

July 16, 2020

Mayor Stan Booker  
Lawton City Council  
212 SW 9<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lawton, OK 73501

Dear Mayor Booker and Council Members:

On behalf of the state's largest health care associations, we are writing to urge you to support a proposed ordinance requiring the wearing of a mask in public places. Our respective groups represent thousands of state health care providers who are on the front lines in the battle against COVID-19. Our members have seen firsthand the consequences of this dangerous and deadly disease, and now we are asking for your support to help prevent it's spread.

A recent report in *The Lancet* medical journal reviewed 172 separate studies and found that "face mask use could result in a large reduction in risk of infection." And indeed, if you look at the countries that have been most successful in stemming the tide of COVID-19, one thing they have in common is widespread usage of masks among their citizens. Very simply, short of another lockdown or a vaccine becoming available, the wearing of masks represents our best hope of minimizing the deadly impacts of this virus.

No one wants to see another shutdown of the state's economy. But we also cannot simply allow this pandemic to continue bringing suffering and death to thousands of Oklahoma families. Widespread mask usage is the most effective tool we have at our disposal to ensure neither of those scenarios become a reality.

In the wake of the Murrah bombing, Oklahomans came together like never before to support their fellow citizens and the "Oklahoma Standard" was born. Time and again, Oklahomans have shown they are capable of rising to this standard to support the most helpless and at-risk members of our population. We are asking that you help Lawton live up to the Oklahoma Standard and protect its most vulnerable citizens by supporting the proposed mask mandate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Oklahoma State Medical Association  
Oklahoma Nurses Association  
Oklahoma Dental Association  
Oklahoma Dental Hygienists Association  
OSMA Rural Physicians Section

Oklahoma County Medical Society  
Tulsa County Medical Society  
Oklahoma Osteopathic Association  
LeadingAge Oklahoma



Mayor GT Bynum  
Tulsa City Council Members  
175 East 2nd Street, Fourth Floor  
Tulsa, OK 74103

Dear Mayor Bynum and Council Members:

On behalf of the state's largest health care associations, we are writing to urge you to support a proposed ordinance requiring the wearing of a mask in public places. Our respective groups represent thousands of physicians, nurses and dentists who are on the front lines in the battle against COVID-19. Our members have seen firsthand the consequences of this dangerous and deadly disease, and now we are asking for your support to help prevent it's spread.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Oklahoma State Medical Association  
Oklahoma Nurses Association  
Oklahoma Dental Association

Tulsa County Medical Society  
Oklahoma County Medical Society  
Oklahoma Osteopathic Association



July 16, 2020

Mayor David Holt  
Oklahoma City Council Members  
200 N. Walker Ave.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Dear Mayor Holt and Council Members:

On behalf of the state's largest health care associations, we are writing to urge you to support a proposed ordinance requiring the wearing of a mask in public places. Our respective groups represent thousands of state health care providers who are on the front lines in the battle against COVID-19. Our members have seen firsthand the consequences of this dangerous and deadly disease, and now we are asking for your support to help prevent it's spread.

A recent report in *The Lancet* medical journal reviewed 172 separate studies and found that "face mask use could result in a large reduction in risk of infection." And indeed, if you look at the countries that have been most successful in stemming the tide of COVID-19, one thing they have in common is widespread usage of masks among their citizens. Very simply, short of another lockdown or a vaccine becoming available, the wearing of masks represents our best hope of minimizing the deadly impacts of this virus.

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In the wake of the Murrah bombing, Oklahomans came together like never before to support their fellow citizens and the "Oklahoma Standard" was born. Time and again, Oklahomans have shown they are capable of rising to this standard to support the most helpless and at-risk members of our population. We are asking that you help Oklahoma City live up to the Oklahoma Standard and protect its most vulnerable citizens by supporting the proposed mask mandate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Oklahoma State Medical Association  
Oklahoma Nurses Association  
Oklahoma Dental Association  
Oklahoma Dental Hygienists Association  
OSMA Rural Physicians Section

Oklahoma County Medical Society  
Tulsa County Medical Society  
Oklahoma Osteopathic Association  
LeadingAge Oklahoma



July 16, 2020

Mayor Stan Booker  
Lawton City Council Members  
200 N Walker Ave.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
Sent via Email

The Oklahoma Nurses Association is the voice for registered nurses representing almost 50,000 registered nurses in Oklahoma. As the largest group of health care providers in the state we are very concerned about the health of Oklahomans and the spread of COVID-19.

