

**Correspondence Received** 

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS SHEILA KUEHL JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

			The following individu	uals submitted comments on agenda item:
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
S-1.		Favor	Alexine Herdina	My kids need social skills. distance learning via zoom is horrible for their eye sight, my kids are complaining of headaches after zoom class. Too much distraction at home for the kids to focus.
			Alexis Ross	Can you please explain how you can open BREWERIES and NAIL SALONS before SCHOOLS???????
				What world do we live in that those businesses are prioritized before children? Schools have safety protocols in place. The more you open the businesses the more at risk our case numbers are for going up. PLEASE PRIORITIZE CHILDREN!!!
			Allsun Murtha	
			Alyson S Pernecky	I am a mom of 3 school-aged children urging the Board of Supervisors to open our schools. I have attached a letter that I sent to the Pasadena City Council and Health admininstrator.
				Our children are suffering. This has gone on WAY too long. I urge you and the counci to re-open our schools. Parents are asking this for very real reasons – all of which have to do with the health and development of our children. At a minimum our children are falling behind and unable to stare at a screen for hours on end. At worse, they are becoming anxious and depressed and this is not something that can be fixed overnight. I personally know 5 teens that have committed suicide. I do not say this for shock value or hyperbole. The CDC is reporting a dramatic increase in these kinds of cases involving children and if you are not aware you have either not done your research or this doesn't affect you, meaning you do not have school age children.
				I have 3 school aged children that have been struggling with online learning for months. In the beginning, we all tried to take it in stride because we were doing our part. My senior didn't get to attend his Senior Prom, attend classes for the last time with his teachers and friends, or even have an in-person graduation. He understood the need to sacrifice because the protocols for a safe return were still evolving. That is NO LONGER THE CASE! Remember why we agreed to shut down – it was NOT for positive cases (which at the start of the pandemic were projected (incorrectly) to be astronomical) it was for HOSPITALS to catch up to the projected (again incorrectly) need for ventilators, beds, etc.
				Today the White House announced that EACH state will get 100 MILLION state-of-the-art rapid tests for FREE so each teacher can be tested EVERY DAY with results in 15 minutes. The test is non-invasive. They also announced there is a surplus of 150,000 ventilators. We also have protocols in place for children and teachers to be safe at school. Other cities and states have done a fantastic job with opening schools. The virus does not know if it is in Utah, Texas or San Diego, California. Nor does it know if it's September 28, 2020 or November 4, 2020.



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	As I write to you today, our internet is out. Luckily, we are a family that can afford a wifi hotspot, a computer and other necessities to make my daughter's online learning day tolerable. Even still, her grades are suffering as she struggles with her ADHD and anxiety. But what you do not realize is you are tone deaf to the needs of our most vulnerable children. What do parents do if they both work or don't have the resources to keep their children up to speed with internet, computers, or someone to help keep them on track? We cannot keep these vulnerable children out of school because they may or may not have a relative at home that may or may not have an underlying health condition.  Keeping children out of school is doing them irreparable harm. There is no real reason to keep them out any longer. Teachers and students that don't want to come to school can opt for distance learning. We understand the need to physically distance. It's the "social distancing" and lack of engagement that is killing our kids.  Thank you for taking this seriously.  Alyson S Pernecky
Amelie Frank	
Ariane M Loera	Please open our schools. The kids need in person learning.
Barbara J Gallob	OPEN UP LA COUNTY! Breweries!!!! Open LA County Breweries- We are over 70 breweries across LA County compared to thousands of tiny bars that call LA home. Like many of our fellow brewery owners, we have invested in PPE and put all safety of both our employees and our guests. So many of our patrons have expressed that they would feel safer dining on our patio than in many of the existing converted spaces of restaurants just down the street. The closing our brewery we have had to furlough 19 employees, which now are in the California system collecting unemployment. We are not generating any income and stand to lose our business, and our home, (which was leveraged to get the loan that was needed to build out). As a minority female business owner, I have worked very hard to be successful and pay my taxes.  Closing our brewery because we do not have a kitchen is asinine. In the past we have contracted with a third party catering companies with no patrons standing around waiting for food. Patrons are given a text message when their order is up or the food is delivered directly to their table. Being closed, the third party caterers are now in the system collecting unemployment. The raise in outbreak of the Corona Virus was NOT because of breweries. Patrons now leave LA County and go to neighboring counties to dine -in and Dine -out, exposing themselves to the same risks that they encounter in their own county.  How can the board of Health and Safety say that closing LA County breweries will lower the risk of contamination? San Bernardino County is 2 miles away from our business. Breweries there are operating as restaurants contracting with outside food vendors. There has not been a spike in cases in that county due to the opening of breweries. We are asking for a fair opportunity to open our business. Give us the SAME chance as our neighboring counties. Stop discriminating. WE ARE NOT A BAR!
Brad Lyddon	It is imperative we open the schools for our children. Their mental health, academic



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	growth, and social well being is at great risk keeping them learning virtually. These risks greatly outweigh the risks of getting Covid 19 at their young age. We must fight now to protect our youngest members of the community who have been suffering. It has been 7 months since they have been in the classrooms with academic and social stimulation. I implore you to look at creative ways to safely open our schools, as it is essential to our children's well being.
	Regards, Brad Lyddon Father, Husband, Community advocate
Brandon Young	Open the schools. Our children's depression levels are increasing and mental health declining. Keeping the schools closed is a major disservice to the community and the future of our society.
Brian Schlick	
Carine Cooper	If student athletes are starting to be able to return to schools so should everyone else! Why are you treating COVID as it is less deadly than the COMMON flu!!!
	Get over it!
Carol Silberberg	I am in favor or reopening schools - minimally for waivers or without when the county hits the red tier. There is no science behind not having schools open with the correct protocols. We have schools opened all over the state using the correct protocols. We can have camps opened with kids at computers. But those same kids under the same protocols cannot have a teacher. The state has said that students with IEP's can go to school. Those same protocols should work for kids who do not have formal IEPs. Stop being political. Stop caving to the unions. The school districts with unions will negotiate. If a district cannot open safely then fine. But you cannot close all schools because of that. Stop penalizing smaller or private schools. If larger schools cannot open - fine work with them. But you cannot treat all schools in LA County the same. It is larger than some states and you should not keep everyone home just because some people do have to stay home.  Ultimately kids are suffering at home. Mentally they are lonely and dispirited and much less active. Kids are not learning and it is unhealthy to be sitting in front of screens as they are being asked to do. The state has issues protocols. Let the schools open that can meet the protocols. Stop the inconsistency. Start thinking
Cassie Butts	about our kids.  My name is Cassie Butts and I am a mother of 3 young children and business owner
Cassio Batts	in Long Beach. I am writing to encourage you to begin accepting waivers based on the state's recommendations. With our numbers continuing to fall and things opening up in all other categories, schools should be given the opportunity to open. I understand not all schools have the resources or desire to open, but those that have been able (and have already spent thousands of dollars) to make barriers, change schedules, install cameras, install hand washing stations, and redo bathrooms should be allowed to re-open. Our children deserve better than what you are currently giving them. Please stop holding them hostage.
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Celene Lyddon	My name is Celene Lyddon. I have joined a letter writing campaign, along with several other parents to implore you all to open schools.
	With the mental health of our children at large risk we need you to stand up and be a voice for our young community members, our children. Open parks, recreational activities and schools. There are long term risks to their mental health that can be avoided if they are to go back to school. Our children need to be cared for now at in person school and waiting for a vaccine for that to happen is not an option.
	There have been creative and safe suggestions discussed previously among schools to open for optional in person instruction. Please discuss the health metrics for and under what conditions we can start opening. It's been 7 months since our children have been engaged in a classroom setting, academically and socially. An option is necessary to send children back to in person school.
	Regards, Celene Lyddon Mother, wife, voter, and community advocate
Cindy Hoag	I am requesting that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) correct the public record from the September 15, 2020 BOS Meeting. On multiple occasions the Director of Public Health, Dr. Ferrer, misstated facts surrounding the closure of breweries in Los Angeles County. Breweries ARE permitted to open on the state level with a 3rd county food vendor. The State of California has NOT mandated the closure of breweries with a 3rd Party Food vendor. Los Angeles County is the ONLY county in the state to close breweries entirely, as directed by Dr. Ferrer. Dr. Ferrer also referred to breweries as places where people "mingle and drink". This is a baseless claim that accuses breweries of breaking state mandates to provide justification for the unwarranted closure of breweries in Los Angeles. Breweries are family friendly (under 21 permitted) operations that open and close far earlier than bars. We 100% switched our models to sit down, dine-in per the June Public Health order. There was no mingling, standing or the likeness. To this date, breweries STILL have not been provided an explanation for the Public Health pivot from classifying breweries as restaurants to bars. It's a small ask that we deserve an answer to. The last explanation from Joshua Bobrowsky at Public Health, which is on record, was that Public Health has no enforcement mechanism with breweries. Again, this is false. As food manufacturing facilities, Public Health has the right to inspect our facilities. Public Health also has the ability to inspect our facilities via our 3rd Party food vendors, which have to be approved by Public Health and with whom we cannot open without. Our small businesses were not designed or constructed to be production only breweries and we cannot survive in this environment. The State of California has recognized this across multiple agencies, yet Public Health refuses to align with state policies to keep our businesses alive. I respectfully request that the BOS and Public Health allow breweries to operate as every other county in the Stat
Cortney L Vanis	Dear Mayor, City Council, and Dr. Goh Let me first start by thanking everyone for doing your best trying to keep our



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	communities safe during this pandemic. As a nurse, I appreciate the support our local hospitals received and the efforts put forth so we can continue to care for the sick while keeping ourselves and ultimately our families healthy. We all had the common goal of flattening the curve. We have seen the curve flatten and now it is time to change our course. We simply can not wait for Covid to disappear. In the middle of March, we all went into lockdown and we all knew this is what we temporarily needed to do to protect our community. Now 6 months later, we need to open back up. Online learning is doing absolutely nothing beneficial for our children. In actuality, it is the exact opposite of what we have been told by multiple healthcare professionals throughout the years. Too much screen time is detrimental both emotionally and psychologically. It wasn't until 1 of my 11 year old twins came to my husband and I and asked if waking up sad everyday is normal. As I laid awake all night repeating him asking me the question in my head, it suddenly dawn on me, of course he is sad. He has nothing to look forward to in his day. We took baseball, track and field, swim team, neighborhood friend interactions and school away from him. He was not allowed to just be a kid. He has 2 other brothers to play with but I can't imagine what this is doing to only children. Whether this has turned into a political stunt or not we can not risk the mental and physical health of our children any longer. They need to be back in the classroom. Enough is enough, the curve has flattened and we did our job. Now it is time for you to do yours.  As I believe mental and physical health are very important, I also believe education in the early years is essential for the foundations our children are building for their future. I am proud of the school administrators and teachers and all they have achieved during this pandemic. They are doing the best they can with their arms tied behind their back. All 3 of my children have expressed that they are not g
Danielle L Gleason	Our kids need to be back for many reason, mainly mentally. Their mental health is so important. Being isolated from friends and teachers and classmates is unhealthy.
Deanne Kohl	Please open our elementary schools. Please open St Rita School in Sierra Madre.
Diane Murtha	
Elaine Swailes	
Elisabeth Dodge	Our children desperately need to be in school and around their peers. This lack of social interaction is extremely detrimental to them.
Ellen Lansden	I am the parent of a kindergartener and a second grader currently attending school online. Our school in Pasadena has said that they are ready to open and prepared with the precautions necessary and we would love for our children to be back in school with their friends. They are lonely and miss the experience of learning in school and being with other kids. The youngest learners (kindergarten through second grade) are the ones who need in person learning the most and the ones proven to be the least at risk for both getting and transmitting Covid-19. Please move



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	Our caponacine received
	forward with the elementary school waiver process immediately. Thank you.
Ernie F Hernandez	Good morning Honorable Chair and Board of Supervisors- My name is Ernie Hernandez, City Manager for the City of Hawaiian Gardens, On behalf of the City of Hawaiian Gardens, our organization, our residents and our business community-I would like to thank the board of supervisors for considering to allow outdoor gaming in LA County as is currently being allowed in other parts of the State.  I am confident you can provide the necessary Covid-19 protections and limitations to allow outdoor gaming and other outdoor activities that will bring back jobs and much needed revenue across the County.  As a City who has been financially devasted by the pandemic, we appreciate your efforts to balance the public's health with the economic realities that have seen our City layoff 40% of its staff and cut essential programs and services across the board. For the sake of our community's mental health, our future and the thousands of LA County public and private sector jobs at stake I thank you for your consideration.
Genevieve M Clavreul	However, I think its time that the County considers reopening some County offices, and returns the Board meetings to a weekly calendar. Also to return to meet in the Boardroom which can be reconfigured for social distancing rules, and when people clear the metal detectors their temperature can be taken at the same time. Also make wearing masks a must.
George Burby	We need to return children to school as soon as safely possible. When the county is in tier 2 (red), I am in favor of an immediate return to the class room. Virtual study cannot replace in class instruction successfully and the effects on the mental health of our children is not fully understood. Please do not delay public health orders on returning to school when the time comes.
Hamed Nayeb- Hashemi	Good morning. As a healthcare professional and parent I have seen both the impacts of the pandemic medically, but also in terms of educational an social development. Though allowing waivers for tk-2 is a step in the right direction, limiting the numbers to 30 is almost worse than no action at all. Allow schools that are able to distance and meet state requirements under the elementary school policy to open county wide. No other sector has reopened in such a piecemeal fashion. We need to recognize the size of the county and varying case rates between communities which is the entire point of the waiver process. Thank you for your consideration
Harper Burge	Please open schools now.
Hayley Boaz	Please discuss a way to open schools now. Our children cannot wait for a vaccine. It is likely the vaccine will not be available to children until next year. Please consider opening schools, parks and children's museums for the mental, physical and emotional health of our children.  Kindly,
	Hayley Boaz Mother of 2
Heather DeArmond	Would like to show my support in schools reopening. The emotional, social and mental stress it is causing both our kids and us as parents is indescribable. Our kids needs this social interaction & face to face learning environment. Please take action!



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#### Ilana Steffen

My husband and I own Trademark Brewing in Long Beach. We have been open for a little over 1 year and we urgently need your assistance to survive. We are not asking for special treatment, we are asking for the same allowance as EVERY other county in California to allow Breweries to partner with 3rd party food vendors (as we normally do and were allowed to do in June). Our customers are still going to breweries; they are just driving the extra 6 minutes to our neighboring counties. Our industry needs consideration and guidance as we have a unique model where we are manufacturing with retail attached. Sales across the board are down 80% this year, but we are unable to just 100% halt production. Since we are manufacturing our facility is 20,000 sqft with a tasting room of 3,500sqft.

We have an existing outdoor patio that is 1,500sqft and with the ABC extension permit we extended that to 7,500sqft! We have more outdoor space than most restaurants and can follow all of the social distancing protocols and safety measures. We wouldn't be asking for this allowance unless as an industry we were confident that we can keep our teams safe and our customers. Please help save our industry. This is especially heightened as the rent moratorium concludes in 2 days and if we can't open then within the next 30-60 days breweries are going to have no choice but to close. Thank you for your consideration and I really hope you will do the right thing and save our small business and our unique industry.

#### Jaime R Cardenas

I am requesting that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) allow Breweries the opportunity to conduct outdoor on-site sales. This is the same opportunity granted to all other counties by the state. I feel this decision was made with a lack of knowledge of the brewing industry, as breweries have been incorrectly and unfairly lumped in with bars and now card rooms. It seems the major concern driving the closure of breweries is the possibility of co-mingling and a 'loosey-goosey' environment as previously described by the BOS and Health department. However, breweries have been equipped with the tools and protocols necessary to slow down this virus while allowing them to safely conduct business and feed and house the families of their employees. Breweries are incredibly clean places. Attention-to-detail and diligent sanitation protocols is virtually half the job, as part of a brewer's job is to ensure a clean/sterile environment to prohibit the growth of bacteria anywhere near where we manufacture our food products. Many breweries are in industrial zones or remote locations. This bodes very well for making use of outdoor space -- space which has been granted expansion privileges via a permit issued by the state ABC. Beer is classified as food in the state of California, so we are food & beverage manufacturers and should be classified in the same category as restaurants. It seems breweries have fallen to the back of the line of support and have been silenced with small lottery grants that help few and the option to conduct off-site sales only. However, Our industry needs consideration and guidance as we have a unique model where we are manufacturing with retail attached. Sales across the board are down 80% this year. but we are unable to just 100% halt production. Restaurants and grocery retail aren't able to pick up as much product from us at their limited capacity. Many of us are having to dump beer down the drain -- why? Because beer is food and food has a shelf-life. The industry standard for disposing of "out of code" beer is 120 days or less for most beer styles. We're closing in on month 7 of this pandemic and without the opportunities requested the majority of us will not survive the year. Although I



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	understand the need to slow down and eradicate this virus, the current restrictions do nothing to help. Rather than prevent patrons from visiting our breweries, they simply visit breweries in neighboring counties and contribute their tax dollars to other communities rather than helping our local communities. These are tax dollars lost that can help with community safety, education and health programs. Breweries are cornerstones of their communities, we are so much more than a business. Through our product, breweries have partnered with non profit and charity organizations to help fight causes ranging from providing funding to failing businesses such as food venders, to contributing funding towards cancer research, mental health programs and providing education grants and laptops to students in low income/at risk communities. This is a cry for help from a small business owner, one who took the risk of pursuing his dream of being a successful business person of color in his community only one year ago and one who worries about feeding his family and keeping them in their home.
	Reeping them in their nome.
Jasen M Murphy	It is critical that our schools are allowed to apply for a waiver and re-open immediately. Our great country has re-invented itself in the last 6 months and schools are no different. We can safely operate hospitals, medical offices, grocery stores, construction sites and schools are no different. We are betting on a vaccine whos timing and effectiveness is not known. Meanwhile what is known is that kids are suffering. This is not going away and you can always pull back the reigns and make adjustment and mitigation measures if there are localiized outbreaks. Please allow for waivers.
Jessica Sanchez	I am asking for every attempt be made to reopen the schools in our area. My child was deprived from having any socialization with other children for a few months and it really affected her mental state. For the past month, she has been attending a daycare while having to attend her virtual classes. If daycares can open for essential workers and have children together, then schools should be open.
Jill Lynn	My name is Jill Lynn,I am born and raised in Pasadena. I seeking answers to when our schools will be reopening. This is extremely important that we put the kids first for their mental health but also for the importance of in person education which has a huge impact on them.
	The mental health of our children is at stake and we need you to stand up with us and fight for our littlest community members. Open parks, recreational activities and schools. Our children are suffering greatly and may be facing long term mental health problems because of this, but it doesn't have to be this way. We can open up a new conversation and open schools. Waiting for a vaccine is not an option when our children need our care and attention now. I ask you to please get creative on how to safely open for the good of our future.
	Please discuss the health metrics for and under what conditions we can start opening. We've been waiting for 7 months to have our children engaged academically and socially. It should be an option for all families to have in person instruction.
	I'm asking you, for the sake of my child, my family, and our community, please open our schools!



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Regards, Jill Lynn Mother, wife,and voter

Also, my letter wouldn't attach for some reason so please see it below:

Mayor Tornek, City Council, Pasadena Health Department c/o Mark Jomsky City Clerk 100 North Garfield Ave Pasadena, CA 91101

Re: COVID-19 and Pasadena School Reopening

Dear Mayor, City Council and Dr Goh,

My name is Jill Lynn and I am writing you to ask and push for the opening of, at a minimum, kindergarten classes for Pasadena, CA. My husband and I have a three year old daughter in addition to our 5 year old daughter who this letter is the sole purpose for writing.

During these tumultuous times, our family, like most, have been experiencing both physical and emotional pressures and stresses. While as adults, my husband and I have been able to manage the best we can, but our concern is for our daughters. Our five year old specifically is missing a major year of educational and emotional development. Being on a Zoom call from 9am to 2pm is not the way a Kindergartner should be learning due to numerous distractions and the lack of supervision and attention. My husband has a job where he must be focused without distraction full time and I must take care of our 3 year old while both of them are working. We still find that while on Zoom, there is still much needed assistance with our child in order to complete tasks and assignments. While this is one issue, the main issue is her mental state. She is not getting the human interaction and emotional support needed as a child and this is ultimately effecting her mental growth.

