


MOTION

Health officials have confirmed the first two cases of the new strain of coronavirus in Los Angeles and Orange counties, brought by travelers who came from the epicenter of the outbreak in Wuhan, China. In both countries, the virus infecting the two individuals was the same strain as the one that has spread to more than 2,700 people in 14 countries and territories and caused 80 deaths since it was discovered late last month in central China. Three other cases have been diagnosed in the United States, one each in Arizona, Washington state and Chicago.

In Los Angeles County, the infected person was a returning traveler from Wuhan who is receiving medical treatment at a hospital. An Orange County patient is in good condition and is in isolation at a hospital, health officials said. In both counties, health authorities are following up with anyone who has had close contact with the patients, but they noted that causal contact with an infected person such as visiting the same grocery store or movie theatre carries only minimal risk of developing an infection. Medical officials report that the risk of local transmission remains low.

Medical officials report the new strain of coronavirus can cause respiratory illness and pneumonia. It was originally thought to be spreading only from animals to people in central China, but there are now indications it is spreading among people. The virus can cause pneumonia like symptoms, including fever, coughing and shortness of breath and, in extreme cases, can be fatal.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the Los Angeles County Health Department to report to the City Council of the potential effect of coronavirus on the residents in the City of Los Angeles.

PRESENTED BY: 
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY: 


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ORIGINAL