

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMERCE  
HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

April 16, 2020

The Honorable Peter T. Gaynor  
Administrator  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
500 C Street S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Gaynor:


We write today to express support for the State of Wisconsin's request for the Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System (CCDS). This system decontaminates N95 respirators and allows workers to reuse them. Wisconsin still needs additional N95 respirators but, given the severe shortages we are facing, Wisconsin workers need this decontamination system in place now to help keep them safe.

We are encouraged knowing that the Department of Defense's COVID-19 Joint Acquisition Task Force has made great progress and recently awarded a \$400 Million contract to Battelle for up to 60 CCDSs<sup>1</sup>. It is our further understanding that after the first six CCDSs are delivered<sup>2</sup>, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Response Coordination Center will begin to fulfill individual state requests.

To date, Wisconsin's request for N95 respirators from the federal government has not been fulfilled. Absent a Battelle CCDS, and its ability to decontaminate up to 80,000 N95 respirators per day, Wisconsin's critical shortage of N95 respirators will remain an impediment to combating the spread of COVID-19 throughout the state.

It is our hope that as you begin to finalize the delivery schedule for the remaining 54 CCDSs<sup>3</sup>, you will quickly approve the Governor's request.

Sincerely,

  
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Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator

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<sup>1</sup> DLA Troop Support Contract SPE8EJ-20-D-0501 dated April 10th, 2020

<sup>2</sup> DLA Troop Support Contract SPE8EJ-20-F-033F dated April 12th, 2020

<sup>3</sup> Battelle Memorial Institute - Letter Contract SPE8EJ-20-D-0501 4-9-20.pdf