Oklahoma's rate of positive COVID-19 cases has drastically increased over the past week. A record of 2068 new cases were reported statewide in the last 48 hours, alone! The unrelenting rise in cases in Oklahoma is taking its toll, stressing our health care system, threatening public education, straining businesses and the economy, while wreaking havoc with local and state budgets.

***Therefore, the Oklahoma Nurses Association supports our state's municipalities that require mask-wearing in public settings.***

The science and the evidence show that wearing a mask reduces the spread of COVID-19. Wearing a mask protects us, our loved ones, our economy, and our communities. Everyone benefits when we all wear a mask.

We continue to do our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19. In addition, we encourage the Lawton City Council to work with community organizations and businesses to develop a plan to provide face coverings in their communities for those who are in need of a mask.

The Oklahoma Nurses Association encourages you as municipal leaders to mandate mask-wearing in our community by passing an ordinance requiring masks. We appreciate what you as municipal leaders do to keep Oklahomans healthy.

Wear a mask, keep Oklahoma open!

Regards,

Karen Taylor, DNP, APRN-CNP, PMHNP-BC  
ONA President 2018 – 2020

Shelly Wells, PhD, MBA, MS, APRN-CNS, ANEF  
ONA President 2020 – 2022

Jane Nelson, CAE  
Chief Executive Officer

July 15, 2020

Mayor David Holt  
Oklahoma City Council Members  
200 N Walker Ave.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
Sent via Email

The Oklahoma Nurses Association is the voice for registered nurses representing almost 50,000 registered nurses in Oklahoma. As the largest group of health care providers in the state we are very concerned about the health of Oklahomans and the spread of COVID-19.

Oklahoma's rate of positive COVID-19 cases has drastically increased over the past week. A record of 2068 new cases were reported statewide in the last 48 hours, alone! The unrelenting rise in cases in Oklahoma City is taking its toll, stressing our health care system, threatening public education, straining businesses and the economy, while wreaking havoc with local and state budgets.

***Therefore, the Oklahoma Nurses Association supports our state's municipalities that require mask-wearing in public settings.***

The science and the evidence show that wearing a mask reduces the spread of COVID-19. Wearing a mask protects us, our loved ones, our economy, and our communities. Everyone benefits when we all wear a mask.

We continue to do our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19. In addition, we encourage the Oklahoma City Council and Oklahoma City and County Health Department to work with community organizations and businesses to develop a plan to provide face coverings in their communities for those who are in need of a mask.

The Oklahoma Nurses Association encourages you as municipal leaders to mandate mask-wearing in our community by passing an ordinance requiring masks. We appreciate what you as municipal leaders do to keep Oklahomans healthy.

Wear a mask, keep Oklahoma open!

Regards,

Karen Taylor, DNP, APRN-CNP, PMHNP-BC  
ONA President 2018 – 2020

Shelly Wells, PhD, MBA, MS, APRN-CNS, ANEF  
ONA President 2020 – 2022

Jane Nelson, CAE  
Chief Executive Officer

July 14, 2020

Mayor GT Bynum  
Tulsa City Council Members  
175 East 2nd Street, Fourth Floor  
Tulsa, OK 74103  
Sent via Email

The Oklahoma Nurses Association is the voice for registered nurses representing almost 50,000 registered nurses in Oklahoma. As the largest group of health care providers in the state we are very concerned about the health of Oklahomans and the spread of COVID-19.

Oklahoma's rate of positive COVID-19 cases has drastically increased over the past week. A record of 993 new cases were reported today, July 14, alone! The unrelenting rise in cases is taking its toll, stressing the state's health care system, threatening public education, straining the economy, and wreaking havoc with the state budget.

***Therefore, the Oklahoma Nurses Association supports our state's municipalities that require mask-wearing in public settings.***

The science and the evidence show that wearing a mask reduces the spread of COVID-19, alongside other preventive measures including frequent handwashing and social distancing. Wearing a mask protects us, our loved ones, our economy, and our communities. Everyone benefits when we all wear a mask.

We all must continue to do our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19. In addition, we encourage the Tulsa City Council and Tulsa Health Department to work with community organizations and businesses to develop a plan to provide face coverings in their communities for those who are in need of a mask.

The Oklahoma Nurses Association encourages you as municipality leaders to mandate mask-wearing in your community by passing an ordinance requiring masks. We appreciate what you as municipal leaders do to keep Oklahomans healthy.

Wear a mask, keep Oklahoma open!

Regards,

Karen Taylor, DNP, APRN-CNP, PMHNP-BC  
ONA President 2018 – 2020

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Jane Nelson, CAE  
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