



WEAKLEY COUNTY MAYOR
Jake Bynum

Today, Monday, December 28, 2020, Weakley County Mayor Jake Bynum is issuing Executive Order 5, which extends the face-covering mandate. After consultation with healthcare professionals, local and regional hospital representatives, the Tennessee Department of Health, Governor Lee and members of his administration, and a study of data as local active cases continue to climb; Mayor Jake Bynum has determined that it is appropriate to continue to require cloth or other face coverings in certain circumstances in Weakley County to slow the spread of COVID-19.

After Governor Lee authorized County Mayors to require face coverings within their jurisdictions, Mayor Bynum issued a face covering requirement on August 11 due to escalating numbers of COVID-19 cases in Weakley County at that time. Weakley County was successful in reopening businesses, opening schools for in-person learning, and providing government services while for a time reducing the spread of COVID-19 through this and other health and safety measures. However, in the last thirty days, numbers have again significantly increased by over 750 new cases, putting the continued operation of businesses, schools, and public health in jeopardy. "No one likes the fact that it is crucial to reissue a mask mandate in our county. Unfortunately, the numbers can't be ignored," Bynum stated.

The Mayor's declaration containing the mandate, which is attached, will be effective Monday, December 28, 2020, at 12:01 AM through 11:59 PM on February 21, 2021, when Tennessee Governor Bill Lee's Executive Order 73 expires.

Mayor Bynum said, "I appreciate the Governor granting us tools to address this issue. As an elected official, I swore an oath to protect the public welfare. In utilizing every resource to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Weakley Countians can take an active role in halting the current spike in cases including this measure, as well as practicing social distancing, washing your hands, and avoiding gatherings with those outside their household." Mayor Bynum recognizes that there are many varying opinions on this issue. Still, he believes this mandate is a necessary safety measure for our local businesses and school to remain open in the coming months.

For more information, visit weakleycountyttn.gov.