

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 19, 2020

The Honorable Pete T. Gaynor  
Administrator  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
500 C. Street S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Gaynor,

We write today to urge the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) to continue delivery of personal protective equipment (“PPE”) to senior living facilities in Colorado through June and July 2020, and to include assisted living residences and intermediate care facilities, in addition to nursing homes, in your distribution plans.

Since the beginning of the novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) pandemic, senior living facilities have been the epicenter of both outbreaks and deaths in Colorado and across the country. COVID-19 linked deaths in Colorado’s senior living facilities continue to be the single largest contributor to COVID-19 fatalities in our state, representing approximately 61% of total deaths. According to some reports, Colorado has experienced as many as 105 deaths in senior congregate living facilities in just one single week.<sup>1</sup>

We understand that FEMA is delivering two rounds of PPE to Colorado nursing homes on May 18<sup>th</sup> and again the following week. We greatly appreciate this much needed support, and we thank you for your efforts to expand the availability of PPE to our seniors and front-line workers who support them. Given the unique and devastating effects the COVID-19 outbreak has had on these facilities and the citizens they serve, we request that FEMA regularly continue delivery of PPE supplies to nursing homes in Colorado throughout June and July 2020. It is also critically important to expand the criteria governing which facilities receive these supplies to include assisted living facilities and intermediate care facilities, which also care for Medicaid enrollees, because they too have faced staggering infection and death rates and are in desperate need of these resources.

We understand the immense task before you and FEMA as you work to ensure all communities have the resources they need to combat this crisis, and we appreciate the supplies you have distributed to Colorado thus far. Thank you for your consideration, and we request an immediate response to this inquiry.

---

<sup>1</sup> [\*Colorado Sun\*](#). 13 May 2020.

Sincerely,



Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



Cory Gardner  
United States Senator



Scott R. Tipton  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



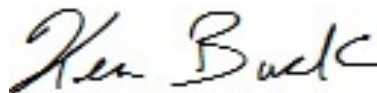
Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress



Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



Ken Buck  
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Lee dePalo, Regional Administrator, FEMA Region VIII