Our five year old daughter is extremely reserved and an introvert. The past three years of school has helped her get out of her comfort zone and explore her confidence through education and friendship. She is a bright, curious and inquisitive little girl. She thrives on in- person learning and being hands on. During the past several weeks, we have watched her eagerness to learn dwindle away. After 30 minutes of being in front of the screen, she starts to tear up and ask to be done with online learning. For P.E., she is in a small place where she struggles to do jumping jacks, planks and throwing balls in the air as our dining room isn't the size of a gymnasium and we have not been able to go outside due to the fires. Prior to the fires, we tried putting her outside, but when tilting the stand and laptop down, it falls to the ground or they cant see her properly. In addition to these problems, our internet, along with her peers and teachers, continuously freezes throughout the day. This will then take several minutes for them to fix and continue on with learning.



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	Please open the schools for these children who desperately pine for in-person education and are able to have the interactions they need to be able to thrive in both learning and socializing.
	Pasadena has continued to exhibit low numbers and there is no reason we should be delaying. We have already missed months of key development and it will only get worse as time goes on. Open the schools back up and let the parents decide on whether or not to send their children back.
	Take care, Jill Lynn
Jill Van Dorpe	Our kids need to be back in school for everyone's mental health!
Jimmy L Gutierrez	
John Gerez	I, along with a diverse coalition of K-12 public, private and faith-based school leaders, parents, civic leaders and physicians, ask you to create a pathway to safely reopen schools in LA County.
	I ask that you communicate with transparent, data-driven public health metrics that allow the public to understand when and under what conditions our schools can be opened.
	I ask that you follow our state's reopening process immediately, beginning with our youngest learners in grades TK-3, who are having the most difficult time with distance education.
	I ask that you follow a plan of phased re-openings for grades 4-8 and 9-12, that follow our state's public health and safety milestones and allow all of our children the option to be back in the classroom for in-person instruction.
	I ask that you restore the LA County Department of Public Health's K-12 working group that allows education stake-holders to be part of the conversations and forces greater transparency for schools, families and the general public.
	After nearly 7 months of isolation, students and their families are feeling the drastic effects of social, emotional, mental and instructional harm. And, LA Unified School District has reported a 14% drop in Kindergarten enrollment alone.
	I know that not every school will be ready to open. And, I know that not every family will choose to send their children to school at this time. However, the waiver process will allow for education equity across neighborhoods and income levels and will improve learning for thousands of students.
	I ask you to please consider this request for the good of my child, my family and our future.
	Sincerely,



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	John Gerez, Dad, Husband, Voter	
Josh Pickett	Hello,	
	Crazy times huh? First of all thank you for your ears on what I see as an important issues. There's a lot changing in our world and pre-cautions that should be taken. The breweries in L.A. are among the businesses that have showed the most diligence in following these rules. As restrictions have lifted elsewhere these breweries remain closed in what seems to be unfair circumstances.  Beer is all about community and banding together through both good and bad times. Given these are pretty bad times this outlet for people provides an important space. But yes, it needs to be done in a safe way. I urge the continuation of bringing your ears, critically listening and understanding the ways in which breweries are prepared to SAFELY open their businesses, remembering the importance of community (even if physically distanced) as one of our greatest assets. Our community wants to be heard. Our community wants our community back. Thank you for your time.	
hille Flaherren		
Julie Flahavan		
K Bent	I am in favor of reopening schools. As a student, I simply am not thriving with online school. If it is safe and my school has safe protocols, I should be able to go back so I can learn and grow. I know other students are going to school in other parts of the state. I have friends go to school at camps. I have friends playing sports. But I still cannot go to school even if outside we have so few sick people in our city (although I know LA County is large). Please open the schools that can do so safely.	
Kali Sauder	Kids need to be in school. It's essential. If a school can safely implement procedures to have students learning in person, they should be allowed to do so.	
Karina Bland	Our children need to be in school, it deeply effects their mental health. I have a 5th grade and kindergarten age son who has been so deeply affected. My once school loving boy is dreading zoom and it's exhausting to sit by an ipad daily. Please reconsider and open school immediately.	
Kate Frey	Please open schools. Kids need to be in school for learning and socialization.	
Kate Kohorst		
Kathleen Polenzani	My name is Kathleen Talbot and I am a mother, professional and community member of Pasadena. I implore you to open the schools. Our children should be the number one priority and unfortunately they have been swept under the rug. Instead of finding solutions and new ways to conduct in-person school we have relied on ineffective, unhealthy substitutions. Our children's mental, social and educational futures are at stake.	
	Please open the schools, parks and recreational centers, in safe way for children and adults. There is a way. We can't wait for a vaccine that has no timeline and no idea of the level of effectiveness. We must open our schools and allow our children the best	



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	possible future.
	Thank you for your time and please consider opening the schools.
	My best, Kathleen Polenzani
Kelly Murtha	
Kelly M Davis	Dear Supervisor Barger,
	I, along with a diverse coalition of K-12 public, private and faith-based school leaders, parents, civic leaders and physicians, ask you to create a pathway to safely reopen schools in LA County.
	I ask that you communicate with transparent, data-driven public health metrics that allow the public to understand when and under what conditions our schools can be opened.
	I ask that you follow our state's reopening process immediately, beginning with our youngest learners in grades TK-3, who are having the most difficult time with distance education.
	I ask that you follow a plan of phased re-openings for grades 4-8 and 9-12, that follow our state's public health and safety milestones and allow all of our children the option to be back in the classroom for in-person instruction.
	I ask that you restore the LA County Department of Public Health's K-12 working group that allows education stake-holders to be part of the conversations and forces greater transparency for schools, families and the general public.
	After nearly 7 months of isolation, students and their families are feeling the drastic effects of social, emotional, mental and instructional harm. Many working parents are not able to pay for childcare during the school day. Already, three quarters of families in South and East LA are experiencing income loss and food insecurity. And, LA Unified School District has reported a 14% drop in Kindergarten enrollment alone.
	I know that not every school will be ready to open. And, I know that not every family will choose to send their children to school at this time. However, the waiver process will allow for education equity across neighborhoods and income levels and will improve learning for thousands of students.
	I ask you to please consider this request for the good of our children, our families and our future.
	Sincerely,
	Kelly M. Davis



HILDA L. SOLIS

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS SHEILA KUEHL JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

# **Correspondence Received**

	•
	President La Cañada PTSA
kenneth james	
Keonya Dryden	I dined at Los Angeles Ale Works in June. At the time, I was 7 months pregnant. It was my first meal out in public and the only place I felt safe going to eat. I am saddened to hear they have been shut down. I fully support this measure to allow them to reopen.
Kevin Misajon	It is time to start bringing our kids safely back to school for the sake of their their mental health, their education, and the well-being of the overwhelmed family unit with working parents. This should start with the waiver process. I appreciate the County's desire to follow a gradual reopening plan for high needs students, however there are other districts and private schools in the County that have small student populations and who have made great efforts to meet the County's Health Department Guidelines for safely reopening with a hybrid model and strong safety protocols in place. My children's small school for example has plans in place to provide a full year of virtual learning for those who choose, to have mandatory school-wide remote learning once a week, and only half capacity the other days of the week with temperature checks, masks, outdoor instruction and plexiglass around the distanced desks. The fact that waivers are not even being considered in any part of Los Angeles County is a disservice to your constituents and our children.  Daycares, preschools, and day camps have been successfully operating with precautions in place, not to mention larger schools in neighboring counties. While I understand safety reopening schools is a complex matter that involves the LAUSD teacher's union for the public schools, without being given clear data-driven metrics that are adhered to and a reason why private schools cannot apply for waivers, this unfortunately appears to have become a politically-driven matter in Los Angeles County.
	I am asking that you do everything in your power to pressure the County to begin accepting school reopening waiver applications immediately for schools TK-8. At a minimum, you should be showing your support for our children in great need of inperson instruction, and transparently communicate the reasons the County is not allowing waivers and under what conditions the County will allow schools to reopen. We deserve better from our elected leaders as our children continue to suffer with no reasonable end in sight.
Kim Dittu	It is paramount for the social and emotional health of elementary aged students that they be allowed to attend school in person, as long as their school has implemented an appropriate safety plan. Therefore I support opening the waiver process for elementary schools.
Kimberly Shepherd	I am definitely in favor of sending all children back to school in a safe, organized and uplifting manor. We have got to rescue our children and families from depression, suicide, divorce, economic strife and anxiety. Please, let us all consider a constructive way to put our children first and get them back in the classroom and on the playground. We have so many resources at our disposal, high ranking hospitals and research, other schools successes nationwide and don't forget all the



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Lindsay Mirkovich  Good morning board of supervisors. Thank you for the opportunity for my voice to be heard. I'm writing int today in regards to S-1. We need to open! It is our constitutional right to work. The 14th amendment guarantees that every citizen may support themselves in an occupation of their choosing. You are taking that liberty away. Mandatory business closures such as, safer at home, are utterly unprecedented in American law. Not only have lockdowns never been imposed in American history, but they are not even mentioned in recent pandemic management guidance offered by the cdc. Even in the, very high severity, by the cdc, recommends only voluntary isolation of the sick and their household members. In this pandemic all these recommendations from the cdc and the constitution that our country is founded on, is being violated. Our Governor and La county heath department are taking the control of who can and cannot work. Who will profit and who will deplete reserves, who will receive a paycheck and who will be in the unemployment line. Our economy can't just be shut down and restarted by the government. Our system is made up of free people pursuing their dreams. We are a government by the people, for the people and of the people.  With the new Labor Day numbers, that we've all been waiting for, proves some	Angeles. Please reward our children for all of our sacrifices and hard work. Please, please please.  Kristel Lindner  Please let these local businesses operate. Los Angeles Ale Works has lots of room for outdoor seating and they have great partnerships with food vendors. These small businesses add culture to our neighborhood and offer a safe space for people to social distance  Kristen Fenwick  Please allow school waivers for elementary children. My kindergartener is really struggling, my 7 year old is not as excited about learning anymore, as a parent it is so hard to see. I worry for their mental health and their social development. My 7 year old is also complaining of headaches.  Doen the schools private schools shouldn't have to wait on public at least tk And k these kids need it. It doesn't make sense to have other non experienced kids centers helping distance learning kids need to feel connected at this time it's a mental health issue.  Lindsay Mirkovich  Good morning board of supervisors. Thank you for the opportunity for my voice to be heard. I'm writing int today in regards to S-1. We need to open! It is our constitutional right to work. The 14th amendment guarantees that every citizen may support themselves in an occupation of their choosing. You are taking that liberty away. Mandatory business closures such as, safer at home, are utterly unprecedented in American law. Not only have lockdowns never been imposed in American history, but they are not even mentioned in recent pandemic management guidance offered by the cdc. Even in the, very high severity, by the cdc, recommends only voluntary isolation of the sick and their household members. In this pandemic all these recommendations from the cdc and the constitution that our country is founded on, is being violated. Our Governor and La country heath department acking the control of who can and cannot work. Who will profit and who will deplete reserves, who will receive a paycheck and who will be in the unemployment line. Our economy can't just b		
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#### **Correspondence Received**

much less harmful to our community. You are shutting down businesses that can safely follow all the health officer guidelines and protocols. My daughters dance studio was shut down by La county health department saying Newsom has dance studios as a fitness facility/gym. Dance studios are not a gym. We don't share equipment, we don't have pools, saunas, showers, etc. We are a youth sport that is able to social distance and we can create class cohorts. Newsom states that if those quidelines can be met than the restrictions don't apply. La county is saying our kids are safer to dance outside. They really think thats safer for our children? In California with triple digit weather, dangerous air quality, dancing in a parking lot that a car can run them over, and today in our community, Santa Clarita, a man was arrested for sexually pleasuring himself in front of children outside of their dance studio. How in the world is this safer for our children? Our health department is failing our children. You have an obligation to our communities mental health as well. After school programs are more important now than ever! We've had more kids commit suicide in Santa Clarita, since the lockdown orders, than children have died from covid in LA County. With kids being home for school hours, many working parents were planning to work during their after school activity. After school programs are proven to keep our children safe, focused, and most importantly, keep them on the right track. If schools can request a waiver, after school programs should be able to do the same. such as dance studios, gymnastics, martial arts and cheer. Businesses such as these want to be able to safely open! Our studio was open for 10 weeks and not one covid case. By following all the protocols we were able to keep our kids and community safe. If a business is able to follow all the LA County protocols than we should have the right to be open! It is an absolute paradox! How can you say it's safe for daycare and childcare to be open, even when some have martial arts, etc. in their center but other businesses for our children can't be open when we can follow all the same guidelines?! Where is our constitution? Substantive due process? Where is the checks and balances? The response to an emergency cannot undermine our system of constitutional liberties, or the system of checks and balances protecting these liberties!

Thank you for your time, Lindsay Mirkovich

#### Lindsey Robinson

Dear LA County Board of Supervisors,

My husband and are writing to ask that you please open up the school waiver process. Our family lives in Pasadena and our daughter attends private school in Sierra Madre. Our school, along with many others in the area, have taken countless measures to ensure they are ready to safely open. In addition, Los Angeles County has also recently met the metric thresholds for Tier 2.

Our children in Los Angeles County need to be in school – in person. It is especially important for younger children, like our daughter. It's imperative for their development and mental health.

Please open up the waiver process and consider opening up schools.

Sincerely, George Burby and Lindsey Robinson



## **Correspondence Received**

THE DATE COLIC
HILDA L. SOLIS
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
SHEILA KUEHL
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

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Lisa Chai	I want the waiver to be released to qualifying schools
Lorena Tomb	
Magdalena V Bianchi RDA	
Marissa Bell	
martin quinones	as a small business owner, my brewery is less than two months away from a complete disaster. Breweries without a kitchen have not been allowed to open and this is literally destroying our businesses and livelihood. We can't hire, we can't buy supplies, we can't support other business (food vendors), we're not paying sales tax, so City royalties are affected as well.  It was reported over the weekend that numbers are going down and LA County did not see a COVID-19 surge post Labor Day.  Many breweries are a month (maybe two) away from shutting their doors forever.  And, we only have a couple more months before it may be too cold to dine outside anymore.  We can open safely and responsibly. Give us a chance to contract with a caterer or food truck to provide food and stay in business!  Breweries can and do operate in a safer and more stringent environment than restaurants. As manufacturers of a food product that requires aseptic technique, we have rigorous Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) that ALL employees must adhere to.  In addition to rigorous SOPs, breweries also have significantly more space in their facilities. The expansive space allows for proper social distancing without crowding guests onto sidewalks or narrow alleyways.  A month or two of revenues may help keep breweries open through the new year.  Please give us a life raft and allow us to open, stay in business, and keep our employees.
Mary J Forrest	My name is Mary Forrest, I am from Pasadena. I have started a letter writing campaign, along with several other parents to implore you all to open schools.  The mental health of our children is at stake and we need you to stand up with us and fight for our littlest community members. Open parks, recreational activities and schools. Our children are suffering greatly and may be facing long term mental health problems because of this, but it doesn't have to be this way. We can open up a new conversation and open schools. Waiting for a vaccine is not an option when our children need our care and attention now. I ask you to please get creative on how to safely open for the good of our future.  Please discuss the health metrics for and under what conditions we can start opening. We've been waiting for 7 months to have our children engaged academically and socially. It should be an option for all families to have in person instruction. I'm asking you, for the sake of my child, my family, and our community, please open our schools!



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	Regards,		
	Mary Forrest		
	Mother, wife, voter, and community advocate		
Maryann Young	Our kids learning has suffered enough. They need to be in school, see their friends, and receive the attention their teachers can give. For the sake of all of our mental sanity, they thrive when they are in school.		
Maureen Schimmoller	Please discuss allowing waivers for schools that are prepared to open safely and with the support of parents, teachers and staff.		
Megan Abel	Children need to be in school. I have two children ages 5 and 8. We are in complete favor of them attending school. Our school feels they are ready and willing to open and have safety protocols in place. I am an Emergency Room physician assistant and I understand the science and also now the fear that is behind this. Please I urge you to allow our kids to return. If this continues I'm concerned not only about the educational deficits they will suffer but also the social and emotional deficits. Small school age children need social interaction as much as they need fresh air, healthy foods and exercise. All of these things are critical for normal development and I am concerned that because of government bureaucrats my children are suffering. What does the election and consideration of waivers waiting until after the election have to do with Covid-19? Nothing but politicians pandering to the teachers unions that helped elect them. I am sick and tired of this type of government and can only pray that people wake up and start asking questions and pushing back.		
Michelle Sutton	Our children need to be back in school as soon as possible. My once two very happy children are not the kids who loved school like they used to. They dread school online now and don't want to learn. Although there are health risks, we have to weigh up which is worse. The health risks, or the long term impact this will have on our children's mental health that will impact them for years to come.		
Michelle C Garcia	Our kids desperately need to get back to school! They are not only deprived of academic skills, but very necessary social interaction.		
Nadia Chan	I am in favor of reopening Pasadena schools for my kindergartener and his mental health. He is gregarious, social, and laments logging onto zoom every morning. He expressed his desire to return to school to play with his friends. He has not had contact with friends for 6 months and counting now. Relegating his new classmates to small tiles on an ipad screen is detrimental to his emotional well being. Please allow schools to submit waivers to reopen, so that those parents who feel comfortable can have their children back in school. It has been a strain on our family dynamics to have distance learning for our kindergartener in addition to a preschooler at home. Thank you for your consideration.		
Nancy Cohick	Dear LA County Board of Supervisors,		
	Thank you for all you have done to keep the citizens of LA County safe. I am writing to support the allowance of the school waiver process. I believe strongly that schools should open in a safe way; this is what the waiver system is designed to address. There are many schools in LA County being denied the opportunity to open safely. It saddens me that although the required state health thresholds have been met,		



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schools are being denied the opportunity to open safely. What's more confusing is why childcare settings have been allowed to operate. YMCAs, Boys and Girls Club. and Kids Clubs are operating on public-school grounds. Kids are attending these settings as long as they meet the STATE guidelines What is disheartening is the exorbitant amount of money that these establishments are charging. For example, the cost to attend a local YMCA is \$220/week per child (\$880.00/month). If schools were open for at least a hybrid option, this could reduce that cost perhaps by onethird or more. Schools can open safely for small cohort learning under the same guidelines as the YMCA, reducing additional daycare costs during a time when income for many are at their worst. Why is there an arbitrary application of statewide standards? If a school can follow the same health department guidelines as required for the YMCA, Kids Clubs etc., a CHOICE for parents to send their kids to school, even part-time, should be an option. Why are some settings are permitted to open, and charge inflated amounts of money, yet schools, are not allowed to even apply for a waiver? If a school presents the required state documents and can follow the established protocols just like the YMCA etc., an equitable opportunity for schools to reopen should be allowed. Where is the equity across contexts?

Additionally, I am distraught by the added social-emotional state of all children at this time. I am troubled for the many children who have been denied the opportunity to receive a safe in-person instruction. I am deeply sad for my own child, an only child, trying to manage the emotional aspect of this when opportunities for social and emotional support at her school ARE available but being prohibited by LA County. Please consider allowing the waiver process to open.

Thank you for your consideration.

#### Nancy R Bell

Open our schools! Enough is enough! And our playgrounds!

#### Natalee Ray

My name is Natalee Ray, I was born and raised in Los Angeles and have chosen to raise my own children here as well. I am writing to ask you to open schools in Los Angeles.

The mental health of our children is at stake and we need you to stand up with us and fight for our littlest community members. Open parks, recreational activities and schools. Our children are suffering greatly and may be facing long term mental health problems because of this, but it doesn't have to be this way. Waiting for a vaccine is not an option when our children need our care and attention now. I ask you to please get creative on how to safely open for the good of our future.

Please discuss the health metrics and under what conditions we can start opening. We've been waiting for 7 months to have our children engaged academically and socially. It should be an option for all families to have in person instruction.

I'm asking you, for the sake of my child, my family, and our community, please open our schools!

Sincerely,



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	Natalee Ray Concerned Mother, Wife, Voter and Lifelong Los Angeles Resident
Natalie Frechette	To Whom It May Concern:Our kids need to be back in school. My kids' mental healt is at stake. Please open schools!
Nicole Anido	My name is Nicole Anido and I am a parent to 3 elementary age children in Pasadena. My children have been "virtual schooling" since March. This is no way f young children to learn. My children loved attending school and this experiment has turned them off of school. Young children cannot follow the direction of a teacher online while there are 10-20 other kids distracting them. They need to be in person where a teacher can see if they understand the lesson. Children learn from socializing with others. Keeping them from kids their own age is hindering their emotion, social and physical well-being. We can and must accept the waiver in LA County and let our children return to school
Paula E Gerez	I, along with a diverse coalition of K-12 public, private and faith-based school leader parents, civic leaders and physicians, ask you to create a pathway to safely reopen schools in LA County.  I ask that you communicate with transparent, data-driven public health metrics that allow the public to understand when and under what conditions our schools can be opened.  I ask that you follow our state's reopening process immediately, beginning with our youngest learners in grades TK-3, who are having the most difficult time with distant education.  I ask that you follow a plan of phased re-openings for grades 4-8 and 9-12, that follows.
	our state's public health and safety milestones and allow all of our children the optio to be back in the classroom for in-person instruction.  I ask that you restore the LA County Department of Public Health's K-12 working group that allows education stake-holders to be part of the conversations and forces greater transparency for schools, families and the general public.  After nearly 7 months of isolation, students and their families are feeling the drastic effects of social, emotional, mental and instructional harm. And, LA Unified School District has reported a 14% drop in Kindergarten enrollment alone.  I know that not every school will be ready to open. And, I know that not every family will choose to send their children to school at this time. However, the waiver process will allow for education equity across neighborhoods and income levels and will improve learning for thousands of students.



