March 18, 2020

To all State of Kansas employees:

Yesterday I announced my decision to direct certain state employees to begin taking paid administrative leave on Monday, March 23. This was not a decision I came to lightly. Every effort and service each of you provide is necessary to maintain the well-being of the state, but in this time of crisis, it is of the highest importance that Kansas’ employees are healthy and doing their part to mitigate the spread of disease.

Over the next few days, my staff and I will be working with all agencies in the Executive Branch under my jurisdiction to determine which of the many services you provide the citizens of Kansas that must remain in place for the following two weeks. Employees performing these functions will continue to work. It may not be for the entire two weeks, but for certain days over that time. Starting March 23, all other employees will be instructed to not report to work, but will receive paid administrative leave for their regular work schedule for the full two weeks.

By the time you leave work this Friday, all of you will know whether you will be on administrative leave starting Monday or if you will be expected to work in some capacity. If you are expected to work, you also will be told whether to report to work as you normally do or whether you will be working remotely, as well as whether you will be expected to work your regular work schedule or a partial schedule.

Over the course of these next two weeks, leadership and emergency management staff will be working to establish plans for restoring other services starting the first week of April. Employees who will be asked to return to work in some capacity to perform duties in support of those services will be contacted with further instructions no later than April 3.

This is an unprecedented emergency, but we will persevere. I thank you for all you have done and continue to do for our great state, and I ask for your cooperation and patience in the coming weeks as we work through these challenging times.

Respectfully,

Laura Kelly
Governor of Kansas