

Kim Reynolds GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Adam Gregg LT. GOVERNOR

May 4, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump President of the United States The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I thank you for your authorization of 1,000 members of the Iowa National Guard to serve in Title 32 status through May 31, 2020. These personnel are performing critical missions in support of the response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. I write to request your authorization to retain up to 1,000 Iowa National Guard personnel in Title 32 status until June 30, 2020.

Since your initial authorization of National Guard Forces, Iowa, in coordination with our federal partners, has made ongoing progress in combating the virus. As the most recent Presidential Memorandum notes, the need for close cooperation and mutual assistance between the federal government and Iowa remains greater than ever.

Our soldiers and airmen play a vital role in Iowa's response to COVID-19. Your approval of this extension will enable Iowa to continue to take aggressive action to combat the virus. Some of the missions include support of mobile testing sites, a joint mobile screening test team, delivery of testing supplies, transport of samples, and distribution of critical personal protective equipment (PPE) and medical supplies to all of Iowa's 99 counties. Iowa's soldiers and airmen are also packing and distributing food in support of food banks that have seen a significant increase in need. All of these missions, and others too numerous to mention, will position the state to transition to a regional reopening of the economy.

Accordingly, I ask that you approve and direct the Office of Management and Budget, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Secretary of Defense to extend Title 32 502(f) authority for up to 1,000 members of the Iowa Army and Air National Guard during the period of June 1-30, 2020. I will do everything possible to size our response force based on critical needs and to only use Title 32 502(f) authority and funding as absolutely necessary. I will continue to reassess the State's capacity as the situation continues to unfold and may request additional support, as necessary.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely.

Kim Reynolds Governor of Iowa

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