



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30329-4027

August 19, 2020

Janet Hamilton, MPH
Executive Director
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
2635 Century Parkway NE, Suite 700
Atlanta, Georgia 30345

Dear Ms. Hamilton:

I am responding to your letter dated August 6, 2020, to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Dr. Robert Redfield regarding Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) interim position statement Interim-20-ID-02, "Update to the standardized surveillance case definition and national notification for 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19)."

The position statement was reviewed by the CDC Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases; by the Incident Manager for the CDC COVID-19 response; by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), CDC; and by the Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services (CSELS), Deputy Director for Public Health Science and Surveillance (DDPHSS), CDC. CDC concurs with the interim position statement.

I appreciate CSTE's commitment to this important public health issue as well as the opportunity for CDC programs to provide input. We look forward to continued collaboration with CSTE regarding this and other public health issues of mutual concern.

Sincerely,

Jay C. Butler, MD, FAAP, MACP, FIDSA
CDC Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases

cc:

Dr. Anne Schuchat, CDC Principal Deputy Director
Dr. Henry Walke, Incident Manager for the CDC COVID-19 response
Dr. John Howard, NIOSH Director
Dr. Chesley Richards, CDC Deputy Director for Public Health Science and Surveillance
Dr. Michael Iademarco, CSELS Director