



Shasta County

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1450 Court Street, Suite 308B
Redding, California 96001-1673
(530) 225-5557
(800) 479-8009
(530) 225-5189-FAX

JOE CHIMENTI, DISTRICT 1
LEONARD MOTY, DISTRICT 2
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LES BAUGH, DISTRICT 5

July 21, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, 1st Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

The COVID-19 pandemic has created economic and health hardships for all Californians. We understand and appreciate the steps that are needed to protect our citizens and communities. As Governor, you have put forward a number of directives to accomplish these goals and we do our part in Shasta County. We consistently work with our local businesses, Chambers of Commerce, and citizens to promote safety and control the spread of COVID-19. We need more of our citizens to voluntarily take ownership of their public duty.

There have been a number of counties, Shasta County being one of them, which have worked very hard to follow the guidelines to slow the spread of the virus, safeguard our residents, and at the same time avert financial ruin of our businesses. We have done well so far and want to continue that progress. We wholeheartedly supported your position in May that one size does not fit all counties in this vast state. With that in mind, we are asking for your review and assistance with the current policy which penalizes the handful of counties which have worked hard to keep the spread of virus low.

We suggest setting some target numbers that are measurable and reasonable for counties to strive to attain. Such goals could include keeping the test positivity rate (positive tests/total tests) at 6% or less, a three-day average of no more than 20 individuals in the hospital due to COVID, ample testing capability (.20% of population/day) and other measurements that the State feels are appropriate. By setting such goals, Shasta County is able to more easily engage and educate our citizens which will slow the spread of the virus.

Our community needs something to hold onto, a goal to accomplish, a feeling that their cooperation counts towards our success. There are people choosing to disregard local and state health directives.

Our intent is to apply best practices and promote compliance. This plan puts the responsibility directly upon the shoulders of all of our citizens to protect our community and save our businesses and local economy. It will be up to us as citizens to keep Shasta County at the lowest levels of the virus expansion and thus the lowest restrictions.

Honorable Gavin Newsom

July 21, 2020

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We do not make this request lightly. We need your help and ask your consideration of our proposal which will help counties maintain local control while accomplishing the overall objectives of the State. Please let us know as early as possible your thoughts on this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mary Rickert, Chair
Board of Supervisors
County of Shasta

Cc: Ana Matosantos
Cabinet Secretary
Office of Governor Newsom

Anthony Williams
Legislative Affairs Secretary
Office of Governor Newsom

Graham Knaus
Executive Director
California State Association of Counties

Mark Ghaly
Secretary
California Health and Human Services Agency