

EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE MAYOR OF WEAKLEY COUNTY

NO. 7

**AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO RESCIND EXECUTIVE ORDER NOS. 1-6,
A DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN
WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE, REQUIREMENT TO WEAR MASKS
TO MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

WHEREAS, on August 11, 2020, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Tennessee and the authority granted by Tennessee Governor Bill Lee, I issued Weakley County Executive Order No. 1, implementing a countywide mask requirement relative to Governor Lee's Executive Order No. 55 as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 beginning on January 27, 2020, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic, and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a nationwide state of emergency due to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout our nation, state, region, county, and communities significantly affected the life and health of our people, as well as the economy at large; and

WHEREAS, with vigilance and common sense, and as a result of the continued sacrifices made by the citizens of Weakley County in the interest of public health over the past thirteen months, COVID-19 infections and resulting hospitalizations have been effectively managed and have significantly declined; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee's Executive Order No. 77, An Order To Facilitate The Continued Response To Covid-19 By Extending Executive Order No. 73, As Amended provided ongoing regulatory flexibility and other provisions in Executive Order No. 73, as amended that required the addressing of continuing effects, risks, and persistent negative economic conditions in order to assist Tennessee's citizens, health care systems, industries, small businesses, local and state governments, and religious and non-profit institutions to combat and recover from the long-term effects of COVID-19 is set to expire at 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the authority granted to county mayors within referenced orders of the Tennessee Governor and thereby established through Weakley County Executive Orders No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 regarding mask-wearing in Weakley County relative to COVID-19 is set to expire at 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Weakley County must protect lives while restoring livelihoods, both of which can be achieved with the expert advice of medical professionals and business leaders; and

WHEREAS, as Weakley County, our region, and our state continues to safely recover, the key to reducing spread of COVID-19 is the continued implementation of reasonable public health measures under the current circumstances including social distancing, limited capacity of gatherings where individuals are in prolonged close proximity, and use of face coverings for individuals engaged in close proximity activities and for prolonged gatherings where social distancing is not feasible; and

WHEREAS, Weakley County has seen a significant decline in COVID-19 infections and resulting hospitalizations, and the administering of vaccines is proceeding as expeditiously as possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jake Bynum, Weakley County Mayor, by the authority vested in me by the Tennessee Constitution, do hereby order and direct as follows:

Section 1. Executive Order No. 6 and all previous orders referenced within are rescinded and shall stand repealed. This Executive Order shall take effect on 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 9, 2021, and shall remain in effect hereafter unless otherwise rescinded, modified or extended.

Section 2. All persons within the State of Tennessee are still encouraged to follow the CDC's and Tennessee State Department of Health's guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 including:

1. Wearing a face covering, covering the nose and mouth, while in public spaces whenever it is not possible to maintain social distancing from persons not in the same household; and
2. Avoid large gatherings, particularly indoor gatherings; Maintain social distancing between persons not in your household; Practice good hand hygiene, including washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public space; and
3. Stay at home if you feel sick or have any symptoms of COVID-19.

Section 3. All businesses, industries, and public entities operating within the Weakley County are encouraged to make reasonable, good-faith efforts to comply with the CDC's and Tennessee State Department of Health's regulations and guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Section 4. Weakley County Schools System, in consultation with the Tennessee Department of Education, will continue to independently plan and implement safety measures inside of schools during school hours as well as all other organized extracurricular events involving students and/or the families of students for the safety and well-being of all children, families, faculty, and staff.

Section 5. Consistent with administrative orders of the Supreme Court of the State of Tennessee, all State Courts are open to fulfill their constitutional and statutory duties. Nothing in this or any Executive Order issued in response to COVID-19 is intended to conflict with or

otherwise infringe upon any administrative order issued by or under the direction of the Supreme Court of the State of Tennessee.

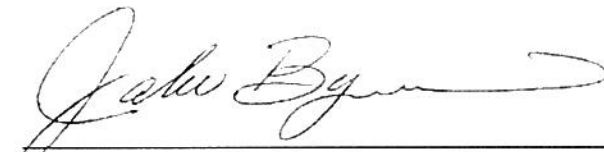
Section 6. Nothing in this local Executive Order issued in response to COVID-19 is intended to conflict with or otherwise infringe upon any orders issued by the Administration and Office of Tennessee Governor Bill Lee, and that this order be in addition to, and consistent with, the Tennessee State Department of Health's authority to issue, maintain and enforce isolation and quarantine orders pursuant to all relative requirements of Tennessee Code Annotated therein.

Section 7. This Order shall become effective at 11:59 PM on Friday, April 9, 2021, and shall remain in effect thereafter unless rescinded, continued, or renewed.

It is so ORDERED, by County Mayor Jake Bynum, Weakley County, Tennessee, on this the 9th day of April, 2021.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Weakley County to be affixed in Dresden, Tennessee, on the 9th day of April, two thousand twenty-one.



Jake Bynum, Weakley County Mayor