



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR

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**VETO MESSAGE FROM THE**  
**GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**REGARDING SENATE BILL 2 OF THE**  
**2021 EXTRAORDINARY SESSION**

**Section 9.**

*I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under Section 88 of the Kentucky State Constitution, do hereby veto the following part:*

Page 7, line 11, delete “or a local health department”.

*I am vetoing this part because the legislative body has repeatedly stated it favors local control. This part eliminates local control.*

**Section 10. and Section 11.**

*I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under Section 88 of the Kentucky State Constitution, do hereby veto the following parts:*

Page 8, lines 1 through 27, in their entirety.


Page 9, lines 1 through 11, in their entirety.

*I am vetoing these parts because face coverings are proven crucial tools in mitigating and preventing the spread of COVID-19 and removing the ability of the full-time executive branch and its Cabinets and agencies from using those tools would threaten the public health and safety of Kentuckians. Studies have shown that wearing face coverings is one of the most effective and essential ways to reduce transmission of COVID-19. See Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The Science of Masking to Control COVID-19 (Nov. 16, 2020); Gery P. Guy Jr., et al., Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), Association of State-Issued Mask Mandates and Allowing On-Premises Restaurant Dining with County-Level COVID-19 Case and Death Growth Rates – United States, March 1-December 3, 2020 (Mar. 12, 2021); Charlie B. Fischer, et al., Boston University School of Public Health, Mask adherence and rate of COVID-19 across the United States (Feb. 10, 2021). Requiring face coverings be worn indoors has helped stop three surges of COVID-19 in Kentucky.*

*I have the authority to veto these parts because the call for an Extraordinary Session by Proclamation dated September 4, 2021, contained the subject for consideration of making of an*

*appropriation from American Rescue Plan Act and other funds for the purpose of providing certain COVID-19 response, mitigation, and prevention activities eligible under federal law, and Senate Bill 2 is directly connected to and implements those activities outlined in Senate Bill 3 (S.S. 2021) that makes appropriations as described in the call for an Extraordinary Session, and will require executive branch bodies such as the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and the Department for Public Health to implement such activities, and therefore require the expenditure of funds.*

This the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021.

  
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Andy Beshear  
Governor