Rx in Reach

CAPITOL DAY ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

Rx in Reach is hosting our annual Capitol Day virtually this year. As the General Assembly begins its session, we’re asking advocates to reach out to Governor Brian Kemp, Lieutenant Governor Geoff Duncan, Speaker of the House David Ralston, and your districted elected officials to urge them to improve access to the COVID-19 vaccines. Georgia faces the second lowest COVID-19 vaccination rates in the country, and Georgians keep facing technological and logistical barriers to getting the vaccine, even if eligible.

**As the General Assembly session begins, help us make improving access to the COVID-19 vaccine a top priority.**

**Here’s how you can help:**

* **Call and email General Assembly leaders and Governor Kemp**, urging them improve access to the COVID-19 vaccines.
  + Use the [one-click link](https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-georgia-leaders-to-remove-barriers-to-the-covid-19-vaccine?source=direct_link&) to easily email elected officials.
  + Phone numbers for leaders, newly elected General Assembly members, and members of the Health and Human Services Committees are below.
  + In your phone call, ask Sen./Rep. XXX to improve access to the COVID-19 vaccines because cases continue increasing while those who are most vulnerable to the illness cannot get vaccinated.
* **Send an Action Alert on behalf of your organization**, to allow your members and advocates to engage their legislators directly. Draft language is below.
* **Engage elected officials directly on Twitter and Facebook** so that they get an alert about your post. Lawmaker social media handles are included in the grid below.
* **Also below is a toolkit with social media posts to use/edit, as well as shareable graphics to attach to each tweet.**

**Georgia General Assembly Member Information**

**(For contacting them and mentioning their social media accounts in your messages.)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lawmaker Name** | **Facebook Handle** | **Twitter Handle** | **Phone** |
| Gov. Brian Kemp | @GovKemp | @GovKemp | (404) 656-1776 |
| Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan | @LGGeoffDuncan | @GeoffDuncanGA | (404) 656-5030 |
| Speaker David Ralston | @SpeakerRalston | n/a | (404) 656-5020 |
| House Minority Leader, Rep. James Beverly | @votejamesbeverly | @drjbev | (404) 656-0220 |
| Senate Majority Leader, Sen. Mike Dugan | @SenatorMikeDugan | @mdugan30 | (404) 656-7872 |
| Senate Democratic Leader, Sen. Gloria Butler | @SenatorButler | @SenGloriaButler | (404) 656-0075 |

## Draft Action Alert

*Rx in Reach has launched a platform to facilitate advocates easily emailing Gov. Kemp, Lt. Gov. Duncan, Speaker Ralston, and their districted legislators. Please share the below act alert with your advocates to encourage them to engage their elected officials.*

**SL: Your Help Needed – Tell Georgia Leaders to Remove Barriers to the COVID-19 Vaccine**

Hello Advocates,

Georgia faces the second lowest COVID-19 vaccination rates, and we know that many in our community continue to isolate strictly and remain very concerned. Unclear guidance and inadequate information about the COVID-19 vaccine is sowing further mistrust and confusion.

[**That’s why we need you to ACT NOW and email Gov. Kemp and your elected officials to urge them to remove barriers to receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.**](https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-georgia-leaders-to-remove-barriers-to-the-covid-19-vaccine?source=direct_link&)

While Georgia’s public health departments are working to speed up vaccinations, a recent Rx in Reach survey showed that the general public still faces confusion and concern about the vaccination process. But Georgia’s legislative leaders can make COVID-19 vaccination a legislative priority, help develop an easier to understand vaccination distribution plan, and explain the benefits and safety of the vaccine.

Thank you,

[ORGANIZATION NAME]

**Social Media Toolkit**

**Social media is very effective in reaching lawmakers and adding a level of accountability to their actions. Please use this social media toolkit to increase our noise level and directly ask elected officials to act.**

* Using the “@” sign before an elected official’s social media handle (username) will “tag” the lawmaker and notify him or her of your post.
* Each tweet has a placeholder for lawmakers; please **mix and match by adding the handles of key policymakers listed below.**

**Hashtags to Use:**

## #VaccinesWork (helps to unite our posts)

* **#VaccinesSaveLives** (helps to unite our posts

## #GAPol (hashtag for legislative efforts)

## Sample Social Media Messages

* ACT NOW: Georgia legislators need to make COVID-19 vaccinations a priority and remove barriers to receiving a vaccine. Email @GovKemp, [INSERT ADDITIONAL LEGISLATORS] TODAY to urge them to prioritize COVID-19 vaccination distribution: <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-georgia-leaders-to-remove-barriers-to-the-covid-19-vaccine> #GAPol
* Improving access to vaccinations in Georgia can help build a safe and healthy community. Supporting legislation that expands pharmacists’ ability to vaccinate can help save lives. @SpeakerRalston [INSERT ADDITIONAL LEGISLATORS] #VaccinesWork
* With COVID-19 vaccine distribution beginning here in Georgia, it’s more important than ever for legislators to prioritize removing barriers from vaccine distribution plans. Email @GovKemp today: <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-georgia-leaders-to-remove-barriers-to-the-covid-19-vaccine> #GAPol #VaccinesSaveLives
* Georgia leaders need to step up and ensure that all Georgia residents have access to COVID-19 vaccines. Tell @GovKemp, [INSERT ADDITIONAL LEGISLATORS] to remove barriers to vaccine distribution today: <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-georgia-leaders-to-remove-barriers-to-the-covid-19-vaccine> #GAPol
* #DYK that Georgia currently has the second lowest COVID-19 vaccination rates? ACT NOW and tell Georgia legislators to prioritize COVID-19 vaccination and improve vaccine distribution. #VaccinesWork <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-georgia-leaders-to-remove-barriers-to-the-covid-19-vaccine> #GAPol
* COVID-19 cases continue to spike in the United States, with devastating numbers of cases here in Georgia. That’s why we need [INSERT LEGISLATORS] to remove as many barriers as possible to ensure a safe and healthy community. #VaccinesSaveLives #GAPol
* Vaccines not only protect people who get them, but also help drive down new infection rates and keep communities safe and healthy. Georgia legislators must prioritize expanding access to COVID-19 vaccines. @GeoffDuncanGA [INSERT ADDITIONAL LEGISLATORS] #GApol

**Shareable Graphics – (Right click on the image & click “Save as picture” to save to your computer and attach to your posts.)**