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	I ask you to please consider this request for the good of my child, my family and our future.  Sincerely, Paula Gerez
Rebecca Kearney	Good morning, I'm here to address agenda item S-1. I'm speaking in favor of opening schools for families who choose in-person learning. I'm a taxpayer and a homeowner in the 4th district, on the fringe of LA County, and a mother of a 5th, 2nd and kindergartner in the East Whitter City School District. I'm married to an educator and a coach who works in the Orange County public schools.
	Supervisor Hahn, our children are suffering emotionally, socially and academically. Virtual learning is not sustainable for families or for educators. We need a full and collaborative effort from the LA Board of Supervisors, the CTA and school districts to continue forward movement for reopening our schools for families that choose it.
	The YMCA is offering "educational support" programs that are working out of our campuses! They are demonstrating that students CAN be together on campus, safely. If they can be on our campuses, all families and students that desire in-person learning for their students should be given that option. Furthermore, private schools who have obtained a waiver are also demonstrating success in reopening. Safe and successful reopening is possible!
	There is a growing urgency to get students, of all ages, back to in-person learning for the sake of their mental well-being. There is a distressing increase in adolescent and teen depression and increased risk for teen suicide. I implore you to consider the true cost of this extended closure on this critical generation of young Americans. In closing, distance learning was created to be an OPTION for families that felt unsafe. It was not meant to be an indefinite, one-size fits all solution. Live, in-person education is proving to be the only effective option for many of us, my three daughters included. ALL of our children's mental and emotional health depends on our dedication to the task ahead and for the supervising powers to understand the full scope of damage they are exacting on the students under their governance. Our community and children deserve our full effort and fortitude to have them back in the classroom if they so choose. Thank you.
Rebecca Walley	My name is Rebecca Walley and I implore you to open schools for the sake of our children. Their mental and emotional well being is at stake.
	Please discuss the health metrics for and under what conditions we can start opening. We've been waiting for 7 months to have our children engaged academically and socially. It should be an option for all families to have in person instruction.
	I'm asking you, for the sake of my child, my family, and our community, please open our schools!
	Thank you, Rebecca Walley
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Ryan Forrest	My name is Ryan Forrest, and I live in Pasadena. My wife has started a letter writing campaign, with support from several other parents to beg our County and local leaders to open schools.
	The mental health of our children is at stake and we need you to take action with us and fight for our littlest community members. Open parks, recreational activities and schools. Our children are suffering greatly and are facing long term mental health problems because of this, but it doesn't have to be this way. You can open up a new conversation AND open schools. Waiting for a vaccine is not an option when our children need our care and attention now. I ask you to please get creative on how to safely open for the good of our future.
	Please discuss the health metrics for and under what conditions we can start opening. We've been waiting for nearly 7 months to have our children engaged academically and socially. It should be an option for all families to have in person instruction. Parents and teachers should be able to choose to "opt in" or "opt out" of in-person instruction pending their comfort and beliefs.
	I'm asking you, for the sake of our future, my family, and our community, please open our schools!
	Kindly, Ryan Forrest Father, husband, neighbor, voter, and community advocate
Schuyler A Schwimer	I am asking that you follow our state's reopening guidelines and open the waiver process for TK-3.
	As a mother of three small children and an educator, I am seeing firsthand the effects the school closures are having on our youngest children. As a community, we have worked very hard to lower the cases, and we are now in a place when the state feels we can safely reopen schools through a waiver process. Although all schools are not ready to open safely, many are. Countless hours and significant funds have been put into place at many schools. Those schools are ready to open.
	Young children are loosing out on essential developmental skills. Every day we prevent them from experiencing in person learning, we are delaying their development. Children are not learning how to read virtually, they are becoming at risk for developing lifelong learning disabilities. They are not learning social skills. They are not becoming life long learners. They are our future and should be our top priority.
	The safe reopening of preschools has shown us that this can be done safely. It is not time to allow our youngest elementary school students to return to school if their school is able to implement a safe reopening.
Sergio Davila	
Seth Ross	I am a concerned parent of two young children writing to express my dismay and frustration regarding the local order that all schools in Los Angeles remain closed this



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fall. The state of California, as you are aware, has allowed for a waiver process for elementary schools to open for in person learning. As cases decrease, we are told that more and more businesses are "opening up" but school waivers are not allowed. In doing so, you risk replacing the most serious health challenge in a generation with a public health disaster that will reverberate for generations. All school systems in the state should be free to make their own individualized determinations as to whether and when to resume in-person education, consistent with sound science, data, and their own individual circumstances. Additionally, as we are a religious school, we are also being deprived of our religious freedom, as our constitution promises that we may worship in our own way, "without fear of penalty or danger."

In March, there were many private schools in LA county that voluntarily closed their doors to help slow the spread of this novel virus. We were happy to do so for the safety of our students, teachers, faculty, and the greater community. However, 6 months later, we now have a vastly better understanding of the virus, and with reinvigorated public health services the reopening process is underway. Public officials must weigh the risks and costs of reopening particular institutions against the risks of not doing so. As per Fernando Morales in a recent email to a colleague, "While so many of us would love to see kids returning to schools and bring back some level of normalcy, the reality is that our current case rates still remain at too high a level to do so safely especially given the size and scale of LA County's student population." However, at the same time, it appears cases are not "too high" to prioritize opening indoor businesses. It would appear that LA county is looking to repair its economic system, while marginalizing the education of young children. This is a travesty that can be reversed by allowing individual schools who can reopen safely to be able to do so by utilizing the waiver program that Governor Newsom has in place.

Additionally, parents have the right to direct the education of their children in the religious setting of their choice. Government cannot dictate, without the most compelling of justifications, where and how religious instruction may occur. And even a compelling justification can only support the narrowest possible imposition by the state. Sadly, this has not been the case in Los Angeles. Daycare centers, preschools, and camps are open but not schools. In person gatherings are allowed in the very same buildings where instruction might take place, but in person instruction is prohibited. Glendale unified school district is allowing students to come back to the classroom to do "zoom school" with a "technology attendant." However, once a teacher tries to teach something, it is an illegal act.

Elementary schools have been ordered closed in Los Angeles county against the advice of the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Religious schools are ordered closed while allowing similarly situated entities, such as camps and childcare facilities to conduct in person operations.

A group of children can gather to play but those very same children in that very same



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	room are prohibited from learning and praying.
	We have a firm conviction that, consistent with our religious reliefs, education must be conducted in person to the extent possible. Furthermore, our school has gone above and beyond the state mandated re-opening guidelines and we are prepared for a safe return to school. Our teachers, parents, and community are all on board with a return to school which we can implement safely as demonstrated by our preschool being open without issues; if our youngest children can wear a mask all day and socially distance, so can our elementary school children.
	The school closure order presents a substantial risk of erroneous deprivation, which could be avoided through procedural safeguards. Our school is ready to present plans and evidence that we are prepared to open safely (by implementing CDC and AAP guidelines as well as exceeding the guidelines set by the state of California.)
	LA county is the largest populated county in the country and yet our county cases are decreasing. However, you stated you would not consider waivers until after the election in November. Is this a decision about politics or science based? Additionally, if you factor in our case counts for the westside of Los Angeles where our school community resides, our case counts are considerably lower (*1/3 the number of cases) than the eastern portion of LA county. As such, we are more than capable of a safe return to school.
	The school closure order is depriving our children of their constitutional rights for an indefinite period of time, potentially lasting months or even longer. This indefinite deprivation of these interested comes at a great cost, the educational, emotional, and spiritual well-being of young children.
	Please open up the waiver process immediately and let's find a way to safely continue life during a pandemic that has no end in sight. Lets not make this about politics- and please make it about science. We can not have young children on computers indefinitely. The constant moving of the goalpost as it pertains to waivers is unconstitutional, wrong, and not in the best interest of public health nor the health of our children under any argument as evidenced by the points above.
Shela Pinkel	
Stephanie Murphy	Our young kids, Kinder and 4th, are falling more beind every day. They are not getting the small group insturction they need online and are, quite frankly, not learning. They have so many years a head of them to fall behind so young. Our school has taken every precaution necessary to open. Now you need to stop holding us hostage and let us live our lifes. If people don't want to return that is up to them, let us make our own decisions for the welfare of our own families.
Toby M Horn	
Traci lacuaniello	Our schools need to reopen as soon as possible. My son is in first grade at Bethany Christian School in Sierra Madre. His school was completely prepared to reopen before the governor ordered all schools to close. They have applied for a waiver from LA County and it was denied. My son is in tears every day as his does "virtual"



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	learning." I can already see him falling behind where he should be because his teacher is unable to assess his needs over a computer. Children need to be around other children to help them develop socially and academically. As a parent, it should be my choice to protect my child's health and my choice on whether or not he attends school in person especially since he attends a private, Christian school. Reopen our schools NOW.
Tracy Banuelos	Please re-open the private schools through the waiver process. My son is in 1st Grade at a Catholics School in LA County. My husband and I work full time and it is a struggle to get someone to stay with him during distance learning. It is difficult for him to stare at a computer screen from the hours of 8 am to 2 pm every day. I feel that our school has taken all the necessary safety precautions to make this a safe learning environment for my son, teachers and other students. This distance learning is hurting our children. They need the In person instruction with teachers and aides inside the classroom to learn and develop academically and socially. Orange County Catholic schools have been back to school now for 3 weeks and not one report of Covid. How are Los Angeles County Private schools any different? Please consider opening, our children are really suffering.
Umberto C lacuaniello III	My son's mental health is being significantly impacted by virtual learning and must return to in person learning.
Vanessa Dominguez	Dear Board of Supervisors,
	These are already trying times – why do you insist on creating additional hurdles for Catholic, independent and private schools that have the infrastructure in place to open safely during this time? The county has been below 200 cases or less per 100K residents for over 4 weeks now. According to the state and LA County Department of Health, that threshold was supposed to be the point at which waivers would be accepted from districts and private schools to be able to open safely – why did this change?
	I understand that the LAUSD is the largest district in the county but I am frustrated as to why the timelines keep moving to accommodate the LAUSD? It is evident that the district and it's teachers are not ready to return to campus anytime soon,and that is ok. Why are students at private schools being subjected to operate under those terms? Your commentary from a few weeks back stating that K-12 schools could possibly open in "early November" or "after the election" coupled with the fact that the BOS is now directly engaged with the decision to permit waivers has now turned this into a political matter vs a health decision.
	What does the election and a non-medical board have to do with getting children back into classrooms if parents and teachers at private institutions desire?
	Many children who attend private school have both parents working outside of the home, many of them are essential workers and are having a difficult time arranging for adequate coverage while their children are online learning, it does not have to be this way! If schools have the means to operate safely while providing a virtual option to parents that do not feel comfortable sending their kids to school please begin to entertain the idea of accepting those waivers.



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		Regards,
		Vanessa
		Catholic School Parent of a 1st grader
	Veronica Luan	My name is Veronica Luan and I'm living in Pasadena with my 7 year old daughter. As a single mom, I have been through so much stress and frustration since the lock down.  My daughter is a happy, active, socialized little girl who thinks all kids are her friends Being the only child, it is such a depressing time for her to stay home with me our call day everyday since March. It breaks my heart to see her talking to cat asking whether the cat feels lonely and bored!  I am also deeply concerned about the quality of education she has been getting. I value education as I am currently in a full time master program myself. Taking my online classes and having an internship leaves me little time for her studies. It is just impossible to do both at the same time for me. I am desperate!  I am asking, as a single mom struggling in the pandemic, that the schools should reopen, for our kids' sake, all the social activities and learning experiences they have been missing should have a stop!
	Veronica Smith	Schools reopening
	William McCluskey	I am in favor of reopening the breweries in LA County. It is a shame it has taken this long to give them the approval they need to support their businesses, partners and families. There is no difference between them and a restaurant that operates outdoors. I urge you to put your bias to breweries or brewery patrons aside and simple vote to allow a legal business to run.
	Yasmin Sotomayor	
Oppose	Amy Magnotta	I urge the Board to allow waivers for elementary, Middle & High school students to return to school. The undue stress, anxiety and frustration of distance 'school' is ver real for so many students & families and it is shameful that LA has no 'end in sight' this charade. There's no learning happening for so many students and they are bein irreparably harmed both socially & emotionally. It is ridiculous that front line essentia workers at stores such as Costco/Target/Walmart etc can interact with 1000s of people throughout the week and 'unmasked' restaurant patrons can fill tables around the county but our children are STILL being denied basic in person education that is essential. We should be encouraging school districts to be creative - e.g. outdoor school options, grassroots options for parent volunteering to help to get schools set up etc. This is a crisis and we need YOUR leadership to allow these schools to reopen! Voters are watching and educating themselves on how politics & teacher unions are so well connected We are disgusted! Please allow our schools to open



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Christine Cross	This lockdown needs to end. What you are doing to our children and businesses is inexcusable. Open our schools. Open our churches. Open our businesses. Instead of forcing us into submission, educate the people with real facts and science and allow us to make our own health decisions for ourselves. The teachers union should not be allowed to hold the education of our children hostage. And politicians who keep California shut down should be voted out of office.
Concerned Parent	Open the schools back up, no masks!
Deborah Termeie	About 2000 American college students die annually from alcohol overdose. 2000! Each year.
	Annually, 120,000 victims of college students drunk driving get treated in emergency rooms.
	Fewer than 10 died of COVID-19 in the last 12 months.
	No one outlaws drinking alcohol.
	But, closing schools, colleges, and many related businesses is thought to be a good idea? Think about it.
Diane Grigsby	Schools need to re-open. We see people of all ages gathering in restaurants, at beaches, on TV at NFL games, and in parks and rec gyms and schools that offer childcare while parents are working. Schools are much more important than restaurants, beaches and NFL games. There is an obvious double-standard happening here. Why?
Eddie Tovar	We demand that Barbara Ferrer modify the health order and allow businesses that are allowed to open at limited capacity per california purple tier guidelines immediately. She has arbitrarily kept them closed on her fear that we would see a post labor day cases spike that did not materialize. Her job is not to make decisions based on her fear her job is to make decisions based on data. Modify the health order immediately!
Elizabeth Hosmann	Once again, I implore the Dept of Health to come up with some manageable, attainable, common-sense solutions to enable us to re-open our schools and businesses. COVID-19 is not going to be eradicated, and we have known this from the very beginning. The plan was NEVER to shut down everything for an indefinite amount of time. The goal was always to flatten the curve so we could treat those affected by this pandemic and not be overwhelmed at our hospitals. It has changed to a complete government overreach which has stripped us of our constitutional rights and arbitrarily imposed impossible restrictions on a select group of businesses. Those who are suffering the most are also our most vulnerable populationour young students, poor communities and minority families. Those without a voice are being hurt again and again by this poorly-managed public policy. PLEASE open our schools and businesses NOW and allow us to serve our communities.
Elizabeth R Burson	Hi there, I tried calling in today, and never got the chance to speak. I oppose the closures of schools and extra curricular activities.



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I am a business owner, and a mother.

My daughter was a junior last year at Saugus HS, and was there the morning of the Saugus shooting on Nov. 14. She was left in her classroom for many hours AFTER the shooting, and still has not recovered. The Saugus kids missed school for 2 weeks after the event, then came back for 2 weeks, and then had Winter break. Her first semester of last year was so traumatic, and is approaching one year. Even July 4th was a big trigger for her with the sound of fireworks.

The students came back for less than 2 months of school for 2nd semester in January-and had to finish that semester online. My daughter, among many others had her entire junior year taken away from her- and now it is her senior year- and they are not allowed to go back. Kids need to be in school learning- many of them really dislike distance learning, and it is so difficult on these kids.

We must move forward for the sanity of these kids. The trauma she experienced, and is continuing to experience without seeing many other teenagers is deeply damaging. The kids in the Santa Clarita Valley, and other LA County cities that WANT to open up should be able to open up. People NEED people!

The kids and families NEED activities such as music, theatre, band, art, dance, and sports. The mental health of these kids is at stake, and we need to help them get on with their lives.

I believe we can do this safely, but they need to have the option to go to school, go to an after-school activity, and live a little. It has been more than 6 months.

I urge you to open up individual cities schools, after school activities, and all businesses- and let people choose whether or not they want to go, and any activities that they choose. Please give each family the option.

Please reconsider the closures of sports, dance, music. We all must have balance. Thank you so much for reading this. Elizabeth Burson

#### Evan Taranta

I, along with a diverse coalition of K-12 public, private and faith-based school leaders, parents, civic leaders and physicians, ask you to create a pathway to safely reopen schools in LA County.

I ask that you communicate with transparent, data-driven public health metrics that allow the public to understand when and under what conditions our schools can be opened.

I ask that you follow our state's reopening process immediately, beginning with our youngest learners in grades TK-3, who are having the most difficult time with distance education.

I ask that you follow a plan of phased re-openings for grades 4-8 and 9-12, that follow our state's public health and safety milestones and allow all of our children the option to be back in the classroom for in-person instruction.



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	I also ask that you indicate your support or opposition to the issuance of waivers at this time so that your constituents know where you stand.
George Bent	Our Children need to go back to the classroom. Distance learning is not education, they need a fully interpersonal educational setting to flourish.
JACKI RIEDEMAN	As a teacher at Saugus High school in Santa Clarita, I oppose granting a waiver to any secondary public school to reopen before the criteria set by the county and/or state is met. We are seeing increasing rates of infection among younger people, and high school students are no exception. As a member of the community, I know that high school students are meeting in groups, having parties and generally not following the mandates set by the county and/or state. To reopen high schools at this point would be to expose teachers at risk (like myself and my wife) and all community members. Also, our district, Hart Unified, has yet to set standards for return that will keep teachers and students safe during this pandemic. I know that there is a very vocal group of parents that want to reopen schools at this moment, but the majority of families and staff do not. As a veteran teacher of more than 30 years, I know that we all should be in the classroom. But what parents do not understand is that the classroom will not be "normal" as they wish. You cannot put the adults and students at risk for long term health issues, and possibly death, just because a vocal minority want it so. I urge you, as the public officials with the scientific facts. to continue to keep our community safe by not granting any waivers to schools in Santa Clarita.
Jackson R Salinas	I am asking every supervisor to end this health order. I strongly urge you to immediately and fully end this harmful, unnecessary lockdown, as Modoc, Sutter, Yuba, Stanislaus, Kings, Tulare, and Colusa counties have done. A continued lockdown makes no sense when COVID-19's death rate is 3X lower than the seasonal flu, when the COVID-19 recovery rate is above 97%, and when COVID-19 death counts are being fraudulently padded. People are being financially destroyed. Attempted suicide, alcohol abuse, drug abuse, and child abuse are all going up. Please put a stop to this and don't hide behind your appointed health officer. You represent us and need to protect our livelihoods. Fully lift the lockdown now, so everyone can get back to work right away.
James A Lowrey IV	Please allow schools to open
jamie amarasuriya	
Jill A Pintens	• I am asking you to consider further questioning Dr. Ferrer on her decision to not allow K-6 schools to apply for waivers. I understand a large district like LAUSD may need 6-8 weeks to filter in ELL and Special Education students. However, there are other districts and private schools in the County that do not have large amounts of this student population and should have a chance to start bringing back their youngest students. Many of these schools have spent countless hours and funds to meet the County's Health Department guidelines, while still planning full year virtual programs for those families interested.



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Dr. Ferrer's continues to point to Labor Day cases. We cannot continue to use every passing holiday as a rationale for closures. Opening sectors of the community causes case increases. Like other places in the United States have, we must accept this reality. Instead of being afraid of case numbers, we instead must ask if our system can handle it, and currently we can. In addition, many of those new cases (mostly in the 18-30-year-old range) that are causing our numbers to increase, are not requiring hospitalization.

