MEMORANDUM

To: Fellow Democrats
From: Belinda Biafore, West Virginia Democratic Party Chair

Subject: COVID-19 Update

Yesterday we were informed by Governor Jim Justice that we have confirmed our first case of COVID-19 in West Virginia. As you also know this is most likely due to lack of testing so everyone should not only continue to take appropriate precautions outlined by our leaders and health officials but should increase those precautions when able.

U.S. Senator Joe Manchin has advocated and requested more testing and protection materials such as gloves and masks for our health workers.

Governor Jim Justice has also closed our restaurants, bars, and casinos except for the ability to carry out and drive-thru.

Today Governor Justice expanded that to gyms and other facilities and stressed the importance of employers allowing their employees to work from home. You can find his press conference here: https://www.pscp.tv/w/1BRjQkvzXBGw

Also today Secretary of State Mac Warner and Attorney General Patrick Morrisey held a press conference regarding our primary election in May. We were assured that virtually all West Virginians would qualify for an absentee ballot during this crisis.

As you know, the CDC suggested not holding gatherings of more than 50 people for at least 8 weeks and our national leaders have indicated to keep group gatherings smaller than 10. We firmly suggest that we all follow these precautions in order to keep everyone safe.

We are still in constant contact with the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee regarding our County Conventions.
We want you to be assured we are taking appropriate action and carefully measuring the effects this will have. The health and safety of all West Virginians is our highest priority. They have assured us they will be flexible and we will have an answer as soon as possible as to how to move forward. Again, we want to reinforce that everyone who wants to participate in county conventions will be afforded the opportunity.

Please, everyone, stay at home as much as possible and practice social distancing. Look to your local and national officials for further guidance.

The safety and health of everyone is our top priority. We want to be sure you are still able to communicate with us while we are working remotely. Again, I have included below the contact information that is best to reach WVDP at this time.

1. You may call our main HQ number at 304-342-8121, through forwarding efforts we will do our best to get back to everyone who calls.
2. Please email us at WVP@wvdemocrats.com for general inquiries or if you do not know who to direct your communications.
3. Staff emails are as follows:
   a. WVDP Chairwoman, Belinda Biafore, Belinda@wvdemocrats.com
   b. Executive Director, Curt Zickafoose, Curt@wvdemocrats.com
   c. Deputy Director, Bridget McGuire, Bridget@wvdemocrats.com
   d. Communications Director, Brittni McGuire, Brittni@wvdemocrats.com
   e. Political and Legislative Director, George Capel, George@wvdemocrats.com
   f. WVDP’s main email address, WVP@WVDemocrats.com

Please stay safe and keep the health of yourself and others in the forefront of your minds when going about day-to-day. We advise that you practice social distancing if you have the
option. We suggest you listen to your local leaders and health officials when considering your actions.

Thank you,

Belinda Biafore, WVDP Chairwoman