March 6, 2020

Governor Ned Lamont
Office of the Governor
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Honorable Ned Lamont,

As COVID-19 continues to spread within and across the United States, protecting Connecticut residents and ensuring they have access to adequate testing and treatment should be our foremost public health priority.

However, insurance costs and the prospect of large health care bills can deter people from taking the very precautions advocated for by federal, state, and local governments. We have seen stories from around the country of patients undergoing testing for COVID-19 after experiencing symptoms only to later be hit with large bills, sometimes in the thousands of dollars. As news of these experiences spread, it is imperative that Connecticut state government reassure our residents that they can receive proper health care without the prospect of dire financial repercussions.

We urge you to issue a bulletin that would waive deductibles, cost sharing and copays for Connecticut residents associated with testing for COVID-19. Without affordable public health options, residents may not seek treatment and therefore risk exposing themselves, or others, to COVID-19.

Other states, including New York, have already taken this important step.

We look forward to working with you as this situation unfolds.

Sincerely,

Martin M. Looney
11th Senate District

Bob Duff
25th Senate District
Senator John Fonfara
1st Senate District

Senator Saud Anwar
3rd Senate District

Senator Steve Cassano
4th Senate District

Senator Derek Slap
5th Senate District

Senator Gary Winfield
10th Senate District

Senator Mary Abrams
13th Senate District

Senator Cathy Osten
19th Senate District

Senator Dennis Bradley
23rd Senate District

Senator Doug McCrory
2nd Senate District

Senator Matt Lesser
9th Senate District

Senator Christine Cohen
12th Senate District

Senator James Maroney
14th Senate District

Senator Marilyn Moore
22nd Senate District

Senator Julie Kushner
24th Senate District

Senator Mae Flexer
29th Senate District

Senator Norm Needleman
33rd Senate District
Senator Carlo Leone
27th Senate District

Senator Joan Hartley
15th Senate District

Senator Will Haskell
26th Senate District

Senator Alex Kasser
36th Senate District