From:	Tia Jacobs
To:	bbethune@cityofmyrtlebeach.com
Subject:	[External]Mercatus COVID-19 Policy Response: New Research Roundup
Date:	Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:22:22 PM

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Dear Hon. Bethune,

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 public health and economic crisis, the Mercatus Center at George Mason University is publishing timely, short essays to address pressing policy questions affecting Congress, state and local governments, and the American economy.

Below you will find new Mercatus Resources on the COVID-19 Pandemic. **I am happy to answer any questions and connect you with our scholars to discuss their work further.**

- **The Benefits of Coronavirus Suppression: A Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Response to the First Wave of COVID-19**
  - Social distancing is providing public health benefits to society and the economy. How long will these benefits outweigh the costs? Should alternative measures be considered for the long-run? This brief provides specific statistics to inform the policy conversation.
- **The Difficult Path To State Bankruptcy**
  - In a perfect world, legislatures and governors would make the necessary budget adjustments to meet their financial obligations to the public, retirees, and bondholders. Unfortunately, they have not always been able to do that. Would state bankruptcy create a better vehicle? This brief weighs the pros and cons.
- **Industry-Level Baseline Risk of COVID-19 Infection**
  - This paper provides a framework that can be used to inform decisions on relaxing the shutdown, determining a more efficient approach for a future shutdown if the virus begins to spread again, and eventually evaluating the effectiveness of the measures taken in response to the initial outbreak.

Should you have any questions, would like to learn more about these issues, or would like to speak to the authors, please reply to this email and I will be happy to facilitate a conversation.

Sincerely,

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