

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF LAURENS )

RESOLUTION 2020-19C

**A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING INDIVIDUALS TO WEAR  
FACE COVERINGS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES,  
AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.**

**WHEREAS**, it is well recognized that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes the disease COVID-19, presents a public health concern that requires extraordinary measures and vigilance; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a world-wide pandemic because of the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency for the United States and its territories in an effort to reduce the spread of the virus; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has spread across the State of South Carolina with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (“SCDHEC”) confirming the localized person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in South Carolina, indicating a significant risk of exposure and infection and creating an extreme public health risk; and

**WHEREAS**, as of July 6, 2020, the total number of confirmed cases in South Carolina was 46,247, and the number of confirmed cases in Laurens County was 607 with 9 deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, it is apparent that the number of cases is growing rapidly and if COVID-19 continues to spread in Laurens County; the number of persons relying on medical treatment, pharmaceutical needs, and general cleaning supplies will increase negatively, impacting the private and public sector work force by absenteeism and placing a demand on medical facilities that may exceed locally available resources; and

**WHEREAS**, it is vitally important that we all work together now to decrease the widespread proliferation of COVID-19 rather than suffer the unfortunate and devastating consequences later; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and SCDHEC advise the use of face coverings as a measure to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, taking measures to control outbreaks minimizes the risk to the public, maintains the health and safety of Laurens County residents, and limits the spread of infection in our communities and within the healthcare delivery system; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of the foregoing, County Council deems it proper and necessary to adopt this Resolution in order to encourage the following: (a) patrons of grocery stores and pharmacies to wear face coverings while inside the store in light of the fact these establishments sell essential goods such that individuals do not have a meaningful choice to decide not to shop there and (b) all employees and patrons of facilities owned by Laurens County where social distancing is not possible to wear face coverings.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Laurens County Council, in meeting duly assembled, by this Resolution, takes the following action:

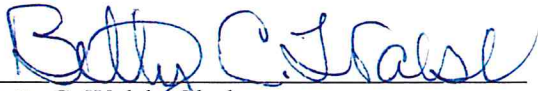
1. PURPOSE: In order to protect, preserve, and promote the general health, safety and welfare and the peace and order of our entire County, Laurens County Council is taking steps to try and protect the citizens and employees of Laurens County from increased risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus.
2. AUTHORITY: Laurens County Council is authorized to take such actions pursuant to the powers designated and delegated to the County in Title 4 and Title 6 of the South Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, and further pursuant to the National Emergency declaration of the President supplemented by the South Carolina State of Emergency.
3. DIRECTIVE: Due to the real and present concern of the spread of the COVID-19 virus, face coverings are encouraged for all patrons of grocery stores and pharmacies, as well as for patrons and employees of all facilities owned by Laurens County where social distancing is not possible.
4. CONFLICT: All Resolutions in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict only, are repealed and rescinded.
5. SEPARABILITY: Should any part or portion of this Resolution be deemed unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such finding shall not affect the remainder hereof, all of which is hereby deemed separable.
6. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon enactment by a majority vote of Laurens County Council.

BE IT RESOLVED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020.

LAURENS COUNTY COUNCIL  


David A. Pitts, Chairman

ATTEST:



Betty C. Walsh, Clerk  
Laurens County Council  
Laurens County, South Carolina

VOTE: 5-2

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Pitts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patterson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McDaniel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Younts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carroll	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>