Some officials in LA County refuse to compare their approach to Covid to other areas, but it is really hard for LA children to understand why their friends & relatives in other states (who have worse Covid numbers than LA County) can attend school, soccer practice, etc.when they cannot.

Children thrive in structured environments. It has been six months since children have had any sense of normalcy. Physical safety is important, but so is mental well-being. As we border the entrance to the Red Tier, due in part to citizens doing their part, I ask you to reconsider the waiver option. If you expect your citizens to continue to comply with County guidelines, you cannot keep changing the state's rules. Thank you.

#### Kathleen Balderrama

We are 89 members of St. Anastasia Catholic School in Westchester, and we are writing to ask you to please direct Dr. Ferrer to begin reviewing and approving elementary school waivers immediately. Our school, with 190 children in Junior Kindergarten through 5th grade, has a plan to return to in-person instruction safely and slowly, beginning with a hybrid instruction model. And of course, our plan accommodates any families who prefer to continue distance learning. Seventy percent of our families have told us that they felt comfortable returning to campus. Our teachers and administration also support our plan.

However, waivers are not being accepted. Our students unquestionably learn more and have a better social and emotional experience in an in-person environment. It is time to bring our children safely back to school.

Supported by:
Kathleen Balderrama
Dustin Balderrama
Jill Pintens
Craig Pintens
Brooke Thomason
Daniel Thomason
Patrick Choate
Trisha Choate
Jennifer Lenz
Nick Cecola
Nicole Cecola
Emily Ingistov
Andrew Ingistov



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Kim McElreath	
Ann Renard	
George Bovenizer	
Maria Silvers	
Natalie Polanger	
Adam Polanger	
Chris O'Donnell	
Bonnie O'Donnell	
Denise Gustafson	
Brian Gustafson	
Sonoko Gizlandi	
lames Durand	
Gina Campbell	
Michael Campbell	
Diana Gendi	
Shadi Gendi	
Steve Donell	
Darren Gable	
.isa Gable lennifer Haroun	
Peter Haroun	
Megan Blu	
Edward Ray	
lanel Ray	
Carrie Cook	
Maggie Thomas	
Tom Lawrence	
Talitha Althouse	
Brian Taylor	
Therese Taylor	
Alison Monahan	
Patrick Monahan	
auren Klausen	
Peter Novakovic	
lennifer Barry	
Dianalee Dupree	
Robert Dupree	
Channing Curtis	
Anthony Curtis ludy Schepman	
Dennis Schepman	
Diane Sant	
Kristen Ziebarth	
Carla Brown	
Patrick Brown	
Megan Hall	
Aileen Domaguing	
Michael Domaguing	
5 5	



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#### **Correspondence Received**

Erik Schmella
losefina Schmella
Jennifer Walter
Chris Walter
David Haen
_arisa Esquivel
Whitney Burak
Eric Burak
Debbie Morales
Eric Morales
Jessica Wagner
Kris Jeffrey
Emily Ingistov
Andre Ingistov
Nick Cecola
Nicole Cecola
Matt McElreath
Kim McElreath
Richard Renard
John Bovenizer
Helma Bovenizer
Kathleen Conner
Sarah Leinart
Ann Abraham Marta Villalobos
Beth O'Rourke
Courtney Guillot
am writing to express my deep concern for the shamef
concerning the eviteric and process for recognize cobes

#### Kevin Groves

ful lack of transparency concerning the criteria and process for reopening schools in LA County. As a parent of two elementary school students (second and fifth grades), I find it grossly reprehensible that as a county we have prioritized the reopening bars, restaurants, and nail/hair salons while marginalizing our schools and specifically our younger students. This fact is an embarassing, shameful reflection of your values as a political body and public servant. The fact that the LA County Department of Public Health has not released guidelines, criteria, or any process for returning to in-person instruction is an absolute abomination. How can you or any Board member justify the Health Department's refusal to issue any guidelines or process for reopening other than "sometime in November"? How do you expect your constituents to interpret this public statement? How should parents of children who are just learning how to read interpret this statement? How about parents of children whose nutritional needs are partially or mostly met by attending school? Any reference to a November timeframe absent a coherent rationale (e.g., data, transmission rates, positivity rates, trends, etc.) reeks of politics while creating widespread cynicism about politicians and political bodies at all levels.

I ask that you and the Board of Supervisors step up at a time when your constituents need you most. I ask that you:

Create a pathway to safely reopen schools in LA County.



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	Communicate with transparent, data-driven public health metrics that allow the public to understand when and under what conditions our schools can be opened. Execute our state's reopening process immediately, beginning with our youngest learners in grades TK-3, who are having the most difficulty with distance education. Execute a plan of phased re-openings for grades 4-8 and 9-12 that follow our state's public health and safety milestones, and allow all of our children the option to be back in the classroom for in-person instruction.  Restore the LA County Department of Public Health's K-12 working group, which allows more diverse education stakeholders and forces greater transparency for schools, families, and the general public.  Hold the Director of LA County Department of Public Health accountable for these actions.
	After nearly 7 months of isolation, students and their families are feeling the detrimental effects of social, emotional, and mental isolation. As you know, many working parents are not able to pay for childcare during the school day. Thus far, three quarters of families in South and East LA are experiencing income loss and food insecurity while LA Unified School District has reported a 14% drop in Kindergarten enrollment. Although not every school will be ready to reopen, and not every family will choose to send their children to school at this time, the waiver process will allow for education equity across neighborhoods and income levels and dramatically improve learning for thousands of students.
	I ask you to please consider this request for the good of our children, our families, our communities, and our future. I ask that you and the Board of Supervisors consider your legacy by taking these actions to prioritize schools and students. It's time to stop prioritizing the economic needs of bars, restaurants, and nail/hair salons while marginalizing the learning needs of our youngest students.
	Sincerely,
	Dr. Kevin Groves
Kira Molas- Torreblanca	Please reverse denial for school waivers and allow private schools in Long Beach to pilot a safe return to school program. As a physician and a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics- which favor return to school, please consider the well being of parents and the lack of ability to provide daycare for homeschooling.
Lara Sarvian	My daughter is suffering! Lockdown has disabled her mentally. She needs to be back in school. She now sees doctors, a psychologist, a nutritionist, all because of lockdown. Please open our schools!!!
Lindsay DeMetropolis	Short answer is kids need to be back in school! Long answer involves so many different concerns that all start to affect on another. As an ER nurse distance learning 3 small kids, the oldest in 3rd, I am most concerned about mental health. My son cries every afternoon. The increase in mental illness and attempted suicide by teenagers, should scare you like it does me! Our kids deserve better!
Martin Cooper	This comment has to deal with Cardrooms in California, to be exact, in LA County. As a customer/player I do miss the game but also have to take into consideration the safety and well being of others. I am oppose the opening of Cardrooms in LA County, not just one but all. As Boardmembers you may know how players react or visit these



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	casino. If one opens the players will all gather at that one casino, once a second one opens they will bus, drive, uber, carpool or even cycle it to the casino. Players do this all the time and with them they bring poker chips, magazines, food and beverages, touched IDS OR LICENCES, even rewards cards, not to mention germs. In the time of COVID19 we need to keep these places closed, all of them. Bringing 500 players to a room full of 500 employees is a disaster waiting to happen. In the first wave of opening exposures happened and they was supposedly ready. Card rooms are trying to open outside but windy and soon to come flu season will not mix well with potential covid19 carriers. Be smart and keep Cardrooms closed until a positive scientific goal is reached and maintained. Outside or Inside these Cardrooms abuse and neglect employees as is and do not care for players safety as well. Money talks, don't be apart of the problem boardmembers be apart of the solution.
Mary Heimbold	It has been nearly 7 months of closures. Enough is enough. The amount of current daily deaths with Covid in a county of 10.4 million people has been between 50-13 people for weeks and weeks. Daily hospitalizations have been in the 700s for weeks with only 30% needing critical care. Amount of new cases does not matter if the percentage of those cases that are critically ill is infinitesimal. This Public Health Order stopped being rational a long time ago. Allow school waivers now. The wrath of this ongoing order will most certainly be felt when you are up for re-election if this persists into October. You are ruining the state of education for millions of children in your districts and our economy for metrics that stopped supporting these closures a long time ago. Private schools have the resources to effectively open and are filled with families that have options to choose other forms of education to suit their families' situation if needed during the remainder of this outbreak. We are not beholden to the LA teachers' union AND many offer scholarships for financially underprivileged families. There is no plausible reason to keep us shuttered. I want you to understand that there are now massive amounts of your constituents (and growing) that WILL be voting you out of office the first opportunity that we have if we are not opened up swiftly, full time, full classroom capacity AND remain open for the duration of this school year and next. If you are concerned with the small percentage of the families who have special health circumstances then open up digital schools for them where they can choose to distance learn and continue to shelter in place. Location no longer matters. You can serve the small sector of the population who needs to self quarantine and shelter in place without decimating the majority of the population, the economy and the livelihood and lives of the majority of voters in Los Angeles County.
Matthew McElreath	You need to grant schools the requested waiver. Kids are safer with other kids their age. The time has come and it should be now, not November 4th (as has been slipped from your mouth).
Michael Marasco	See attached letter.
Paige Greenspan	Please re-open our schools. Please at least let Tk-3 return to on campus instruction. Distance learning is the most difficult for this group of children. The social and emotional effects of being out of school for the past 7 months is just too great for our children to deal with. They need to return to campus. Please reconsider. Thank you.
	September 28, 2020
	Dear Supervisor Ridley-Thomas & all Members of the Board of Supervisors,



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I, along with a diverse coalition of K-12 public, private and faith-based school leaders, parents, civic leaders and physicians, ask you to create a pathway to safely reopen schools in LA County.

I ask that you communicate with transparent, data-driven public health metrics that allow the public to understand when and under what conditions our schools can be opened.

I ask that you follow our state's reopening process immediately, beginning with our youngest learners in grades TK-3, who are having the most difficult time with distance education.

I ask that you follow a plan of phased re-openings for grades 4-8 and 9-12, that follow our state's public health and safety milestones and allow all of our children the option to be back in the classroom for in-person instruction.

I ask that you restore the LA County Department of Public Health's K-12 working group that allows education stake-holders to be part of the conversations and forces greater transparency for schools, families and the general public.

After nearly 7 months of isolation, students and their families are feeling the drastic effects of social, emotional, mental and instructional harm. I am seeing the effects of this in my own home with my own three children in grades 2nd, 5th and 8th.

I know that not every school will be ready to open. I know that not every family will choose to send their children to school at this time. However, the waiver process will allow for education equity across neighborhoods and income levels and will improve learning for thousands of students.

I ask you to please consider this request for the good of our children, our families and our future.

Sincerely, Paige Greenspan

Paige Greenspan 4342 Jasmine Avenue Culver City, CA 90232 310-497-8709

#### Phil Capobianco

I find it highly unusual that breweries appear to be targeted unfairly in the reopening orders. Having been to several outdoor dining spaces already, I have noticed that many are taking far fewer precautions than the breweries (which were allowed to reopen momentarily back in June). While restaurants and wineries will be allowed to reopen even for indoor dining, breweries are forced to remain closed. I think a reassessment of this mandate is in order, before more local businesses are forced to close their doors for good.



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Sari Canales

The Honorable Kathryn Barger, Chair Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors 500 W. Temple Street, Room 869

Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Request for Public Health Department to Develop Re-opening Health Guidelines for Breweries and Food Trucks

Dear Supervisor Barger and Members of the Board,

On behalf of the Chambers of Commerce of the San Gabriel Valley and the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership, I ask that you direct the County Public Health Department to develop appropriate re-opening health guidelines to allow breweries that have outdoor eating areas with food service provided by food trucks to resume their food service and tap room operations.

According to a recent article published by the LA Daily News, Los Angeles County is the only county in the entire state "that, under health orders to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, prohibits breweries without permanent kitchens from serving customers food and brews outside." The article goes on to report that in the early stages of the stay-at-home orders, breweries – just as restaurants – were allowed to serve customers food and beer in outside dining areas. However, as the state reinitiated stay-at-home orders after easing restrictions in late May, it appears that LA County began to treat these breweries as they do bars and pubs, which must remain closed.

We understand that County health officials are concerned about businesses that can attract large gatherings of customers in a relaxed social setting. That said, breweries are significant businesses who play an important part in their local communities, not only in adding to the social culture and night life but also providing substantial sales tax revenue. Brewery owners depend on tap room and food sales for a large portion of their operating revenues — without the ability to re-open, many of these businesses will close permanently, costing many hardworking employees their jobs. Brewery owners have every incentive to abide by public health guidelines and ensure that those guidelines are obeyed by their customers and venders.

We are very appreciative of the County's efforts to aid and assist small businesses with small grants during the coronavirus pandemic. We also appreciate the hard work and dedication of the Public Health Department through this crisis, and the efforts they have made to re-open businesses throughout the County. This is why we have every confidence that if the department is directed by the Board of Supervisors to work with brewery owners and develop appropriate health guidelines for these unique businesses, that these breweries will be able to swiftly re-open without serious risk to public health.

For these important reasons, we ask that the Board of Supervisors direct the Public Health Department to swiftly assist these important small businesses in re-opening with appropriate health guidelines in place.

If you have questions regarding our position, please feel free to contact Brad Jensen, Director of Public Policy for the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership at (626) 856 -3400 or bjensen@sgvpartnership.org.

Sincerely,

William R. Manis, President & CEO San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership Karen MacNair, CEO Joanne McClaskey, Executive Director Arcadia Chamber of Commerce Industry Business Council



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Steve Castro, CEO Leah Skinner, Executive Director Azusa Chamber of Commerce La Verne Chamber of Commerce Ken Rausch, Executive Director Sari Canales, Executive Director El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce Monrovia Chamber of Commerce Joe Cina, President & CEO Paul Little, President & CEO Glendora Chamber of Commerce Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Pat Anderson, President & CEO Ani Minasian, President & CEO La Canada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce Montebello Chamber of Commerce Dawn Nelson, President & CEO Sandy Rosco, Executive Director Covina Chamber of Commerce San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce Sheryl Lefmann, President & CEO Sharon Gibbs, Executive Director Duarte Chamber of Commerce Alhambra Chamber of Commerce Silvia Melendez, Operations Director Randy Lopez, Executive Director San Dimas Chamber of Commerce Claremont Chamber of Commerce Monique Manzanares, President & CEO Pomona Chamber of Commerce

#### Stacey Morgan

Hello, my name is Stacey Morgan. Unfortunately I was not able to get through today. This was just another failure in a long line of failures perpetrated against LA county constituents by a self serving underperforming board of supervisors. I am a resident of Santa Clarita Valley, district 5. I am supposed to be represented by Kathryn Barger, but like so many in our area, Ms. Barger is cow-towing to our worthless Governor and board of supervisors. not her constituents.

This shut down in the name of COVID has gone on long enough. The original intent of the shut down was to flatten the curve. We've effectively done that. Six months later, businesses are still closed, our economy is in a shambles and our collective mental health is taxed. It is time to open ALL of our businesses and schools.

Pennsylvania, Florida and Idaho have just opened their states. Right here in California, Placer County has voted to remove all Covid restrictions in their county. Right here, closer to home, legislators from San Diego County, Riverside County and Orange County are banning together to transition control of their Counties to the local supervisors. LA County must do similarly. If move the responsibility of reopening to each District with the county.

LA. County is a huge county with an enormous population, our districts are diverse and vary from highly urban to rural. Covid restrictions cannot be managed with a one size fits all solution, especially as neighboring counties begin to open, LA County residents will simply travel to other counties to partake in businesses shut down in LA County, further damaging our county's economy.

Governor Newsom's Blueprint does not provide realistic levels for reopening and does nothing to move our county forward in a realistic and meaningful way. It is time to remove restrictions providing residents some level of normalcy and companies some level of comfort in the future of our economy so they will once again begin hiring in earnest. Residents of our state, county, districts and communities should be able to determine the right approach and level of risk for themselves and their families, whether it be attending school in person, extracurricular activities, movies, church, shopping malls, nail salons and other businesses currently considered off limits as



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well and freedom to choose whether to mask or not.

Unfortunately this topic has become incredibly political, and Dr Ferrer's comments that schools would "not open until after the election" was reckless further politicizing the issue. Poorly done, Dr. Ferrer. I do not need a non medical doctor at the helm of our health dept telling me what is right for me. I have a mother, I don't need that piece of shit in my life, let alone telling me what I can and cannot do.

The board Of supervisors must seriously reevaluate this topic and roll back the Covid lock down.

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	of shit in my life, let alone telling me what I can and cannot do.
	The board Of supervisors must seriously reevaluate this topic and roll back the Covid lock down. Thank you for your time.
Thalia Popermhem	it is not fair for breweries operating under safe guidelines and partnering with food vendors to remain closed while bars and restaurants with food remain open. please open la county breweries.
Todd M Goldberg	We are asking you to re-consider Dr. Ferrer's recommendation to not allow K-6 schools to apply for waivers. I understand a large district like LAUSD mayneed 6-8 weeks to filter in ELL and Special Education students. However, there are other districts and private schools in the County that do not have large amounts of this student population and should have a chance to start bringing back their youngest students. Many of these schools have spent countless hours and funds to meet the County's Health Department guidelines, while still planning full year virtual programs for those families interested. Dr. Ferrer continues to point to Labor Day cases. We cannot continue to use every passing holiday as a rationale for closures. Opening sectors of the community causes case increases. Like other places in the United States have, we must accept this reality. Instead of being afraid of case numbers, we instead must ask if our system can handle it, and currently we can. In addition, many of those new cases(mostly in the 18-30-year-old range) that are causing our numbers to increase, are not requiring hospitalization. Some officials in LA County refuse to compare their approach to Covid to other areas, but it is really hard for LA children to understand why their friends & relatives in other counties/cities/states (who have worse Covid numbers vs LA County) can attend school, soccer practice, etc. when they cannot. "The pandemic has reminded so many what we have long understood: that educators are invaluable in children's lives and that attending school in person offers children a wide array of health and educational benefits. For our country to truly value children, elected leaders must come together to appropriately support schools in safely returning students to the classroom and reopening schools." As we border the entrance to the Red Tier, due in part to citizens doing their part, WE ask you to reconsider the waiver option. If you expect your citizens to continue to comply with County guidelines, you cannot keep chang
Whitney Mellon	I am a district manager for Abercrombie and Fitch. We have 20 stores in Los Angeles that are closed employing 800 associates in them. These are the only stores closed in the US. We NEED to open indoor malls immediately. You are killing our business and your economy. Indoor malls are safer than outdoor malls, cleaner, and more efficient. My outdoor stores at outdoor malls are packed with homeless with urine and feces everywhere on the promenade. And you think this is safer than an indoor mall? Wrong. Let our malls open now. We can follow the guidelines and capacity limits. We need to open now we need to get our people back to work TODAY.
Zaynah Moussa	As a working parent, I urge the Board to strongly consider all avenues and opportunities to reopen LA County schools, safely and efficiently. Children and parents are buckling under the intense pressure of managing work, home, and mobile learning. Some children will end up missing an entire academic year if this continues, the mobile learning system just doesn't work for most families. Why can we find ways for restaurants and bars and zoos to reopen, but we can't find a solution for such an essential function as K-12 school? I also urge the unions involved to be reasonable



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		and responsible in their demands. We all want to make sure teachers and staff are safe, but there has to be middle ground. This isn't sustainable.
Other	ALEX CHERNISS	Letter to the board of supervisors and dph regarding the reopening of schools signe by elected officials in LA County.
	Alex Cherniss	Please see the attached letter endorsed by several elected officials in LA County urging for the reopening of schools.
	Alexis Ross	I am a concerned parent of two young children writing to express my dismay and frustration regarding the local order that all schools in Los Angeles remain closed th fall. The state of California, as you are aware, has allowed for a waiver process for elementary schools to open for in person learning. As cases decrease, we are told that more and more businesses are "opening up" but school waivers are not allowed In doing so, you risk replacing the most serious health challenge in a generation wit a public health disaster that will reverberate for generations. All school systems in t state should be free to make their own individualized determinations as to whether and when to resume in-person education, consistent with sound science, data, and their own individual circumstances. Additionally, as we are a religious school, we are also being deprived of our religious freedom, as our constitution promises that we may worship in our own way, "without fear of penalty or danger."
		In March, there were many private schools in LA county that voluntarily closed their doors to help slow the spread of this novel virus. We were happy to do so for the safety of our students, teachers, faculty, and the greater community. However, 6 months later, we now have a vastly better understanding of the virus, and with reinvigorated public health services the reopening process is underway. Public officials must weigh the risks and costs of reopening particular institutions against th risks of not doing so. As per Fernando Morales in a recent email to a colleague, "While so many of us would love to see kids returning to schools and bring back sor level of normalcy, the reality is that our current case rates still remain at too high a level to do so safely especially given the size and scale of LA County's student population." However, at the same time, it appears cases are not "too high" to prioritize opening indoor businesses. It would appear that LA county is looking to repair its economic system, while marginalizing the education of young children. Thi is a travesty that can be reversed by allowing individual schools who can reopen safely to be able to do so by utilizing the waiver program that Governor Newsom has in place.
		Additionally, parents have the right to direct the education of their children in the religious setting of their choice. Government cannot dictate, without the most compelling of justifications, where and how religious instruction may occur. And ever a compelling justification can only support the narrowest possible imposition by the state. Sadly, this has not been the case in Los Angeles. Daycare centers, preschools, and camps are open but not schools. In person gatherings are allowed the very same buildings where instruction might take place, but in person instruction is prohibited. Glendale unified school district is allowing students to come back to the classroom to do "zoom school" with a "technology attendant." However, once a teacher tries to teach something, it is an illegal act.



