



CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

FLAGSTAFF CITY COUNCIL

211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001
Main Line: 928-213-2000
Website: <https://www.flagstaff.az.gov>

March 9, 2021

Arizona State Senate Chambers
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2890

Dear Senators,

As Arizonans continue to be adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, we are writing as members of the Flagstaff City Council to convey our opposition to House Bill 2770, which asserts that a business is not required to enforce a mask mandate that is established by the state, a city, town or county.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states that the virus that causes COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Numerous academic studies have shown that face masks work to trap respiratory droplets released from the wearer, and also act as a barrier to protect the wearer from inhaling droplets released by others. In this way, the use of face masks protects both the wearer and community members that they come into contact with. By lowering transmission rates and improving health outcomes, mask-wearing can also have positive impacts on the level of economic and social activity that can be safely enjoyed.

While we welcome the availability of COVID-19 vaccinations to priority groups, we note that only 10 percent of Arizona's population has received both doses of the vaccine and accordingly, a large majority of our state population remains vulnerable to the virus. The use of face masks continues to be an effective tool in the fight against COVID-19, especially as multiple variants of the virus are spreading across the country.

We urge you to vote "no" on House Bill 2770 and allow cities, towns, counties and other jurisdictions to continue to utilize reasonable and effective tools, such as requiring the use of face masks in public, to combat the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you for your service to Arizona,

Paul Deasy

Paul Deasy
Mayor of Flagstaff

Jim McCarthy
Flagstaff City Councilmember

Becky Daggett

Becky Daggett
Vice Mayor of Flagstaff

Regina Salas
Flagstaff City Councilmember

Austin Aslan
Flagstaff City Councilmember

Adam Shimoni
Flagstaff City Councilmember

Miranda Sweet
Flagstaff City Councilmember