

Morgan Lesko
Grantsville, MD

May 18, 2020

Office of the Governor - Annapolis
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Office of the Governor:

Living most of my life in Maryland, I appreciate your tireless efforts during these unprecedented times.

Under the Maryland Public Information Act Title 4, I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records. I am requesting a list of all the studies which informed the Governor's public health policies in response to the COVID-19 virus and pandemic. I am requesting a list of all the studies or evidence that informed the Department of Health's recommendations to the Governor. I am also requesting a list of any studies or evidence that informed the Governor's experts who advised him on these science-based policies.

Most specifically, I am requesting a list of public health studies that informed policies ordering "all non-essential businesses and other establishments", and "requiring all persons to stay at home" outside of essential needs (Order Number 20-03-30-01). There were no health studies cited in the Governor's Order nor its press release. Scientific citations and sources should be transparently published on/throughout coronavirus.maryland.gov. They would help clear up misinformation about the science. Are they elsewhere?

If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform me if the cost will exceed \$40. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees in that the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest and will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of science-based policy. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

The Maryland Public Information Act requires a response to this request within 30 days. If access to the records I am requesting will take longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records.

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Morgan Lesko