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Elementary schools have been ordered closed in Los Angeles county against the advice of the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Religious schools are ordered closed while allowing similarly situated entities, such as camps and childcare facilities to conduct in person operations.

A group of children can gather to play but those very same children in that very same room are prohibited from learning and praying.

We have a firm conviction that, consistent with our religious reliefs, education must be conducted in person to the extent possible. Furthermore, our school has gone above and beyond the state mandated re-opening guidelines and we are prepared for a safe return to school. Our teachers, parents, and community are all on board with a return to school which we can implement safely as demonstrated by our preschool being open without issues; if our youngest children can wear a mask all day and socially distance, so can our elementary school children.

The school closure order presents a substantial risk of erroneous deprivation, which could be avoided through procedural safeguards. Our school is ready to present plans and evidence that we are prepared to open safely (by implementing CDC and AAP guidelines as well as exceeding the guidelines set by the state of California.)

LA county is the largest populated county in the country and yet our county cases are decreasing. However, you stated you would not consider waivers until after the election in November. Is this a decision about politics or science based? Additionally, if you factor in our case counts for the westside of Los Angeles where our school community resides, our case counts are considerably lower (\*1/3 the number of cases) than the eastern portion of LA county. As such, we are more than capable of a safe return to school.

The school closure order is depriving our children of their constitutional rights for an indefinite period of time, potentially lasting months or even longer. This indefinite deprivation of these interested comes at a great cost, the educational, emotional, and spiritual well-being of young children.

Please open up the waiver process immediately and let's find a way to safely continue life during a pandemic that has no end in sight. Lets not make this about politics- and please make it about science. We can not have young children on computers indefinitely. The constant moving of the goalpost as it pertains to waivers is unconstitutional, wrong, and not in the best interest of public health nor the health of our children under any argument as evidenced by the points above.

Anders Corey

Andrew Fowler

We are requesting that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) correct the public record from the September 15, 2020 BOS Meeting. On multiple occasions the Director of Public Health, Dr. Ferrer, misstated facts surrounding the closure of breweries in Los



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	Angeles County. Breweries ARE permitted to open on the state level with a 3rd county food vendor. The State of California has NOT mandated the closure of breweries with a 3rd Party Food vendor. Los Angeles County is the ONLY county in the state to close breweries entirely, as directed by Dr. Ferrer. Dr. Ferrer also referred to breweries as places where people "mingle and drink". This is a baseless claim that accuses breweries of breaking state mandates to provide justification for the unwarranted closure of breweries in Los Angeles. Breweries are family friendly (under 21 permitted) operations that open and close far earlier than bars. We 100% switched our models to sit down, dine-in per the June Public Health order. There was no mingling, standing or the likeness. To this date, breweries STILL have not been provided an explanation for the Public Health pivot from classifying breweries as restaurants to bars. It's a small ask that we deserve an answer to. The last explanation from Joshua Bobrowsky at Public Health, which is on record, was that Public Health has no enforcement mechanism with breweries. Again, this is false. As food manufacturing facilities, Public Health has the right to inspect our facilities. Public Health also has the ability to inspect our facilities via our 3rd Party food vendors, which have to be approved by Public Health and with whom we cannot open without. Our small businesses were not designed or constructed to be production only breweries and we cannot survive in this environment. The State of California has recognized this across multiple agencies, yet Public Health refuses to align with state policies to keep our businesses alive. We respectfully request that the BOS and Public Health allow for breweries to operate as every other county in the State has allowed – for dine in service with third-party food vendors. Thank you for your continued work serving the residents of Los Angeles County.
Andria D Leahy	The county needs to re-open schools and accept waivers. The county needs to increase transparency and reduce political influence in public health decisions.
aris sarigianides	LA county must allow for districts to open its schools. Clearly, politics, rather than the science is dictating the county's decisions. Children must return to the classrooms and education is essential and should be prioritized. Do you not care of the future of LA?  Disparates that exist will only be compounded. Stop playing games, open schools and prioritize kids.
Armine Grigoryan	Dear Board of Supervisors,
	I am writing to express concerns over current orders prohibiting school reopening fok K-12 students. My children are enrolled in the same private school, and while my youngest one is allowed on the campus for preschool, my oldest one is in the elementary school and is not allowed on the campus. The school campus is large enough to safely comply with all the requirements of the Health Department, including social distancing protocols.
	Every day I see the school's operation in regards to taking all precautions and following all the appropriate Health Department guidelines, and I feel very safe sending my preschooler to the campus.
	My daughter, on the other hand, is not allowed on the campus and has to be in distance learning program . While the school has created an excellent platform for distance learning, I have major concerns for my child's health, wellbeing and safety. It



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	is not healthy for an elementary school student to be in front of a computer screen for 5.5 hours. Our pediatrician agrees with American Academy of Pediatrics' concern that increased screen time along with the lack of social interaction during distance learning has negative, and sometimes, long term and permanent effects on the developing children.
	It is true, that some schools with smaller campuses and larger number of students will not be able to reopen safely, but the schools which are able to comply with all requirements for safe reopening should be allowed to do so. Our school administration, teachers and most parents are closely following the reopening preconditions and requirements and looking forward to reopening the campus for elementary students.
	I am not sure I understand the current policies allowing schools or other designated locations to open and operate as day care or tutoring centers, but not allowing the same location to conduct actual school instruction. Does the actual instruction process by the teachers impose a greater risk of contracting Covid –19? Because the actual school instruction seems to be the main restriction for those classrooms/centers. I do not see any logic in this poorly developed policy which does not address the wellbeing and safety of families, and most importantly, the children.
	Sincerely,
Concerned Parent	Armine Grigoryan I'd like to see the k-6 school waiver released
Concerned Parent	Please release the waiver for k-6 schools to safety re open. Politics is getting in the way of science and we should be better than that. These kids have dealt with lies and bad leadership for years. Show them that you care about more than politics.
Cruise N Russo-Zirkel	I believe that the opening of wineries, attractions, tours, theme parks, and anything else that is still heavily restricted or completely barred from opening should be reconsidered. There are ways in which these business could operate and generate income that is both safe for their guests and employees and good for them financially. The distinction between wineries and other bars and restaurants especially seems unnecessary at this point.
Cynthia Russo	Barbra Ferrer and anyone else who is continuing with the lockdown needs to resign. She has no medical knowledge and there is no state of emergency. Our hospitals have plenty of room. The lockdown was suppose to be for a few weeks to give the hospitals a chance to get prepared. The lockdown, masks, social distancing all needs to be ended. This is not saving lives, this is destroying lives. She and anyone else who has a political and evil agenda need to repent and resign. Heaven and hell are real!!!



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Dave Holop	I am a craft brewery tasting room owner/operator in San Pedro. We have been open for on-site consumption a total of 10 days in the last 6 1/2 months. We cannot survive for much longer like this and neither can the rest of our industry. Much has been discussed about this issue, so I will just add this: everything the Department of Public Health keeps saying about breweries applies equally to restaurants and so it makes zero sense that there is this distinction made for brewery tasting rooms that could partner with food trucks. There is literally no basis or justification for this disparate treatment. It's completely devoid of evidence and absurd to pretend that what happens at restaurants is somehow different than what happens at a brewery with a food truck. And this baseless unjustified distinction has extremely real consequences for many real people. I know they are faceless nobodies to you, but our 32 employees who earn their living here (and 100s more at the other ~70 LA County breweries currently closed) are in real jeopardy of losing their livelihoods because of it, if they haven't already. We get the public health risks and are not downplaying them; we take them very seriously. But this restaurant vs. brewery distinction is not tailored to that risk- at all. A better solution for everyone would be to allow us to open with additional restrictions to address the particular health risks you may have - like restrictions on mingling, time limits on tables, permitting, oversight, etc. Please consider making these changes and saving our industry, our businesses, and our families. Thank you
Denise Traboulsi	Re-open K-12 schools now
Diana Limon	I would like to ask that the county open up the churches, the schools, the restaurants and all other businesses. The hospitals are not in danger. The numbers of deaths are down. There was no expectation of achieving zero Covid19 deaths. We must start moving as a society again. There are other terrible unintended consequences occurring due to the protracted shut down. Open up our county—especially the Northern LA County. Thank you.
Erika Foy	Please see my submitted letter about school and park closures. Kids are suffering and we need to open our schools and parks bow.
Harold Blumenfeld	The nail salons need to open!
Heather Kennedy	The discussion regarding providing waivers to return to school to specific areas within LA county should not be considered for the William S. Hart District Schools at this time for the following reasons:
	Equity. If teachers are teaching students both at home and in person, one group will suffer. How will teachers be able to address the questions in the Zoom chat? What will happen when a teacher moves away from their computer and students are in the Zoom waiting room due to a lost internet connection? We will spend much of our time attending to the technical aspects of this model and that will take away from the students in front of us.  Decreased live instruction. Under the hybrid model, students would lose, at minimum, 75 of the approximately 203 minutes of live instruction each class period receives each week.  Effectiveness. Under this hybrid model, we would not be able to include small group collaboration, think-pair-shares, and most other highly effective methods of teaching. It would not be a return to face-to-face instruction as it was pre-pandemic. Presenting it as a return to effective face-to-face instruction is disingenuous. Further, there is no evidence of this model being effective. Districts that are currently engaging in this



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	model are not finding it successful. We are also seeing difficulty in getting students to complete assignments outside of our designated class time. Many hybrid models are based on a flipped classroom model in which students view and complete pieces of instruction in advance of class. If students are not completing the flipped pieces of the assignments, our live classroom time will be greatly impacted.  Training. We did not receive adequate training from the district for online learning, nor was there an appropriate plan in place prior to its implementation. This is why most teachers have been working 9-12 hour days (or more) during online learning and relying on each other as their only real source of support. We need adequate time for a strong plan to be in place and for adequate training prior to implementation of hybrid learning.  Safety. We need answers about many aspects regarding safety, such as the mixing of students between periods, classroom sanitation between cohorts of Chromebooks and desks, staff restrooms when we must all use them at the exact same time between periods, etc.  Please seriously consider these concerns. We do not want to abandon the online learning model that we have given so much time to making work for an ineffective hybrid model.
Heather Wilson	Attached is the LA Times newsletter published 9.26.20. It is also here:
Tiodaloi Villooii	latimes.com/sports/newsletter/2020-09-26/santa-anita-opening-weekend-fall-2020-horse-racing
	Santa Anita Park continues to violate public health protocols. Quoted from John Cherwa:
	"As a side note, there was one table in the outside seating area with three people all without masks. One of them was a nonconformist trainer you may have heard of, not at the tippy-top but has had some pretty good horses. Their identity will remain a secret for now."
	WHY is this venue allowed to operate? They are placing the entire community at risk. Racetracks are not quarantined compounds, as Aidan Butler would like you to believe. At the close of their last racing meet in June, it was not until a week later did they reveal all the COVID cases that occurred during the course of the ENTIRE meet!
	Santa Anita Park CONTINUES to brazenly violate and disregard the most basic protocols in a deadly and contagious pandemic. Please shut down this racetrack. These folks will lie, cheat, deceive, whatever it takes to keep running the horses.
	They gamble on horses' lives, now they are gambling on ours. They are making a mockery out of you and the LA County Department of Public Health.
	Respectfully, Heather Wilson, CRNA, MS
Heather Wilson	I watched the livestream at Santa Anita park today. MANY people seen with no



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	masks, or with masks only covering their mouths.
	Since this is the most "famous" person at the park, I am sharing these photos with you.
	Just more examples of how Santa Anita does whatever it wants.
	The CHRB pathetically fines people \$100 for not wearing a mask. (\$100 is nothing to Bob Baffert) If this is how people adhere to public health code with cameras rolling, imagine what they do when nobody is watching.
	Horse racing and gambling are NOT essential businesses. Please, shut them down.
	Thank you for your concern. Heather Wilson, CRNA, MS
Isabel Padilla	In favor of breweries reopening. they are very covid friendly, outdoors, well spaced out.
Ivan Altamirano	City of Commerce, Mayor Ivan Altamirano's Statement to the Board of Supervisors 9-29-2020:
	I am encouraged by the latest data from the Department of Public Health which doesn't show an increase in cases after Labor Day which signals to us that people are taking the disease seriously and have taken precautions to stay safe. The community needs our assistance, we deliver meals to seniors, provide educational support for K-12 students, allowing them to access books through our outdoors pick-up from the Library, maintaining our streets and parks for responsible outdoors walking, jogging and solo exercising and other vital services, but we need the assistance from the Board of Supervisors so we can restore a crucial revenue stream to continue to be able to provide the services our residents depend on. I am confident that this outdoor opportunity will be carried with the upmost prudence and care. As noted by one of the state regulators who visited Commerce Casino after their first post-Covid-19 reopening, Commerce Casino had gone above and beyond the required safety standard, having implemented additional, rigorous safety precautions.  To date, the Commerce Casino has been opened for 10 days since March. As a City, we have lost at least \$13 million in revenues from this single source. The Casino provides 45% of our City budget, which equates to \$27 million a year. We are assured this outdoor reopening, will continue to be performed with rigorous safety measure for all who visit. It will also provide the desperately needed revenue and economic recovery for the City of Commerce, our residents, Casino employees and other communities like us. Thank you.
James Jones	Please open up malls
Jason Croddy	Like every other county in CA, breweries should be allowed to open for outdoor dining with 3rd party food trucks. Me, my wife, and my two year old feel safer on the wide-open permanent patio spaces of most LA breweries than at the restaurants currently



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	adapting parking lot spaces to try and make outdoor dining work. Breweries are typically in industrial business parks, which allows for a significant amount of space for social distancing. I am also comforted to know that the people running breweries are basically (if not actually like in the case of the owner of Honest Abe) chemists that have to keep things impeccably clean in order to successfully brew beer. While I understand it's devastating for any type of business to be closed, it would be a huge loss to the county to lose countless breweries when they could absolutely be open in a safe manner.
Jason Lindsay	Please open the application process for elementary school waivers to conduct in- person learning. Schools have worked hard to safely reopen. Educators and families who choose to conduct in-person learning should be permitted to do so.
Jennifer A Febre	I co-own MacLeod Ale Brewing Company in Van Nuys with my husband, Alastair. We built a pizza kitchen last year, which has saved us during COVID, because this kitchen allows us to serve patrons on site. Unfortunately, many other breweries in LA County are on the verge of collapse due to the decision of the County Health Dept and yourselves to veer from the State order allowing breweries to serve on-site with a food partner.
	You may think that breweries can survive just selling cans to-go, but they cannot. They need on-site patrons. There are 70 breweries in this predicament. They want to open safely with a food partner, just like all the other breweries in the state.
	Please don't kill the LA Brewery industry! Please reconsider your position!
	Thank you.
Jessica Hirsch	I am a concerned parent of two young children writing to express my dismay and frustration regarding the local order that all schools in Los Angeles remain closed this fall. I am the President of our school's Parent Association, and the office manager for a medical practice in Sherman Oaks. I do not think that you are fully understanding the impact of your decisions on young children. My youngest child (age 8, second grade) is now working with a child psychologist due to depression and stress from online learning and the social isolation that accompanies distance school. My 9 year old son is frequently in tears as he struggles with the ins and outs of distance learning and is now also working with a therapist because he has developed stress stomach and is actually vomiting from the stress and anxiety of distance learning and being away from his friends and teachers. My story is not unique to my home. The children are suffering immensely and many more are not getting any type of mental health services. That does not even take into consideration all available research on what this amount of forced screen time is doing to their brains and development (healthline.com/health-news/more-than-2-hours-of-screen-time-can-hurt-kids-brains#The-bottom-line).  The state of California, as you are aware, has allowed for a waiver process for elementary schools to open for in person learning. As cases decrease, we are told that more and more businesses are "opening up" but school waivers are not allowed. In doing so, you risk replacing the most serious health challenge in a generation with a public health disaster that will reverberate for generations. All school systems in the state should be free to make their own individualized determinations as to whether



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and when to resume in-person education, consistent with sound science, data, and their own individual circumstances. Additionally, as we are a religious school, we are also being deprived of our religious freedom, as our constitution promises that we may worship in our own way, "without fear of penalty or danger."

In March, our school was one of the first schools to voluntarily close our doors to help slow the spread of this novel virus. We were happy to do so for the safety of our students, teachers, faculty, and the greater community. However, 6 months later, we now have a vastly better understanding of the virus, and with reinvigorated public health services the reopening process is underway. Public officials must weigh the risks and costs of reopening particular institutions against the risks of not doing so. At this time, it appears you are prioritizing indoor businesses and marginalizing young children, which is a travesty that can be reversed by allowing individual schools who can reopen safely to be able to do so by utilizing the waiver program that Governor Newsom has in place.

Additionally, parents have the right to direct the education of their children in the religious setting of their choice. Government cannot dictate, without the most compelling of justifications, where and how religious instruction may occur. And even a compelling justification can only support the narrowest possible imposition by the state. Sadly, this has not been the case in Los Angeles. Daycare centers, preschools, and camps are open but not schools. In person gatherings are allowed in the very same buildings where instruction might take place, but in person instruction is prohibited. Glendale unified school district is allowing students to come back to the classroom to do "zoom school" with a "technology attendant." However, once a teacher tries to teach something, it is an illegal act.

Elementary schools have been ordered closed in Los Angeles county against the advice of the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Religious schools are ordered closed while allowing similarly situated entities, such as camps and childcare facilities to conduct in person operations.

A group of children can gather to play but those very same children in that very same room are prohibited from learning and praying.

We have a firm conviction that, consistent with our religious reliefs, education must be conducted in person to the extent possible. Furthermore, our school has gone above and beyond the state mandated re-opening guidelines and we are prepared for a safe return to school. Our teachers, parents, and community are all on board with a return to school which we can implement safely as demonstrated by our preschool being open without issues; if our youngest children can wear a mask all day and socially distance, so can our elementary school children.

Private school survey results show that at least 70% of private school parents support return to school, and trust their schools to create a safe and supportive return to in-person learning, while the families who are not ready to return will be offered distance learning options.



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The school closure order presents a substantial risk of erroneous deprivation, which could be avoided through procedural safeguards. Our school is ready to present plans and evidence that we are prepared to open safely (by implementing CDC and AAP guidelines as well as exceeding the guidelines set by the state of California.)

LA county is the largest populated county in the country and yet our county cases are decreasing. However, you stated you would not consider waivers until after the election in November. Additionally, if you factor in our case counts for the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles where our school community resides, our case counts are considerably lower than the eastern portion of LA county. Our local hospitals have had case numbers lower than in the teens for weeks, and all stable patients, per the daily reports our medical office is part of, as our doctor is the Chief of Plastic Surgery at Tarzana Cedars Hospital. As such, we are more than capable of a safe return to school.

The school closure order is depriving our children of their constitutional rights for an indefinite period of time, potentially lasting months or even longer. This indefinite deprivation of these interested comes at a great cost, the educational, emotional, and spiritual well-being of young children.

Please open up the waiver process immediately and let's find a way to safely continue life during a pandemic that has no end in sight. We can not have young children on computers indefinitely. The constant moving of the goalpost as it pertains to waivers is unconstitutional, wrong, and not in the best interest of public health nor the health of our children under any argument as evidenced by the points above.

I am also attaching the podcast Dr. Hirsch did with a local pediatrician on this topic.

podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/below-the-surface-with-dr-elliot-hirsch/id1501620758? i=1000487049257

## Jill Simonian Panossian

Open our schools! LAPH has taken away the waiver process for LA County schools to re-open, regardless if schools have proven, safe and tested plans that exceeds all guidelines. LAPH has stripped children's mental health to bare bones, severely destroyed family livelihood and wellness and strained parent/child/teacher relationships for a waning virus that yields over 95% full recovery in otherwise-healthy individuals under the age of 55 (per LAPH's weekly press reports).

