The next step after identifying a health care provider is to call ahead of your visit!*

***We are here for you!***

*If you are in need of information or assistance, please don't hesitate to contact our office. We regretfully have suspended in person appointments and meetings, due to public health considerations. If you hear about price gouging, have housing concerns, need small business assistance, have questions about government services or other state matters, please reach out to my office. We are eager to continue assisting constituents by telephone and email:*

***Phone: 212.288.4607***

***Email: [SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov](mailto:SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov)***

*Please consider others in your day to day routine. Following guidance put forth by agencies is a means to protect you and those populations who are at high risk including older adults, people living with cardiovascular issues, diabetes, lung disease, and immuno-compromised people. Remain calm and be kind to your fellow New Yorkers.*

*Sincerely,*

***Rebecca***



[Click to Visit Our Website](#)

## Resources for Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updates

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [News from the Mayor's Office](#)
- For text alerts, text COVID to 692-692 for updates [Department of Health](#), includes multiple guidance documents
- [Department of Education](#)
- [Small Business Services](#), includes financial aid program information

The following media sources have dropped their pay walls to offer the public free access to coverage:

- [New York Times](#)
- [ProPublica](#)
- [Wall Street Journal](#)
- [NPR](#)
- [The Atlantic](#)

# PRICE GOUGING

an excessive price increase  
on vital goods and services

## is illegal in New York State.

To file a complaint, visit:

[www.ag.ny.gov/price-gouging-complaint-form](http://www.ag.ny.gov/price-gouging-complaint-form)

[Fill out a Price Gouging Complaint Here](#)

## 2020 Census Available

The 2020 Census is now available online at [my2020census.gov](http://my2020census.gov)

The most accurate response is a self-response and an early response helps to ensure that no one will come knocking on your door starting in early May.

With respect to COVID-19, Census 2020 is moving ahead according to plan. The Census Bureau will follow the guidance of Federal, State, and local health authorities.

Some resources and answers to recently and frequently asked questions:

1) **What does the Invitation to Respond envelope look like?**

See visuals of Census 2020 mailings here:

<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-kits/2020/2020-census-mailings.html>

2) **Can I answer the questionnaire without the code in the Invitation to Respond?** Yes! Visit [my2020census.gov](http://my2020census.gov) to complete the questionnaire with or without a code.

3) **I like the paper questionnaire. Will I need to pay to mail it back?** No, it has postage on the return envelope and is ready to mail.

5) **What are the Census phone numbers?**

The 2020 Census can be completed by phone in the following languages:

- English: 844-330-2020
- Spanish: 844-468-2020
- Chinese (Mandarin): 844-391-2020
- Chinese (Cantonese): 844-398-2020
- Vietnamese: 844-461-2020
- Korean: 844-392-2020
- Russian: 844-417-2020
- Arabic: 844-416-2020
- Tagalog: 844-478-2020
- Polish: 844-479-2020
- French: 844-494-2020
- Haitian Creole: 844-477-2020
- Portuguese: 844-474-2020
- Japanese: 844-460-2020
- English (for Puerto Rico residents): 844-418-2020
- Spanish (for Puerto Rico residents): 844-426-2020
- TDD (Telephone Display Device): 844-467-2020

To help you respond, the Census Bureau also offers web pages and guides in 59 non-English languages, including American Sign Language, as well as guides in Braille and large print.

**6) What if more than 10 people are in my household?** It is best to answer online or by phone for a larger household as you may include up to 99 people in your response.

**7) Where can I find language assistance for the census?** See print guides in 59 languages here.

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/2020-census/planning-management/language-resources/language-guides.html>



# How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond

**Nearly every household** will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census either in the mail or from a census taker.

## 95% of households

will receive their census invitation in the mail.

## Almost 5% of households →

will receive their census invitation when a census taker drops it off. In these areas, the majority of households may not receive mail at their home's physical location (like households that use PO boxes or areas recently affected by natural disasters).



## Less than 1% of households

will be counted in person by a census taker, instead of being invited to respond on their own. We do this in very remote areas like parts of northern Maine, remote Alaska, and in select American Indian areas that ask to be counted in person.

Note: We have special procedures to count people who don't live in households, such as students living in dorms, people living in nursing homes, or people experiencing homelessness.

**2020CENSUS.GOV**

D-FS-GP-EN-135

Shape  
your future  
START HERE >

United States<sup>®</sup>  
**Census**  
**2020**