

Ryan F. Quarles
Commissioner



Corporate Drive
Complex
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 573-0282

Kentucky Department of Agriculture

March 12, 2020

Tod Griffin
Executive Director
Kentucky Retail Federation
340 Democrat Drive
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Tod,

As you know, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) is tasked with numerous consumer protection responsibilities as it relates to convenience and grocery stores in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. I wanted to write the Kentucky Retail Federation to urge you and your members to take actions that will help reduce the transmission of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) in Kentucky.

We are all still learning about this particular strain of coronavirus, but we do know that it can remain on surfaces many days after initial contact.

Here are some actions the KDA recommends your members consider:

- **Sanitation:** Many businesses across Kentucky provide hand sanitizer or sanitizing wipes to visitors. We applaud those members who already provide these items to their customers and encourage the members who do not currently provide those items to consider providing them.
- **Carts:** If you or your business provides carts and baskets to shoppers, we encourage you to instruct your staff to sanitize those items in between customer usage.
- **Education:** I urge you and your members to stay current with the latest information regarding the Coronavirus outbreak.
 - The World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
 - The Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services: www.kycovid19.ky.gov
 - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

While the number of cases in Kentucky remains low, these recommendations are helpful in protecting public health against a number of diseases, not only coronavirus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ryan F. Quarles".

Dr. Ryan F. Quarles
Commissioner of Agriculture
Commonwealth of Kentucky