LAPH has the audacity to cite "equity" as the reason for these egregious school closures. Meanwhile, for the majority -- learning loss is painfully self-evident, child/teen depression is rising faster than our worst nightmares could've imagined and our faith in who we previously considered our most trusted, non-partisan government officials has now been obliterated. Parents have quit their jobs to stay home to try and help educate our kids. Teachers who want to return to work have been bullied into neglecting the honor of doing what they love the most. Children and families are dying -- not from Covid, but from LA County Public Health's extreme overreach.



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	LA County has 10 million residents and 88 cities some of us with our own school districts (ie: La Canada Flintridge). Re-opening schools can no longer be viewed as a one-size-fits-all approach across the county especially since we can all stand in lines at Trader Joes, Target, Home Depot, Costco or attend any childcare camp +facility+preschool one can think of. Because, it's fine for all of these places to be open and operating amidst our double-digit fatality counts but schools cannot?  Shame on LA County Public Health for stripping the ability of local districts and cities to open our schools that we fund as tax-paying citizens let us open according to our local data, strategically-created safety plans and the number of decreasing COVID cases in our individual communities.
John Doe	
John Marston	I would love for breweries to be reopened, they're are measures that should allow them to stay safe and do their jobs as providers for the community
John Russo-Zirkel	We need to be more aggressive in opening the state. As an entertainer, not being able to perform has crushed mine and many others lively hoods. If we don't open the state soon things are only going to get worse for those who are already hungry, poor, and dealing with mental illness.
john p zirkel	I want all businesses open. There has been no spikes since Labor Day. Its been over 3 weeks and test results take 3-7 days so what is the reason we have not moved up in Tiers. If you can fly on a crowded plane you should be able to attend church services in person inside the building.
Juan Sedano	I'm a concerned parent of two children and I'm asking the LA County Supervisors to support the waiver application process for private and public schools that want to reopen schools. There are many schools that would like an opportunity to reopen, but the health department is not accepting any waiver applications, even though the covid19 cases have lowered. Some private/public schools have the proper PPEs to reopen. Mobile has taken a toll on our kids and parents in the household. We need your support.
Kari Exter	Allow LA County Craft Breweries to reopen
Karyn Malchus	Thank you to the Board for all you have done with regard to the Covid-19 pandemic. It is greatly appreciated. However, seven months later I want to make you aware of the sheer devastation that is happening in our community in which I and almost 300,000 other people live. I am pleading with the Board on behalf of the Santa Clarita Valley to please consider granting a variance to our valley so that we may reopen schools and businesses based on the Covid numbers in our area.  The devastation we are experiencing at this point far outweighs the risk of Covid and for that we respectfully hold the Board of County Supervisors accountable. Our small
	businesses are collapsing, our children and young people are suffering from depression and anxiety at a rate that is unprecedented. We are seeing homes fly onto the market weekly as people opt for exiting a county and state that has become so unbalanced. As a county, to be even more restrictive than the state and to not differentiate areas that could open is more detrimental than the virus itself. It is now



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time to put something into effect that releases the parts of the county which are low in numbers so that they are able to reopen.

If left under these restrictions there will surely be an economic depression which will result in homelessness, domestic violence, child abuse and the deterioration of child and adult mental health. We are already finding evidence of this in our area.

If there had been more differentiation four to five months ago we would be open by now. Being so far removed from the other parts of the county it is completely unwarranted that we would be held hostage by the general numbers of LA County. Going forward we will continue to be at the mercy of these numbers and will experience reopening and closures based on the rise and fall of LA County cases which will result in dire consequences. We will be forced into an economic depression that could be avoided if we were just granted a variance and the ability to have our numbers reviewed independently from the county. We are literally miles and miles away from any hotspots.

This is an extremely family oriented city, so I want to specifically speak to the businesses in our community that serve our children. Our gymnastic facilities, scholastic tutoring centers, art centers, martial arts studios, dance studios and much more have all been shut down for essentially seven months now. With the schools being closed it is unacceptable that these places would not be available to our community. These smaller, more controlled environments are the alternative we need for the well-being of our children and as well as our parents. Many of these facilities are in fact needed for our working parents since the children that attend these businesses are usually there for many hours in the afternoon. The parents need this option for childcare in order to be able to do their work from home.

The hypocrisy and inconsistency of what can be open and what cannot be is ludicrous. Why can a preschool be open and not these other children's businesses? Preschool IS NOT essential. If is considered childcare, then you need to regard ALL businesses that serve children as childcare because so many of them serve as afternoon daycares for kids. A place where children can go, and parents know that they're being supervised.

In addition, most of these businesses also have the detriment of being thrown under the category of "fitness facilities" and although some of these businesses are indeed physical, they are certainly not the same risk as corporate gyms who have thousands enrolled at their facilities and cater to a much higher age group.

The option of having our children's businesses operate outdoors is not conducive to where we live. The extreme heat the SCV experiences in September and October as well as the poor air quality from the number of fires we experience makes this an unviable option. This was tried by one of the one of our dance studios and due to the heat, there were dancers that passed out, some were throwing up and an ambulance was called as one dancer passed out and hit her head on the asphalt.

There are also additional risks when you place children outside for everyone to see. I am saddened to tell you that just last week a different dance studio that operating



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outdoors had a homeless man caught and arrested for gratifying himself in front of their young dancers. Yet another experience that we are willing to let happen to our children, all in the name of safety. WHOSE SAFETY!?

Parents DO NOT feel that outdoors in parking lots is a safe option. Unfortunately, they couldn't be more correct. Placing children in parking lots where they can be at risk for so many other dangers (including being hit by a car) does not seem like a great trade off to the risk of them being indoors with all the precautions in place. IT IS OUTRAGEOUS. ESPECIALLY WHEN OUR COVID NUMBERS DO NOT WARRANT IT.

Businesses and organizations that serve children should be in a separate category all together. This many months into these restrictions we see our children downward spiraling in so many ways. Their mental health is in question and needs to be addressed. Young children are acting out in ways they never did before. Our young people are losing their passion for things they have been involved with for years. In addition, the amount of cyber bullying that is going on within the Jr high and high school population is appalling. This is attributed to young people with too much time on their hands and no supervision. Taking them out of all the places that could be after school hours has given them carte blanche and the result is teenagers who are depressed, sad and even suicidal. The board is only addressing schools which have populations from the hundreds to the thousands. Please address the other services for children and the small businesses that make up these programs.

Thank you for your consideration.

#### Karyn M Malchus

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IZ-t Francis	Dr. Ferrer:
Kat Fernandez	What are the percentage of false positives in LA County? Have they been excluded from the positive numbers? If not, why and will you be auditing these numbers? Also, Why are K-12 artificially linked to universities? Thank you Kat Fernandez
Katelyn J Pugh	I'm tired of being stuck inside, and I miss going to work. I also need to pay for my insulin for my Type 1 Diabetes.
Keith Luczywo	The current rules set forth on the public health order are hurting our small businesses. Local LA County brewers have been singled out unfairly and remain shuttered. Some may not be able to reopen.
	Rules should be FAIR and the current rules are not. Restaurants are permitted to have outdoor service (often times in enclosed tents) while local breweries that have open outdoor gardens and socially distanced seating cannot. This isn't right.
	PLEASE allow these small businesses to operate UNDER THE SAME RULES as restaurants by allowing them to bring in food truck service and follow ALL THE OTHER RULES to reopen. Social distancing, spread apart tables, etc. Every other county in the state allows this yet here in LA county they cannot.
	We should be rewarding businesses that operate safely, not hurting them!! Save our counties small businesses.
Kelly Erickson	I am in support of opening LA County Breweries for outdoor service with a 3rd party food vendor.  Breweries are capable of providing the most safe outdoor seating and proper food service to customers. It is an industry susceptible to high failure rates in this COVID era when they can't sell direct to customers. It is frustrating to hear BOS representatives lump breweries into the "bar" category. They are small businesses independently owned and operated by community members. The customer experience is very distinctive from bars in the way that customers are educated on the product, sampling beers before taking cans home or finding the product on shelves at retailers. Opening breweries would take some of the



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	pressure off of relying on expensive and time-consuming packaging in cans (many breweries don't have access to cans nor canning lines).  Finally, the BOS has not provided adequate reasoning as to why these businesses cannot reopen when there are appropriate steps being taken by breweries to provide a safe experience for customers and staff. When LA County is talking about reopening movie theaters but not breweries w/ outdoor dining, my heart drops to my stomach. We voted for you trusting that you would do not just what is right, but to not (at least so blatantly) concede to special interests with the loudest lobbyists and money to spend. This is your time to do what's right for small businesses in LA County.
Kevin Donohue	The restrictions on small private schools, smaller districts, and charter schools being unable to open with waivers and proper protocols in place are onerous and unscientific at this point. Our students, especially from households lacking in supports and technology, are being harmed.
Kristina M Corral	Please allow beer breweries to reopen . Save small business! Most breweries are able to reopen safely outdoors with strict policies in place, they need you to allow what all out counties have except LA and let them reopen. Many will not survive I'd not allowed to reopen .  Thank you for your time
Kristofor W Barnes	We are requesting that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) correct the public record from the September 15, 2020 BOS Meeting. On multiple occasions the Director of Public Health, Dr. Ferrer, misstated facts surrounding the closure of breweries in Los Angeles County. Breweries ARE permitted to open on the state level with a 3rd county food vendor. The State of California has NOT mandated the closure of breweries with a 3rd Party Food vendor. Los Angeles County is the ONLY county in the state to close breweries entirely, as directed by Dr. Ferrer. Dr. Ferrer also referred to breweries as places where people "mingle and drink". This is a baseless claim that accuses breweries of breaking state mandates to provide justification for the unwarranted closure of breweries in Los Angeles. Breweries are family friendly (under 21 permitted) operations that open and close far earlier than bars. We 100% switched our models to sit down, dine-in per the June Public Health order. There was no mingling, standing or the likeness. To this date, breweries STILL have not been provided an explanation for the Public Health pivot from classifying breweries as restaurants to bars. It's a small ask that we deserve an answer to. The last explanation from Joshua Bobrowsky at Public Health, which is on record, was that Public Health has no enforcement mechanism with breweries. Again, this is false. As food manufacturing facilities, Public Health has the right to inspect our facilities. Public Health also has the ability to inspect our facilities via our 3rd Party food vendors, which have to be approved by Public Health and with whom we cannot open without. Our small businesses were not designed or constructed to be production only breweries and we cannot survive in this environment. The State of California has recognized this across multiple agencies, yet Public Health refuses to align with state policies to keep our businesses alive. We respectfully request that the BOS and Public Health allow breweries to operate as every other county in the S
Kristy Harlin	Open Schools, please see attached letter.



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Laina McFerren	My name is Laina McFerren and I am the founder of Wolf Creek Brewery in Santa Clarita, CA. We have been in business for 23 years with our Production Facility and Tasting Room in operation for 7 years. We have over 1 acre of outdoor space with plenty of room to social distance. I am imploring the Board of SUpervisors to align with the rest of the state and allow us to partner with outside food trucks and open for outdoor dining.  As a food manufacture, we are diligent in our sanitation and safety. We have invested in PPE and Covid-19 training for each employee and are confident that we can operate as safely as any restaurant.  As a restaurant owner as well, I am familiar with the protocols required for opening and can assure you that all were followed at the brewery in the very short period of time we were allowed to open.  Case numbers are going down. We did not see a "Post LAbor Day resurgence". We can open SAFELY AND RESPONSIBLY and deserve the chance to do so. Please give us a life-line to save our business and the jobs of our team.
Laura Graves	Please do not consider waivers at this time for high school districts. Although some elementary schools may be able to implement this safely, high schools are in a much different situation. There are larger numbers of students, a greater variety of classes, which makes stable cohorts much more difficult. Further, our transmission is still too high. I do not want my son's junior high or anyone in his district to become a cautionary tale about what happens when public health officials bow to political pressure. We are so close to making real progress against this virus. We learned earlier this year how devastating opening too early can be. Please do not consider waivers for junior high or high schools. Please do not consider opening schools at this time. We are not there yet.
Laura Kenan	Please let breweries reopen!! They need business in order to surprise!
Laurie Smith	Dear Supervisor Barger,  I am writing on behalf of my family and all the school age children in Los Angeles County that cannot attend school in-person. I urge you to use your position as our representative to help safely reopen our schools for those that chose in-person learning. The mental health and development of our children is at risk. The seven months that they have been at home has left its toll on them and with other states and other counties within our state reopening, the stress it is causing grows day by day.  I would understand and agree with our ultra cautious approach if we were seeing widespread risk to children, but the numbers show over and over that the initial benchmarks and revised benchmarks are not providing safety, but instead anguish and strife to our families (especially our children). Let's face it - things just don't function right without children in school.  I have been a long time resident of Pasadena and this is the first letter I have ever written to a representative, because I have never felt more strongly that our children are being hurt.  Covid positivity rates for Pasadena and the surrounding communities where our students live range from 3-5%. The CDC recommends schools opening when



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positivity rates are under 5%. Los Angeles County (over 10 million population) has a 7 days average positivity rate of 3.5%, down from the 14 day rate of 4% -not to mention, hospitalizations and deaths are drastically down. Our schools should be open based on these guidelines! Our Orange County neighbors (3 million population) are re-opening schools and their numbers are similar.

Governor Newsome just changed our benchmarks and Barbara Ferrer continues to set unreasonable expectations. It's incomprehensible why our government leaders don't want our kids in school. Are they not considering the emotional and physical implications that are a by-product of keeping kids at home on computer screens all day? Why are we allowing and entrusting Barbara Ferrer, NOT A MEDICAL DOCTOR, and her team to dictate Covid school re-opening policy and beyond? Do we really think that she misspoke when she said we cannot consider reopening until after the election?

Why can we go to Target, the supermarket, dine outdoors and yet our kids cannot go to school? Hundreds of people can gather for peaceful protests yet our children cannot safely attend school?

I just don't understand and I ask for your help and I truly appreciate your taking the time to read my letter.

Thank you for your service, Laurie Smith

#### Laurie L Porter

My husband and I own Smog City Brewing Co which opened in LA County in 2013. We currently employee 25 people across 4 taprooms in addition to our our brewery/manufacturing facility in Torrance. With Covid-19 cases on the decline, I know that our business can safely provide onsite outdoor service to our customers as well as any restaurant. To give you perspective, we have a lot of outdoor seating area, 2500 sq ft at our facility in Torrance and stringent and detail-oriented SOPs for Covid safety procedures for our staff. As we close in on the cold and wet winter months ahead, we have a small window in which to capture the revenues needed to survive through historically lean months. Please consider allowing brewery taprooms to open with the same meal, seating, time limit regulations as restaurants. Allow us to put our staff back to work. Allow us the opportunity to show you that we are good partners to the County and willing to do what is necessary to not only save our businesses but to protect the communities that we rely on.

It is important to note that we are not asking for special treatment, we are asking to be recognized for the unique businesses we are and given the same lifelines allowed by the State of CA regulators. We manufacture our own products, we package and sell that product through many outlets including distributors, self-distro and direct to consumer but our business models are designed for retail revenue to help us compete in a very competitive market. We rely heavily on quality ingredients, highly specialized staff and cover extremely large overheads with the revenue generated by our taprooms to remain competitive. We need that revenue to support the business models we have created over the years and although very good at adaptation, there are some things that have no budge: rents, utilities, wages, raw ingredients, these are set and cannot be avoided. We need relief, because after 6 months of modified



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	operation many of our breweries in LA County will not survive much longer. Our breweries are prepared to provide safe service to our community, give us a chance.
Leah Odette	Please release the waiver so schools can prove they can go back safely. Or start with micro schools. Whatever it takes to get kids safety in school
Lisa Howard	Regarding Covid, as our cases and hospitalizations are all falling, please end the lockdowns and allow our children to play, our people to worship and our small businesses to open. Nail salons, churches, malls, breweries, family fun centers,gyms - all should be opened. You said two weeks ago at the board meeting you aren't picking the winners and losers, but that is exactly what you are doing by arbitrarily keeping certain businesses closed while others are open. Why can I shop inside a Costco but not inside the mall? Why can I play outside at the park but not outside at Mountasia? You're running the county's economy like it's a monopoly game, but the small business owners losing their life work and life savings, would beg, BEG to differ.Lastly, if you won't reopen everything, please take a regional approach, Santa Clarita and the north county are ready to reopen. Our schools are ready. My normally high-achieving daughters are depressed, demoralized, unmotivated and lonely. They can read the stats and know they are at basically zero risk of serious illness. Please grant waivers for our districts to open.Thank you,Lisa HowardValencia
Lynnette Christopoulos	We need schools to re-open for the mental health of all (parents and students) involved. Our children have zoom fatigue. They are not retaining information. They are being deprived of an education. They need social interaction and less time on their screens. Zoom is taking a substantial toll on our children and they deserve to have the OPTION of returning to school in person.
Mary J Forrest	My name is Mary Forrest, I'm Speaking in Favor of Item 1 the Public Heath Order and general public comment. I am a resident of district 5. I have started a letter writing campaign in Pasadena, along with several other parents to implore you all to open schools. Today, I am speaking on behalf of all parents who are currently helping their children stay sitting in front of a screen – doing school.
	We have public and private schools in our community that want to open. We can do so safely.
	The mental health of our children is at stake and we need you to stand up with us and fight for our littlest community members. Open parks, recreational activities and schools. Our children are suffering greatly and may be facing long term mental health problems because of this, but it doesn't have to be this way. We can open up a new conversation and open schools. Waiting for a vaccine is not an option when our children need our care and attention now. I ask you to please get creative on how to safely open for the good of our future.
	day care and day camps are open. those require a lot of additional funding to which many families, such as my own, are not privileged to. And if day camps and daycares are open, what is the difference to opening schools? Keeping those open to people who can afford it is widening the socioeconomic gap and will cause further and deep rooted emotional damage to children and adults alike.
	The mental health of parents should also be considered. Whether you are working or



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	at home full time, we rely on a village to help raise a child. We have been completely stripped of that gift of community. The stress a parent feels to be everything to a child can cause deep emotional stress and cause damage to the parent child relationship. If parents don't feel like they have resources, it can be extremely isolating for them as well. I've talked to parents, men and women alike who are feeling the stress of this, wanting to provide for their kids but not being able to give everything to them due to financial strain or being stretched too thin.
	the CDC says schools should reopen using a risk continuumat what point do we value the physical and mental health of our children? In my opinion, we should be taking all the risks to ensure the safety of our children's futures in regards to mental health. I will not stand to watch children fall behindI hope you won't either.
	I'm asking you, for the sake of my child, my family, and our community, please open our schools!
	Regards, Mary Forrest
Michelle Brown	I am asking the Board of Supervisors and the County to consider allowing dance studios to reopen under new guidelines. My daughter, prior to Covid, used to attend dance multiple days a week. Throughout Covid, this has been one of the things she has looked forward to and was able to take part in, in person, on and off as restrictions changed. Admittedly, we are very cautious and were unsure about our daughter going back to in person classes. However, our studio worked diligently to go above and beyond to keep all dancers safe and the studio sanitized. Right now, dance studios are being considered in the same way as gyms, which isn't fully accurate. Unlike gyms, dance studios do not have shared facilities, saunas, showers, etc. The way they are set up makes it much easier to be socially distanced and clean regularly. An outdoor option is available, but doesn't seem reasonable. Aside from the costs associated with getting the necessary supplies to provide classes outdoors, the weather and poor air quality, don't make it ideal. In addition to that, continued dancing on asphalt or cement is not good for our children's bodies. The governor has allowed youth sports to reopen under new guidelines in small cohorts, and dance studios should be given the same opportunity. Thank you for your consideration.
Michelle Stonis	My name is Michelle Stonis. I'm a Long Beach resident in District 5. I'm a college professor who previously taught at Cal State Long Beach and who currently teaches at Glendale Community College. I'm also a parent of three children who attend the Long Beach USD: an 8th grader, a 6th grader, and a 1st grader. Wait, I messed up. I'm no longer a LBUSD parent; I pulled 2 of my children to transfer to an in-person private school and I'm now homeschooling the youngest. I want to speak on behalf of my children and the nearly 22,000 people who signed the Change.Org petition shared only 5 days ago about LA County's damaging Zoom time policies. Teachers and students should have the choice to return to school.
	When you ran for office, many of you listed that you'd partner with parents to support their children in school. I'm speaking on behalf of those who want less synchronous



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screen time. I know you're stuck trying to please two polar opposite sides. But what about meeting in the middle? The District could have adopted a differentiated instruction plan where working parents or those who wanted their kids online for the full school day could choose that while other children logged in only for the morning session then they completed asynchronous work for the rest. When only one side wins, a lot of the kids lose.

