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TOM O'HALLERAN
1ST DISTRICT, ARIZONA

June 15, 2020

Governor Doug Ducey
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Ducey,

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to address the effects of COVID-19 in Arizona. I appreciate you taking my calls over the past several months to discuss this unprecedented public health emergency in detail. As you know, our nation is in crisis. Over 1,100 Arizonans have died due to COVID-19. I am greatly concerned that Arizona is trending strongly in the wrong direction. We are seeing seven-day averages in new COVID-19 cases rising, and the number of people admitted to the state's hospitals continues to increase as well. While Navajo Nation has, thankfully, slowed the growth of new cases of COVID-19, the White Mountain Apache Tribe now has surpassed the Navajo per capita infection rate.

Right now, Arizona's health system remains strong and able to handle the projected increase in patients as well as adding surge capacity if needed. But there are no guarantees that this will remain true if we do not take immediate steps to mitigate COVID-19 hotspots, build effective contact tracing capacity, and take proper precautions to protect our citizens.

I am writing to request regular Congressional delegation meetings with you and your staff for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency. Four bipartisan COVID-19 related bills have passed Congress and been signed into law, and I am anticipating additional legislation to address the pandemic in the coming weeks. To best represent the interests of the state and our citizens, we need to have an open and constructive dialogue on the federal and state response to the pandemic. Regular meetings between the Congressional Delegation and you are essential to ensure that we fully understand your needs and are able to fight for funding for health care, hospitals, and health care providers, additional benefits for Arizonans, and our support for our business community.

I look forward to continuing our work together over the coming months to ensure that Arizonans get the assistance that they need from the federal government and that we can safely resume our normal lives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom O'Halleran".

Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress