



Senate Republicans Respond to New State of Emergency Announcement

Following Governor John Carney's press conference on Thursday, December 30, 2021 announcing a new state of emergency, the Delaware State Senate Republican Caucus issued the below response.

"The Senate Republican Caucus recognizes the challenges facing our hospitals' staff and first responders throughout the state. To address these issues, Governor Carney today announced he will be issuing a state of emergency effective this coming Monday, January 3, 2022.

"We have no doubt that the Delaware National Guard will provide much needed assistance to combat COVID-19 within our hospitals. We thank those in service for continuing to step up to the plate and providing aid where needed.

"We do, however, urge Governor Carney to immediately rescind the order once the situation in our hospitals improve. We oppose any possible implementation of mandates like what we saw nearly two years ago, such as a statewide face-covering order and capacity limits in businesses and restaurants.

"Today's announcement reinforces the need for legislation to allow eligible National Guard members to quickly be credentialed as Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) and, thus, alleviating the requirement for a state of emergency like what will go in place on Monday. This, and other measures such as [House Bill 49](#), which would require the General Assembly to approve the renewal of a state of emergency beyond the initial 30 days, will be of high priority when the Legislature reconvenes on January 11, 2022."

The Delaware State Senate Republican Caucus consists of 7 members: Senate Republican Leader Gerald Hocker (20th District), Senate Republican Whip Brian Pettyjohn (19th District), Colin Bonini (16th District), David Lawson (15th District), Ernie López (6th District), Bryant Richardson (21st District), and Dave Wilson (18th District).