The current online schedule that LBUSD has implemented is damaging to children and their learning. Parents asking for it doesn't make it less harmful. K-8 children in our District should not be scheduled to be on Zoom for the better part of 9am to 3pm with cameras on. We're not even requiring college students to do this. Forcing children to turn on their cameras is an equity issue, especially in a District where thousands of parents needed hot spots or have unreliable Internet while video sucks up bandwidth. 1st graders shouldn't be online the same amount of time as 3rd graders or a few minutes short of 8th graders. It's not pedagogically sound or developmentally appropriate. The American Academy of Pediatrics and the CA Department of Education would also agree as they warned against excessive amounts of screen time and thus advocated for school to resume in person.

Two-time Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Nicholas Kristof wrote an op-ed a few weeks ago in the New York Times titled "Online Learning is an Oxymoron." It's a must-read for those in education. Engaging online learning can be an effective mode of learning. I've taught online for over a decade, but those are college students who chose that modality. But online learning will disproportionately impact children who are disadvantaged: those who don't have parents around to help, those who don't have reliable Internet, those who need additional support, those who need an IEP assessment and are being told they can't get one right now, and more.

When I told my oldest that she could attend private school, she asked how long she had to be on Zoom because it gave her a headache and hurt her eyes. When I told my youngest that I was going to homeschool her, she asked if she had to be on Zoom. When I said no, she said, "Thank you so much, Mommy! I couldn't take it anymore."

Give teachers and students the choice to go back to school. Other parts of our state and around the country have already done this. If my kids can go to Costco for hours, they should be able to go to school. Online learning, especially for elementary-aged children, isn't an equitable education as it is being run right now during this time. Focus on students and what they need. Let everyone choose. Open the schools.

#### Mindy Yu

I am writing to urge all of you to open up the waiver process for elementary school reopenings in LA County. Despite the county being below 200 cases per 100K residents for the past four weeks, the county maintains their position that it is too early to permit elementary school students to return to campuses and LA County residents have been offered no explanation for why such waivers will not be considered. Every day, every week, and every month that schools stay closed result in greater damage to the physical, mental, emotional, and developmental health of the future generation, particularly those from low income and vulnerable families.



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Last Tuesday, LA county had achieved caseloads and positivity rates low enough to move into the "red" tier in the next two weeks if it can maintain those numbers. Despite concerns regarding a Labor Day spike, the health department itself has already acknowledged that no such spike has happened and that the 7-day average of positive COVID-19 cases has dipped this week. I ask that you communicate with transparent, data-driven public health metrics that allow the public to understand when and under what conditions our schools can be opened. Re-opening schools should be driven by science and not politics. Multiple studies have confirmed that children under 10 are not significant vectors for transmission. Thus, I ask that you follow our state's reopening process immediately, beginning with our youngest learners in grades TK-3, who are having the most difficult time with distance education. I ask that you follow a plan of phased re-openings for grades 4-8 and 9-12, that follow our state's public health and safety milestones and allow all of our children the option to be back in the classroom for in-person instruction.

I ask that you restore the LA County Department of Public Health's K-12 working group that allows education stake-holders to be part of the conversations and forces greater transparency for schools, families and the general public.

After nearly 7 months of isolation, students and their families are feeling the drastic effects of physical, social, emotional, mental and instructional harm. Many working parents are not able to pay for childcare during the school day. Many children in LA County do not have access to WiFi or technology needed for distance learning. I personally have seen groups of young children outside fast food restaurants in my neighborhood in order to use the free WiFi to log into classes. Teachers are also one of the primary sources of reporting child abuse, which is impossible with distance learning. Those of us who are privileged enough to have a safe and secure home need to look out for the children who do not. Already, three quarters of families in South and East LA are experiencing income loss and food insecurity. And, LA Unified School District has reported a 14% drop in Kindergarten enrollment alone. It is not hyperbole to stay that over a year of learning loss will result in inequities that will be felt decades after the pandemic is over.

I know that not every school will be ready to open. And, I know that not every family will choose to send their children to school at this time. Schools need to re-open safely with adequate PPE, contact tracing, and other precautions in place. However, the waiver process needs to at least open in order to assess each school's preparation for re-opening. The waiver process will allow for education equity across neighborhoods and income levels and will improve learning for thousands of students.

I ask you to please consider this request for the good of our children, our families and our future. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

#### Mintzita Fernandez

INSTRUCCIONES PARA HABLAR CON LOS SUPERVISORES DEL CONDADO PARA QUE PONGAN ATENCION!

A LAS 8:45 on Tuesday,29 de Septiembre - Tenemos que llenar la junta de los Supervisores! Llame temprano para estar en linea, Los comentarios públicos empiezan a las 9:30 AM y es por una hora. Si no le dan la oportunidad de hablar,



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que es comun, definitivamente haga un comentario publico. Agenda for the Board meeting.

Para hacer un comentario publico:

Marque el 877-226-8163

El codigo para participar: 133-6503

Le diran que espere para un "specialista". Cuando esa persona llegue al teléfono diga que habla para la junta de los Supervisores . Despues dará su nombre para

estar conectada

Una vez que este conectada, Escuchara musica para esperar y despues le pediran

que precione el numerol "1-0" para ser puesto en espera.

Escuche cuidadosamente para las instrucciones

Dar comentarios cuando le digan - le daran de 1-2 minutos

Tambien podran hacer comentarios publicos en este enlace publiccomment.bos.lacounty.gov/

Los comentarios escritos seran aceptados antes y durante la junta del 29.

Llene su información general

Puede demostrar su apoyo presionando a el número de cada agenda:

La Mesa de Supervisores han hecho un gran progreso en enfocarse en el Cuidado primero, y cárceles después. Necesitamos seguir. Tenemos que incrementar la inversion a programas que funcionen para todos, pero especialmente para aquellos que han sido reprimidos históricamente.

Si no gusta escribir un comentario puede llegar a la parte de hasta abajo. The Board has made great progress on a Care First, Jails Last vision, and we need to keep the momentum. We must fund programs that work for everyone, but especially those that have been historically oppressed and marginalized.

If you don't want to comment on the specific agenda item, you can scroll all the way down and select "Public Comment" at the bottom.

To view via the web: bos.lacounty.gov/Board-Meeting/Live-Broadcast

Talking Points for Live Public Comment:

Hola mi nombre es Mintzita Fernández Y soy un residente del Sur los Angeles y miembro de community coalition. Apoyo a la agenda 11,18, 22, 57-A, y 63. Me gustaria hablar sobre la agenda 18 y hacer comentario público, Es muy importante enfocarse en la ayuda mental, mucha gente en la comunidad esta sufriendo y estas estresada, necesitamos ayuda, prevención para el abuso de drogas, Mas prevención y apoyo. Necesitamos seguir creando porgramas para los jóvenes y enfocarnos en cuidado y no en el Castigo.

Gracias por su tiempo

Monisha Parker

First District: 500 test per day
Second District: 500 tests per day
Third District: 500 tests per day
Fourth District: 500 tests per day
Fifth District 500 tests per day



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	Total is 2,500 tests per day in the first week.
	First District: 600 tests per day Second District: 600 tests per day Third District: 600 tests per day Fourth District: 600 tests per day First District: 600 tests per day Total is 3,000 tests per day in the second week
	First District: 700 tests per day Second District: 700 tests per day Third District: 700 tests per day Fourth District: 700 tests per day Fifth District: 700 tests per day Total is 3,500 tests per day in the third week.
	Dr. Barbara Ferrer is working under the old system when it comes to tests per day. The daily new cases can decrease, the county can move to tier 2 in the next few weeks.
Nataly Jimenez	In favor of allowing outdoor breweries to commence business as usual or in an outdoor well ventilated space as well as serve food from a 3rd party vendor if needed
Patrick Choate	As a member of St. Anastasia Catholic School in Westchester, I am writing to ask you to please direct Dr. Ferrer to begin reviewing and approving elementary school waivers immediately. Our school, with 190 children in Junior Kindergarten through 5th grade, has a plan to return to in-person instruction safely and slowly, beginning with a hybrid instruction model. And of course, our plan accommodates any families who prefer to continue distance learning. Seventy percent of our families have told us that they felt comfortable returning to campus. Our teachers and administration also support our plan.
	However, waivers are not being accepted. Our students unquestionably learn more and have a better social and emotional experience in an in-person environment. It is time to bring our children safely back to school.
rosalinda Amash	Schools MUST be opened NOW. This is unsustainable. Schools are essential, you must put aside all the politics and OPEN SCHOOLS. The children need to go back and you are making an impossible situation more impossible by preventing schools to re=-open for those families that wish to return. Politics are being put ahead of the well being and education of the county's children. REMEMBER who you work for.
Sarah B Walter	My name is Sarah Walter and I am a TK teacher in Los Angeles. I am writing to ask you to please let our schools utilize the waiver process. It is heartbreaking to watch four year old children sign on to Zoom each day to learn. They should be in school, socializing with their peers and learning what school is all about. Virtual school isn't the same. Many are at a disadvantage because they don't have a parent at home to help them with their school work. Many of their parents are essential workers and aren't able to be home with them during the day. I see many children struggling to learn and there isn't anything I can do to help them. Please reconsider your stance on the waiver program. I have seen first hand just how many children need to go to



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	school and we need to give them the opportunity to do so!		
Soupanat Mekchai	I'm a poker dealer that has been out of work for 6 months. Please allow us to come back to work becuase I cant pay rent.		
Stephanie Hayes- Jackson	I am imploring you to further question Dr. Ferrer on her rationale for not allowing Elementary schools to apply for waivers. I am an essential worker and a health care professional. As a healthcare worker, I do understand the important health concerns that we as a society are dealing with. However, as an occupational therapist, I also understand the importance of play as learning especially in the youngest grades-TK-3rd. There are many preschools that are successfully able to open their doors and maintain appropriate precautions. I do not understand why LA County is not accepting waivers for just for the youngest grades. I know they looked at and considered opening for children with disabilities and English learners, but I would also like them to consider accepting waivers for the youngest grades. As there are daycares and preschools have been successful by keeping their class sizes small, there are schools that are able to do the same at the kindergarten and elementary school levels. I am the parent of two children (kinder and 3rd grade) at St. Anastasia's Catholic School in Westchester. I am also an occupational therapist and essential worker. As an occupational therapist, I know that socialization, hands on learning, and group learning is the major part of development at these ages. We need a definitive plan to help these kids and parents know what is going to happen. With the rules constantly changing and no understanding of a plan to reopen the schools or accept the waiver (as the state already allows), it is very frustrating for parents and children alike. It also provides a perception that the LAUSD's union, by refusing to go in person, is in control of all children's futures in the public or private school sector because waivers aren't being considered even though they are legally allowed by the state. I am not sure if it is just perception or the truth, but I do not feel that the LAUSD's union should be controlling or influencing the health departments decision on whether to allow and grant waivers. I		
Sterling Steffen	S-1 Public Health Order  My name is Sterling Steffen from Trademark Brewing in Long Beach. I'd like to		
	comment on the heath order and request that breweries be given an opportunity to survive covid.  Trademark Brewing opened in the summer of 2019, however have been closed for 6 months as a result of government mandate. In this period we have received little to no support or guidance from the state or fed. During this closure we have watched our customers patronize outdoor restaurants, and travel to visit breweries in other counties. Our customers and sales have vanished, while our landlord is demanding full rent, and we are rapidly accumulating huge sums of debt. Our investment, complete life savings and the livelihood of our staff is hanging by a thread.  I request that that the Public Heath order to be modified to allow brewery tap rooms to operate in conjunction with food vendors and outdoor seating to allow on-premises consumption. Breweries can operate safely and responsibly with outstanding		



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	sanitation and rigorous SOPs - usually of higher standard than any restaurant.
	Please don't ignore our plea. Breweries are experts at sanitation. We're good operators who only want a fair shot at survival. There are 90 something breweries in LAC. Retail taproom revenue is the only chance many of us have, and a few months renewed operation is the only chance many of us have to stay open. Without the Board of Supervisors support, many of the breweries in LAC will close before the end of the year.
	There was not a surge of covid cases after the labor day weekend. Conditions are improving. Please give us a fair shot of survival and modify the LAC rules to align with every other county in California that is allowing breweries to partner with food vendors.
	Help us Supervisors, you're our only hope. Please don't forget about us.
Stuart Fowler	Please allow beer breweries to reopen, Safely of course. Most are able to operate safely outdoors and need to reopen to stay in business, thank you for your consideration.
Susan C Smith	I agree with some things and others I oppose. I want all of us to be as safe as we can. I take porecautions with my Family, my Employees and the Community around me. Unfortuantely, not everyone makes the right choices for whatever reasons.
Tal K Taylor	Please open the k-6 waiver program. Children are suffering. Your decision is clearly political. We have waited patiently. Transmission and hospitalization rates are down. There is no "one size fits all" solution. That's why the waiver program exists. Use it.
Thalia Popermhem	I am an employee of two breweries in I.a county and have been out of work for 7 months now. I am in favor of breweries re opening so that myself and the rest of our team can make a living wage again. during the few weeks that we were allowed to reopen (prior to second shutdown), we operated with extra careful pre cautions to minimize the spread of Covid-19. We have more socially distant seating than many restaurants I have seen operating and we pride ourselves on the cleanliness and sanitation of our workplace. Please give us a chance.
Thomas Kelley	Our small businesses were not designed or constructed to be production only breweries and we cannot survive in this environment. The State of California has recognized this across multiple agencies, yet Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) refused to align with state policies to keep our businesses alive. Our proposal is to allow for breweries to operate as every other county in the State has allowed – for dine in service with third-party food vendors.
	The current messaging from LACDPH has been that breweries, like bars, are more of a threat to public health because of a higher possibility of transmission due to "mingling". We wholeheartedly reject this notion as inaccurate. Breweries can and do operate in a safer and more stringent environment than restaurants. As manufacturers of a food product that requires aseptic technique, we have rigorous Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) that ALL our employees must adhere to. In addition to our rigorous SOP's we have significantly more space with many of our



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS SHEILA KUEHL JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

## **Correspondence Received**

	facilities located in industrial districts. The expansive space allows for proper social distancing without cramming people onto sidewalks or narrow alleyways. Our customer base is more akin to a restaurant than a bar, as families, those under 21 included, often come for dinner and beers. The brewery 3rd party food vendor relationship is one that LACDPH had already officially recognized in requiring breweries to apply for a LACDPH Host Facility permit. These relationships already existed symbiotically as breweries embraced the culture of food and beer together, unlike a bar where food is an afterthought. People visit breweries largely at mealtimes, and most taprooms open and close far earlier than bars. There are another two key points that have been lost during this. With outdoor dining having been proved as the model for the foreseeable future, don't we want for the greatest amount of businesses able to operate to allow for the maximum amount of space? And if we are surrounded by counties allowing this, aren't people then incentivized to travel out of their immediate area to go to these other businesses just across the county line — potentially spreading the virus as well? I believe that breweries have been misclassified due to some incorrect assumptions. We would appreciate an ongoing dialogue to find a solution that is safe and satisfies all of LACDPH's needed regulations. I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter.  Thomas Kelley Chief Vision Officer tom@elsegundobrewing.com m. 310-383-2329
Tom Konjoyan	On behalf of the Students First Coalition of private schools, civic leaders, parents and students we urge you to open the TK-6th grade waiver process now. Also, please instruct DPH to create a clear and data driven decision making process to reopen all schools once we fall into the red category. Private schools are ready to open and willing to follow all the DPH guidelines to do so safely. The waiver is the perfect process to reopen schools safely in LA county since only the schools who want to reopen and commit to following the guidelines will be allowed to reopen.
Tomm Carroll	As a longtime local beer writer and beer historian, I am most disappointed that the LA County BOS continues to penalize production breweries with taprooms (but no kitchens) by not allowing them to partner with third-party food venders or trucks so they can safely serve their beer along with food for outdoor dining. Only in LA County have these breweries been hampered this way, and it has now been almost 100 days since the short-lived Phase 3 of service for bars, restaurants and other businesses was rolled back. But while breweries in CA's other counties were understandably rolled back to Phase 2, only LA County's breweries were rolled all the way back to Phase 1. We understand that there was a spike in Covid cases in mid-June, but there is not one now. It's time to revisit that decision. There's a good chance that if there is no change in this discriminating treatment, or some much-needed financial relief, that LA will lose many of these fine and award-winning establishments, which simply can't survive much longer under these conditions. Los Angeles has a rich and storied history of breweries from the second half of the 19th century into the middle of the 20th. Sadly, the Southland didn't care much about its brewing legacy until the end of



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HILDA L. SOLIS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS SHEILA KUEHL JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

## **Correspondence Received**

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the last century — and just a decade ago for LA County — when small, independent craft breweries began making beer, satisfying customers and paying taxes. Please don't let this legacy die again. Please save these small businesses. We've already lost a few of them since the health crisis took hold last spring. Please grant them Phase 2 status ASAP, provide them with financial assistance (to counteract the business lost since the rollback to Phase 1), and honor the County's brewing past by ensuring that there is a brewing future for LA as well as these small businesses. Thank you for your consideration. And if our breweries survive, and I see any of Supervisors at one of them, I'd be happy to buy all of you a beer to thank you for your help when our breweries needed it the most. Respectfully, Tomm Carroll
Please reconsider your refusal to consider waivers for elementary school reopening. Preliminary evidence from Europe and other states strongly suggests that primary schools do not spread COVID any more than any other institution. Limited reopening of schools under waivers can help produce valuable data that can guide larger-scale reopenings. The need for child care does not disappear with school closures, so the fact of the matter is that most children kept out of school are either setting back a parent's (almost always the mother's) career and earning capacity OR are in a makeshift child care arrangement that is likely more dangerous for spreading infection than a well-regulated school environment would be. Finally, screen time is extremely detrimental to young children's development, as is isolation from peers and trusted adults. The damage to their intellectual, behavioral-emotional, and physical health from prolonged school closures will be felt for years. I trust our state government, which permits waivers, and wish you would too.
I am in favor of any action that gets kids safely back in school ASAP. The children are suffering and so are families. We must balance public health protections with mental health and academic progress for children. The public heath dept. needs to consider waivers so that some schools can start operating again and the rest of us see a path forward. Ongoing distance learning is NOT working for the majority of students and teachers.
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  Supervisor Janice Hahn, Fourth District fourthdistrict@bos.lacounty.gov (213) 974-4444  Dear Supervisor,  I, along with a diverse coalition of K-12 public, private and faith-based school leaders, parents, civic leaders and physicians, ask you to create a pathway to safely reopen schools in LA County.  I ask that you communicate with transparent, data-driven public health metrics that allow the public to understand when and under what conditions our schools can be opened.

			I ask that you follow our state's reopening process immediately, beginning with our youngest learners in grades TK-3, who are having the most difficult time with distance education.  I ask that you follow a plan of phased re-openings for grades 4-8 and 9-12, that follow our state's public health and safety milestones and allow all of our children the option to be back in the classroom for in-person instruction.  I ask that you restore the LA County Department of Public Health's K-12 working group that allows education stake-holders to be part of the conversations and forces greater transparency for schools, families and the general public.  After nearly 7 months of isolation, students and their families are feeling the drastic effects of social, emotional, mental and instructional harm. Many working parents are not able to pay for childcare during the school day. Already, three quarters of families in South and East LA are experiencing income loss and food insecurity. And, LA Unified School District has reported a 14% drop in Kindergarten enrollment alone.  I know that not every school will be ready to open. And, I know that not every family willchoose to send their children to school at this time. However, the waiver process will allow for education equity across neighborhoods and income levels and will improve learning for thousands of students.  I ask you to please consider this request for the good of our children, our families and our future.  Sincerely,  Virginia Renke
		WILLY C VILLANUEVA	Our requests to reopen Casino Card Gaming in California. We need our jobs back. Outdoor gaming is permitted in California. We follow every safety protocol. Please consider reopening very soon.
		Wyndy Nichols	I would like to know why LBUSD chose to push back hybrid learning when there are children suffering, getting frustrated and wanting to stop schooling due to the limitations of distance learning? C-19 rates have been declining even when the push back happened. The mental health of my children is very important and how this district has handled this situation is dishearteningI have had anxiety everytime I have to say the date is pushed back, from last spring to now. I'm pretty close to just withdrawing from LBUSD and homeschooling. The county needs to be proactive in ensuring all children have a productive environment for learning. Distance learning will be affecting these kids for years to come, from testing scores to grades.
	Item Total	203	
Grand Total		203	



2950 E.29th Street Long Beach, CA 90806

> 562.981.3151 fax; 562.981.3153

www.westerlyschool.org

Supervisor Janice Hahn Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

<u>S-1 Public Health Order</u> Support for elementary school waivers

Dear Supervisor Hahn:

Thank you for your leadership and a special thank you to the entire team at the Department of Health for their public service in these extraordinary times.

