



June 13, 2020

The Honorable Doug Ducey, Governor
State of Arizona
1700 West Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

RE: Local Control of Health Measures during COVID-19 Health Crisis

Governor Ducey,

The four counties that cover Arizona's border with Mexico, Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz and Yuma Counties, along with the Cities of San Luis and Somerton are experiencing very high rates of confirmed cases of COVID-19, severely impacting the health and wellbeing of our residents and our communities. To that end, we are committed to taking the necessary steps to help prevent the continued spread of this deadly virus.

We have all been tirelessly advocating that our residents adhere to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines, including the washing of hands, avoiding close contact, and wearing of facemasks around others. And perhaps the most significant one of these is the ability for people to wear facemasks in public and when social proximity cannot be avoided. But the reality is that since the state relaxed the Stay at Home Executive Order, many residents have interpreted this to mean that the danger is over.

We applaud your efforts to encourage people to follow the CDC guidelines but, what we see on the ground and in our communities is that the message is simply not getting through. Our rates of confirmed cases of COVID-19 are growing and we just do not see any signs of the rates leveling off in the near future.

We also wanted to point out that the data provided through the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) is typically one or two days behind what we see at home. Thus, in real time, the situation is actually worse than what is reported. We understand that ADHS is doing the best it can with the information that they have. But, in fact, as of last night:

- **Santa Cruz County (as of June 11, 2020):**
 - 157% increase between June 1st and June 11th
 - 914 Total Cases
 - 97 New Cases
 - 43 Hospitalizations
 - 306 Recoveries
 - 8 Deaths

- **Pima County (as of June 12, 2020):**
 - 3,628 Total Cases
 - 149 New Cases
 - 222 Deaths

- **Yuma County (as of June 11, 2020):**
 - 2942 Total Cases
 - 178 New Cases
 - 92 Hospitalizations
 - 42 Deaths

- **Cochise County (as of June 11, 2020):**
 - 206 Total Cases
 - 25 New Cases
 - 14 Hospitalizations
 - 84 Recovered
 - 4 Deaths

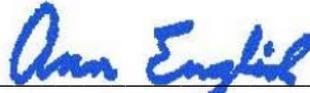
Thus, the aforementioned Cities and Counties are asking that you provide the necessary authorization for us to mandate the wearing of facemasks whenever our residents are in public or in situations where social proximity cannot be avoided. We hope to be able to deploy this measure by Tuesday of next week. We hope to hear from your office as soon as possible. This mandate would not have any financial penalties associated with it, but it would certainly garner the attention of the general

public and, we hope, greatly increase the number of people wearing facemasks. By mandating that people wear face masks, we will slow the spread of the disease and lower the risk of losing more lives to this virus as we seek to reopen our economy.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Sharon Bronson
Pima County
Arizona Border Counties Coalition



The Honorable Ann English
Cochise County
Arizona Border Counties Coalition



The Honorable Bruce Bracker
Santa Cruz County Chairman
Arizona Border Counties Coalition



The Honorable Tony Reyes
Yuma County Chairman
Arizona Border Counties Coalition



The Honorable Ramon Valadez
Pima County Chairman



The Honorable Gerardo Sanchez
City of San Luis Mayor



The Honorable Gerardo Anaya
City of Somerton Mayor