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American Legion Boys State of Kansas Official Statement Regarding COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

March 16, 2020

TO: Kansas Secondary School Administrators and Staff, Sponsors, Parents and Students

The American Legion Boys State of Kansas is closely monitoring developments concerning the COVID-19 (coronavirus) across Kansas. Currently, the situation is very fluid and updates on COVID-19 are frequently changing as medical professionals are updating the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Isolated cases in Kansas have been reported, but they are not widespread. However, we are monitoring the situation daily and are working closely with our host institution, Kansas State University in Manhattan, to stay informed should this situation change.

KSU has posted an informational website related to COVID-19. According to its website:

There are no positive COVID-19 cases associated with K-State, but social distancing has been shown to slow disease outbreaks. As the K-State community is dispersed throughout the nation and globe, the university is taking prudent steps to mitigate this risk and protect the campus and local communities.

These steps are based on a recommendation from K-State's Emergency Management Working Group. That group continues to meet daily to ensure the university's emergency preparedness plans are up to date should the virus reach our area. Other groups across campus are also meeting to plan specifics about range issues associated with this complex decision.

Additionally, as of March 16, the CDC is recommending the following precautions:

In accordance with its guidance for large events and mass gatherings, the CDC recommends that for the next eight weeks organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events or mass gatherings that consist of more than ten people.

Due to this situation, we are reviewing all available options to ensure the safety of potential Boys State delegates, our staff, and American Legion supporters. Our highest priority is respecting the time and safety of our delegates, their parents/guardians, and our volunteers. Expect more information in the coming weeks about this evolving situation.

If you have specific questions, please contact troy.fowler@ksbstate.org or 866.241.9920. For more information about KSU's efforts, visit the University's coronavirus update page at: <https://www.k-state.edu/media/update/coronavirus/index.html>.