March 30, 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 to express support for the State of Wisconsin’s requests for expedited processing for additional testing supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE) for first responders and health care workers.

It is critical that the United States increases its ability to test for coronavirus. However, there are continued shortages of testing swabs and protective equipment for health care workers to complete those tests. Wisconsin needs additional supplies and test kit production in order effectively respond to this pandemic. Epidemiologists and other public health experts confirm widespread testing is effective for preventing and slowing new infections.

The supplies most in need include personal protective equipment (PPE), viral transport media, test collection swabs, testing kits to support rapid point of care testing, and the reagents listed on the emergency use authorization list. PPE requests are being made from the Strategic National Stockpile, but Wisconsin is also requesting FEMA assistance in sourcing items for the specific requests included in the two enclosed letters from Governor Tony Evers.

Finally, while the State of Wisconsin greatly appreciates efforts to fill requests for PPE from the Strategic National Stockpile, materials received to date fall short of addressing the need and requests for certain supplies still await action at the National Response Coordination Center. We are requesting that you expeditiously see to these requests.

It is our hope that you will give the Governor’s request due consideration and quickly approve the federal assistance outlined in his letters.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Ron Johnson
United States Senator
Enclosed:  “2020_03_28 Gov. Evers Letter to FEMA”
           “2020_03-26 Gov. Evers Letter to FEMA”