Westerly School supports the release of a waiver process under the State guidance which allows elementary schools to open for in-person instruction following the procedures and protocols specified by the County and, as we are located in Long Beach, the City's health officer.

Schools have a special responsibility for the well-being of our students, families, staff and faculty so this is not an endeavor we will undertake lightly. It is, however, abundantly clear that COVID-19 will be present throughout the United States for many months to come. Isolating our society's youngest learners is not the correct solution. There is simply no way to get a "do-over" for these formative years of their academic and socio – emotional lives. A safe school campus re-entry plan is supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the waiver process will help ensure schools have proper safety protocols in place.

It is our hope that you will be in support of allowing those school sites which elect to pursue a waiver and that are committed to adhering to the safety protocols, to be able to open for in-person instruction under a waiver process immediately.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Lauren Plant** Head of School

Cc: The Honorable Kath

The Honorable Kathryn Barger, Chair The Honorable Hilda Solis, Chair Pro Tem

The Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District

The Honorable Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District

Mayor Robert Garcia, City of Long Beach

City Manager Tom Modica, City of Long Beach

Dr. Anisa Davis, Health Officer, City of Long Beach

From: Sarah Wiltfong

To: Barger, Kathryn; First District; Sheila; The Office of Mark Ridley-Thomas; Supervisor Janice Hahn (Fourth District)
Cc: Mouradian, Anna; Chen, Cindy; Mandel, Lisa; Jordan, Dorinne; Bruce Durbin; Amy J. Bodek; Adrienne Ng;

PublicComments; Baucum, Mark

Subject: Re: BizFed Comments on the Oil Well Ordinance Discussion Draft

Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:22:00 AM

Attachments: BizFed LA County Oil Well Discussion Draft 092320.pdf

#### Chair Barger and the LA County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to quickly express our strong concerns to Item 12 on the agenda, Facilitating the Development of a "Just Transition" Away from Fossil Fuel. As with the letter that was submitted to you last week, this should be delayed until after you receive the LA Co Resiliency Report. This motion directly conflicts with your September 15 motion requiring the Department of Regional Planning and other County offices to report on energy resiliency before proceeding with "any proposed policies that may impact and constrain our energy supplies and our resiliency."

Thank you for your consideration.

Join our effort to #ProtectAllLACountyWorkers in their fight against COVID-19! Click <a href="here">here</a> to donate today and get involved!



#### Sarah Wiltfong

310.213.8742 - sarah.wiltfong@bizfed.org

BizFed.org

A grassroots alliance of more than 200 diverse business groups mobilizing 450,000 employers that employ 4 million people in LA County.

On Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 4:37 PM Sarah Wiltfong <<u>sarah.wiltfong@bizfed.org</u>> wrote: Chair Barger and Members of the LA County Board of Supervisors,

Please find attached BizFed comments on the Oil Well Ordinance Discussion Draft. On Sept 15, the LA County Board of Supervisors directed County offices to report on energy resiliency before proceeding with policies that may impact energy supplies. As such, we request that the Board direct the Department and the Planning Commission to suspend further action on the draft Oil Well Ordinance and postpone the current September 23 comment deadline until such time as the reports requested in the September 15 Motion have been completed and thoroughly considered.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Cc:

Amy Bodek, Planning Director Adrienne Ng, Ordinance Studies Section Bruce Durbin, Supervising Regional Planner

Join our effort to #ProtectAllLACountyWorkers in their fight against COVID-19! Click here to donate today and get involved!





Sarah Wiltfong 310.213.8742 - sarah.wiltfong@bizfed.org

BizFed.org

A grassroots alliance of more than 200 diverse business groups mobilizing 450,000 employers that employ 4 million people in LA County.



9/23/20

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Attention: Kathryn Barger, Chairwoman and Members of the Board of Supervisors 500 West Temple Street, Room 869 Los Angeles, CA 90012

VIA PDF E-MAIL

#### Re: Oil Well Ordinance Discussion Draft

Dear Chair Barger and Members of the Board:

We are contacting you on behalf of BizFed, the Los Angeles County Business Federation. We are an alliance of over 200 business associations who represent 400,000 employers with 3.5 million employees in Los Angeles County.

BizFed continues to have significant concerns with the scope, timing, cost, impact and legality of the Oil Well Ordinance discussion draft, which would constrain our local energy supplies and make the County even more dependent on supertanker imports from other countries. In light of the Board of Supervisors' unanimous September 15 Motion requiring the Department of Regional Planning (the Department) and other County offices to report on energy resiliency before proceeding with "any proposed policies that may impact and constrain our energy supplies and our resiliency," we request that your Board direct the Department and the Planning Commission to suspend further action on the draft Oil Well Ordinance and postpone the current September 23 comment deadline until such time as the reports requested in the September 15 Motion have been completed and thoroughly considered.

The September 15 Motion directs the Department and other County offices to "develop and report-back in 90 days with a comprehensive review of existing County policies, practices, and operations" covering all types of energy supplies. The Motion specifies that: "The report, at a minimum, should provide a specific focus on equity in all the following areas before County departments proceed with actuating any proposed policies that may impact and constrain our energy supplies and our resiliency:

- The resiliency of the County's energy supply against climate change, natural disasters, international turmoil, power outages, cyber-attacks, transportation disruptions, and price spikes and what the impact would be on the County's Energy Resiliency as the County works to eliminate disproportionate health outcomes in communities of color and potentially eliminates one or more of our sources of local energy production;
- Impacts on the ability to supply the more than 10 million LA County residents dependably with food, water, medicine, transportation, building materials, and household goods during unforeseen emergencies such as catastrophic earthquakes, pandemics, extreme heat events, and extended power outages;
- The current status of resiliency and the impacts of proposed policies mandating decarbonization, including on emergency preparedness in the event of extended power outages;
- Life-cycle analysis on jobs, energy affordability, and economic impacts, with a focus on communities of color and the most vulnerable neighborhoods;
- Include recommendations from the report back in the draft LA County Climate Action Plan prior to implementation of energy transition related goals." [Emphasis added]

Finally, the motion requires County departments to "expedite the Resiliency report analysis requested in the Board's August 13, 2019 Motion," which has yet to be completed. BizFed and other commenters have repeatedly raised serious questions about the County's seeming rush to develop plans or proposals to eliminate local energy sources without knowing the impacts on our economy, employment and the reliability and affordability of our energy supply, particularly for disadvantaged communities. Despite the straightforward text of the Motion, and the importance of oil and natural gas to meeting the County's sizeable energy demand, we understand that Department staff do not believe it applies to the draft Oil Well Ordinance. Therefore, we believe your Board should instruct the Department and the Planning Commission to pause action on the draft Oil Well Ordinance until the reports are completed and their results fully considered.

Since the Department announced its draft Oil Well Ordinance, COVID-19 has created daunting economic, housing, public health and energy crises, all of which would be exacerbated by the implementation of the draft Oil Well Ordinance as written. If, after consideration of the reports required by the September 15 Motion, the Department intends to proceed with an updated Oil Well Ordinance, we urge the Department to consider the County's diverse essential energy and construction workers who would be most impacted by the Ordinance. We believe that its combination of bans, phase-outs, impractical operating restrictions and expanded setbacks would have several negative consequences. The accumulation of new regulations would severely curtail local oil and gas production, employment and investment. It would also impede housing development around existing oil fields due to the reciprocal nature of setbacks, prevent access to private mineral rights throughout unincorporated areas of the County and make Angelenos even more dependent on supertanker imports from distant countries that don't apply our world-leading labor, human rights and environmental standards. The County should not adopt an importationfirst strategy that limits the ability to use local resources to provide for the basic needs of Angelenos and cedes control of our energy supply and environmental standards to other states and countries.

In particular, an increase in setbacks would impact the cost and availability of housing by establishing large "no build" zones around existing fields without any health benefit. Because health-based setbacks are reciprocal, they would interfere with ambitious plans to increase residential construction and density to address the housing crisis. We continue to oppose the inclusion of an expanded setback within the draft Ordinance because it is unwarranted, restricts much needed housing development, and results in takings issues which have significant legal implications for the County.

The proposed restrictions on local oil and natural gas production would also be regressive. They would raise unemployment rates among diverse Angelenos and reduce County household incomes at a time when financial sustainability is increasingly tenuous. Especially in light of current economic turmoil, the County's efforts should be focused on economic recovery and job stability for working families who are struggling to afford to live in the County. Any turn of the screw that increases costs of basic necessities contributes to income inequality.

COVID-19, recent power disruptions and natural disasters have all reinforced the importance of local supply chains and the need to develop all available local resources to increase our resiliency and sustainability. Continued production of local oil, natural gas and electricity by a highly-qualified local workforce is essential to ensure an affordable and reliable energy supply for the County, even as we actively pursue technological improvements to make local energy storage viable at scale.

We ask the County to fully examine the resiliency reports required by the September 15 Motion and the far-reaching economic, community and environmental impacts before proposing an updated Oil Well Ordinance. It is imperative that we preserve diverse energy supplies produced by local residents from local resources.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. If you have any questions, please contact [sarah.wiltfong@bizfed.org].

David W Flenny

Sincerely,

Sandy Sanchez BizFed Chair FivePoint

Sandy Sandry

David Fleming BizFed Founding Chair Tracy Hernandez BizFed Founding CEO IMPOWER, Inc.

Cc:

Amy Bodek, Planning Director Adrienne Ng, Ordinance Studies Section Bruce Durbin, Supervising Regional Planner



#### **BizFed Association Members**

7-Eleven Franchise Owners Association of Southern California

**Action Apartment Association Alhambra Chamber of Commerce American Beverage Association** American Hotel & Lodging American Institute of Architects - Los Angeles

**Angeles Emerald** Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles

Apartment Association, CA Southern Cities, Inc.

**Arcadia Association of Realtors AREAA North Los Angeles SFV SCV** Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc. Southern California Chapter Association of Club Executives

Association of Independent Commercial Producers **Azusa Chamber of Commerce** 

**Bell Gardens Chamber of Commerce Beverly Hills Bar Association Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce** BNI4SUCCESS

**Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce Building Industry Association - Baldyview Building Industry Association - LA/Ventura** 

Building Industry Association - Southern California

Building Owners & Managers Association of Greater Los Angeles **Burbank Association of REALTORS** 

**Burbank Chamber of Commerce** Business and Industry Council for Emergency Planning and Preparedness **Business Resource Group** 

**CA Natural Resources Producers Assoc** CalAsian Chamber **CalCFA** 

California Apartment Association-Los

**California Asphalt Pavement Association** California Association of Food Banks

**California Bankers Association** 

**California Bus Association** 

**California Business Properties Association California Business Roundtable** 

**California Cannabis Industry Association** 

**California Cleaners Association** 

California Construction Industry and Materials Association

**California Contract Cities Association** 

**California Fashion Association** 

**California Gaming Association California Grocers Association** 

California Hispanic Chamber

California Hotel & Lodging Association California Independent Oil Marketers Association (CIOMA)

California Independent Petroleum Association

**California Life Sciences Association** 

California Manufacturers & Technology Association

**California Metals Coalition California Restaurant Association California Retailers Association** California Small Business Alliance California Society of CPAs - Los Angeles Chapter

California Sportfishing League **California Trucking Association** 

**Californians for Balanced Energy Solutions Carson Chamber of Commerce** 

**Carson Dominguez Employers Alliance CDC Small Business Finance** 

**Central City Association** 

**Century City Chamber of Commerce Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce Citrus Valley Association of Realtors Commercial Industrial Council/Chamber of** Commerce

**Construction Industry Air Quality Coalition** Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality

Council on Trade and Investment for Filipino Americans

Covina Chamber Culver City Chamber of Commerce Downey Chamber of Commerce
Downtown Center Business Improvement
District

**Downtown Long Beach Alliance** El Monte/South El Monte Chamber El Segundo Chamber of Commerce

**Engineering Contractor's Association EXP** 

F.A.S.T.- Fixing Angelenos Stuck in Traffic **FilmLA** 

Friends of Hollywood Central Park

Fur Information Council **FuturePorts** 

**Employers Group** 

**Gardena Valley Chamber** 

Gateway to LA

Glendale Association of Realtors

**Glendale Chamber Glendora Chamber** 

**Greater Antelope Valley AOR** 

**Greater Downey Association of REALTORS Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce** Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber

Greater Los Angeles Association of REALTORS

Greater Los Angeles New Car Dealers Association

Harbor Association of Industry and

**Harbor Trucking Association Historic Core BID of Downtown Los Angeles** 

**Hollywood Chamber Hong Kong Trade Development Council** 

**Hospital Association of Southern California Hotel Association of Los Angeles** 

**Huntington Park Area Chamber of Independent Cities Association** 

**Industry Business Council** Inglewood Airport Area Chamber of Commerce

**Inland Empire Economic Partnership** International Warehouse Logistics Association

La Cañada Flintridge Chamber **LA County Medical Association LA Fashion District BID** 

**LA South Chamber of Commerce Lancaster Chamber of Commerce Larchmont Boulevard Association** 

**Latino Food Industry Association Latino Restaurant Association LAX Coastal Area Chamber** 

**League of California Cities** Long Beach Area Chamber

Los Angeles Area Chamber Los Angeles County Board of Real Estate

Los Angeles County Waste Management Association

Los Angeles Gateway Chamber of Commerce

Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

Los Angeles Latino Chamber Los Angeles Parking Association **Marketplace Industry Association** Motion Picture Association of America, Inc.

**NAIOP Southern California Chapter National Association of Royalty Owners National Association of Tobacco Outlets** National Association of Women Business Owners

National Association of Women Business Owners - LA

**National Hispanic Medical Association** National Latina Business Women's Association

**Orange County Business Council Pacific Merchant Shipping Association Pacific Palisades Chamber** 

**Panorama City Chamber of Commerce Paramount Chamber of Commerce** 

Pasadena Chamber

Pasadena Foothills Association of Realtors PhRMA

**Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California** Pomona Chamber

**Propel LA** 

Rancho Southeast Association of Realtors

ReadyNation California Regional Black Chamber-San Fernando Valley **Recording Industry Association of America** 

**Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** Regional San Gabriel Valley Chamber

Rosemead Chamber San Dimas Chamber of Commerce

San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce

San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership

San Pedro Peninsula Chamber Santa Clarita Valley Chamber

Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development Corp.

Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce **Sherman Oaks Chamber** 

South Bay Association of Chambers

South Bay Association of Realtors South Gate Chamber of Commerce

**Southern California Contractors Association** 

Southern California Golf Association **Southern California Grantmakers** 

Southern California Leadership Council Southern California Minority Suppliers Development Council Inc.

**Southern California Water Coalition** 

Southland Regional Association of Realtors Sunland/Tujunga Chamber

The Young Professional at the Petroleum Club

**Torrance Area Chamber Town Hall Los Angeles** 

Tri-Counties Association of Realtors **United Cannabis Business Association** United Chambers - San Fernando Valley & Region

**United States-Mexico Chamber** Unmanned Autonomous Vehicle Systems Association

**US Green Building Council** 

**US Resiliency Council** Valley Economic Alliance, The

Valley Industry & Commerce Association Vernon Chamber

Vietnamese American Chamber **Warner Center Association West Hollywood Chamber** West Los Angeles Chamber

West San Gabriel Valley Association of Realtors

West Valley/Warner Center Chamber Western Manufactured Housing Association Western States Petroleum Association

Westside Council of Chambers **Westwood Community Council** Westwood Village Rotary Club

**Whittier Chamber of Commerce** Wilmington Chamber **World Trade Center** 

Young Professionals in Energy - LA Chapter

From: <u>ExecutiveOffice</u>

To: <u>Barger, Kathryn; PublicComments</u>

Cc: <u>ExecutiveOffice</u>

**Subject:** FW: BOS MEETING TODAY

Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:39:10 AM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>



The following correspondence is being forwarded to you for your review and handling. Please see below.

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Executive Office Customer Service Center/ Records 500 West Temple Street, Suite 383 Los Angeles, California 90012

From: Karyn Malchus <karynmalchus@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 1:56 PM

**To:** ExecutiveOffice <ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov>

**Subject:** BOS MEETING TODAY

To Whom It May Concern:

Many citizens from Santa Clarita have called in and have tried to speak on behalf of our community for the meeting which took place on September 15th as well as the one that took place today. This is such a frustrating process. May I suggest that perhaps there could be a limit to comments per each agenda item? It is repetitive to hear people saying the same thing with regard to the same item. It is extremely disappointing to have the public comment section end without anyone having the chance to address any other items, especially S-1.

We, in the SCV, are watching our community crumble and it feels like we are never going to be given the time of day. Our small businesses are folding and our children and teenagers are spiraling. The board doesn't seem interested in what is happening. They will only pay attention to you if you're impoverished, abused, in jail, recently out of jail, or a person of color. While there is no denying these needs, and I personally support the actions the board is taking regarding those issues, it certainly seems that at a time when the middle class sector of the community needs their attention they are not willing to give it. Might I add that these are the very taxpayers who help make the board's actions happen financially.

We continue to see stats that support the SCV reopening of schools and small businesses and yet we

are stuck. What must we do? The emailing and phone calling seems to be getting us nowhere.

Thank you for your hard work, but the small businesses can't hold on for two more weeks (or what will clearly be more if left to Dr. Ferrer and continuing to be under the restrictions of LA county)!! These weeks dragging on are going to lead to the permanent closure of so many small businesses, to an economic depression and to the deterioration of our families.

We just want to be heard. We want our challenges addressed. No one is willing to listen to us and what is happening out here!!

Please advise. Thank you, Karyn 
 From:
 David Cain

 To:
 PublicComments

 Subject:
 Reopening

Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020 3:44:00 PM

#### County Supervisors,

As the owner of a small business, Red Ball Fun Zone, and as Executive Director of a Non Profit, America's Healthy Kids located in Long Beach, (both businesses shut down since mid March) I am asking to have our business, and other small businesses be allowed to reopen.

As you may recall, our business is kids fitness, the numbers of Covid 19 in children is nearly zero, yet, here we are still closed 7 months later, why? When will you start looking at cases city by city versus lumping everyone together? Every time Mayor Garcia speaks he says, "we are driven by the data", well, here's the data folks, 7 deaths in Long Beach under the age of 50, that's .0014%, with zero deaths under the age of 18. Our core audience is parents with kids under the age of 50. Clearly, the numbers are on our side for a safe reopening in Long Beach.

Months ago, Supervisor Hahn said small businesses in her district should be allowed to reopen as it was unfair that Sam's Club and other large retailers were allowed to remain open during the pandemic, what happened?

Supervisor Barger said on Fox 11 Special Report that the shutdown is "feeling punitive", it certainly feels that way. 244,000 small businesses in LA County have been crushed under these health orders, what about our health and well-being, do we not count? Fox 11 Special Report: Dr. Drew states the toll this lockdown is having on mental health from Anxiety, Depression, ADHD, even PTSD is monumental, not to mention the "profound and dangerous" mental fatigue we all face. This doesn't even count the financial devastation many small business owners are facing. We are going to be more than \$70,000.00 in the hole next month, how much longer do you think we can survive? Think this doesn't strain the brain, think again!

Supervisor Barger also stated on Fox 11 that parents should decide "how and what is safe for their children" so let parents decide if our business is safe for their children not the bureaucrats who have never set foot inside of our business. She also went on to say that 94% of deaths from Covid 19 had "preexisting conditions", 90% of the "preexisting conditions" deaths she speaks of were complications brought on by being overweight and or obese, the very thing we fight against on a daily basis. Our record stands on its own, more than 100,000 LA County kids and their families, including Supervisor Solis, have come through our centers and events, all getting massive doses of exercise with every visit.

Please, please, stand up and fight back against these insane State restrictions as other County Supervisors across Southern California are doing before it's too late, it already is for many. Please start separating city by city and case by case to allow us to reopen.

I know you have a tough job and I am not trying to pile on. I am desperately trying to save my business, everything I own is in my business and I cannot afford to lose it.

Please, it's time for action from this board to allow not only us, but every other small business that

has suffered tremendously throughout this pandemic to reopen their businesses.

Respectfully,

David Cain Red Ball Fun Zone America's Healthy Kids 7611 Carson St. Long Beach, CA 90808 818 500 9800