

ORDINANCE NO. 2020 BCCO-15

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Howard County Board of Commissioners adopted Ordinance BCCO-2020-13 in direct response to the immediate threat to Howard County and its citizens posed by the Coronavirus/COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Howard County Board of Commissioners, pursuant to IC 10-14-3-29 and 29.5, and IC 36-8-2, adopted Ordinance BCCO-2020-14, declaring a local disaster health emergency to exist and placing Howard County on a Watch (Orange) travel advisory; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the Howard County Board of Commissioners issued its emergency order in furtherance of the above ordinances, prohibiting the sale and purchase of certain nonessential goods; and

WHEREAS, the Howard County Board of Commissioners, due to the severity of the continuing threat posed by COVID-19 and the increasing number of Howard County residents who have contracted COVID-19, have conferred with medical experts, the Howard County Health Department and Health Officer Dr. Don Zent, and numerous businesses and citizens, in order to assess and address the urgent needs of Howard County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners, pursuant to IC 10-14-3-29(a)(2), and IC 36-8-2, is authorized to extend the declaration of local disaster emergency and the travel advisory; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is authorized pursuant to IC 36-8-2-4 to regulate conduct or use of property that might endanger the public health, safety or welfare, to impose restrictions on persons that might cause others to contract disease, and to regulate business for public health and safety purposes:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Howard County Board of Commissioners does hereby declare:

- 1) The declaration of **local disaster emergency** is hereby extended and shall remain in effect until 5:00 p.m., April 19, 2020.
- 2) The **Watch (Orange) local travel advisory** is hereby extended and shall remain in effect until 5:00 p.m., April 19, 2020. For purposes of this advisory the term travel is not restricted to travel by automobile and extends to travel by any means. Pursuant to IC 10-14-3-29.5, during a "Watch" local travel advisory, only essential travel, such as travel to and from essential work, travel for medical care or to obtain medication, for emergency situations, for food or groceries, and for personal hygiene or cleaning products, is recommended.
- 3) The Board of Commissioners, based upon the consultation with medical experts,

retail businesses, and citizens, strongly encourages all businesses and citizens to closely observe all social distancing guidelines and to:

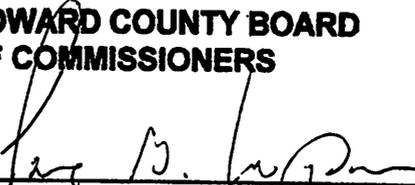
- a) STAY HOME--Limit shopping trips.
 - b) Send only one person from your household to shop at a time and purchase only those items, both essential and nonessential, that fit into one shopping cart. "One adult-one cart". Exceptions will be made for single parents or those persons requiring assistance to shop.
 - c) Maintain six-foot distance with other shoppers and store employees;
 - d) Quickly find what you need, purchase it, and exit the store.
 - e) Businesses that remain open to the public are strongly encouraged to enforce six-foot distances at places where lines of customers occur; to make hand sanitizer readily available to employees and customers; to establish separate hours for vulnerable populations and for first responders and health care workers; and to encourage customers to do business by telephone or online as the preferred mode of business, and allowing for curbside pickup.
- 4) April 12, 2020 is hereby designated as a day of prayer in Howard County.

Once again, the Board of Commissioners acknowledge the hardship and sacrifice that is being imposed on the businesses and citizens of Howard County. This is an ongoing and evolving public health crisis. There may be further restrictions.

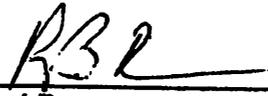
This Ordinance is effective at 5:01 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2020.

Read and adopted this 2nd day of April, 2020.

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS**



Paul G. Wyman, President



R. Brad Bray



Jack Dodd

ATTEST:



Martha J. Lake, Howard County Auditor