Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak
May 7, 2020

INFORMS Members in the News

▪ In Mass., Stop & Shop, Wegmans, Costco Limit Meat Sales Ahead of Expected Shortage (NBC Boston)
  Member: Anna Nagurney

▪ How Will COVID-19 Impact Freight Budgets? And a Stress Test (DC Velocity)
  Member: David Simchi-Levi

▪ Supply Chain Management Under a Microscope (FarmTalk)
  Member: Anna Nagurney

▪ What Would it Take to Reopen the District? (HillRag)
  Member: Julie Swann

U.S. Federal Policy Update

▪ House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) officially announced the Republican appointees to the Coronavirus Oversight Committee. The Republican side will be led by Minority Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA), who will be joined by Representatives Mark Green (R-TN), Jim Jordan (R-OH), Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO), and Jackie Walorski (R-MO).

▪ The latest Labor Department data released today indicates that another 3.2 million Americans filed for their first-time unemployment benefits in the past week – bringing the total number of Americans seeking first-time claims to over 33.5 million since mid-March.

▪ President Trump signed an executive order “to increase America’s competitiveness in the seafood industry and protect our seafood supply chain,” by expanding U.S. production and upholding import restrictions.

▪ Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) announced Thursday that he and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) are “working very closely together on putting together a very strong plan,” which should be unveiled “shortly.” He added that they hope to take “Franklin Rooseveltian-type action” in “a very big and bold way.”

▪ Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell issued a release on behalf of Senate Republicans stating that “liability protections are essential to reopening the American economy.” The release included statements from Senate Majority Whip John Thune (R-SD), as well as Senators John Barrasso (R-WY), Thom Tillis (R-NC), Rob Portman (R-OH), Mitt Romney (R-UT), Ted Cruz (R-TX), and Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV).

▪ The Food and Drug Administration issued an update regarding their “efforts to combat the extremely concerning actions by companies and individuals that are exploiting or taking advantage of widespread fear among consumers during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

▪ Senators Tom Cotton (R-AR), Ted Cruz (R-TX), Chuck Grassley (R-IA), and Josh Hawley (R-MO) sent a letter to President Trump asking him to expand and extend his previously-issued immigration proclamation that temporarily suspended visas into the United States for sixty days.
Global Response

• Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan announced that the government will start easing their shutdown restrictions this Saturday, May 9th.

• The Japanese government approved remdesivir to be used as a treatment for coronavirus patients.

• Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis issued a call to the leaders of Australia, Austria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Israel, Norway and Singapore to develop travel protocols that allow for a “safe corridor” to be formed between the eight nations – potentially allowing for safe travel amid the global pandemic.

State Update

• Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer announced that the state’s stay-at-home order will be extended through May 28th, but manufacturing workers are permitted to return to work beginning next week. She also released a “Safe Start Plan,” detailing the multiple phases for how the state will be reopened.

• Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced that personal services (hair salons, nail salons, barber shops, etc.) will be allowed to reopen next Friday, May 15th.

• Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo announced that the state’s phase one reopening will commence on Saturday, after the stay-at-home order expires at the end of tomorrow as scheduled.

• Montana Governor Steve Bullock announced that movie theaters and museums in the state will be permitted to reopen next Friday, May 15th.

Economic Update (as of close of the markets)

• Stocks had a positive trading session today, with all three indices closing the day with gains. The Nasdaq Composite rose by 1.4%, the S&P 500 by 1.2%, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average by 0.9%.

Latest Impact Data

• In the United States: Over 1,287,918 cases and 76,725 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.

• Worldwide: Over 3,904,341 million cases and 270,057 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

• Pelosi to lay down multitrillion-dollar marker with new coronavirus package (Politico)

• Trump administration rejects CDC guidance on reopening US amid coronavirus (CNN)

• Unemployment Data Point to a Record Wave of Job Losses (Wall Street Journal)

• Trump meets harsh reality with coronavirus threat (The Hill)

• Pelosi Dismisses Trump's Call to Cut Payroll, Capital Gains Taxes (Bloomberg)