



PRESS RELEASE

ARIZONA STATE SENATE DEMOCRATS

Arizona Senate Democrats Demand Stronger Measures to Curb COVID-19

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Phoenix—Arizona Senate Democrats released the following statement in response to Governor Ducey's latest actions on COVID-19.

"We are profoundly disappointed in the Governor's latest announcement. The newest actions to curb COVID-19 in Arizona are reactionary, piecemeal half measures that are inadequate to substantially slow the spread of the virus. We have urged, and continue to urge, the Governor to take swift and preemptive actions to curtail the virus's spread, especially in light of [Arizona being reported as the worst in the world for the COVID-19 pandemic](#). If we truly care about the health and economy of the state, then we need another statewide stay at home order. Only limiting indoor dining to less than 50 percent is woefully inadequate to significantly curb the spread of COVID-19 in Arizona. This fragmented approach has clear economic consequences—consequences that could have been avoided had we taken the pandemic seriously earlier. Taking more aggressive action now will allow us to safely open schools in the future.

We are glad to see more funding to provide 5,000 COVID-19 tests a day, but Senate Democrats have repeatedly called for a statewide mask order, ongoing funding for free COVID-19 testing and contact tracing, and PPE for medical professionals and schools. Additionally, we need action taken to extend the eviction moratorium, provide rental assistance, increase state unemployment benefits and provide further small business support at the state and federal level. Our time has run out. [We are now seeing the disturbing reports of mortuaries needing to buy additional coolers as they run out of capacity](#) and news of [Arizona hospitals having to send COVID-19 patients to out of state hospitals](#).

We are not close to reaching the end of this pandemic and we must listen to the science and mitigate until we can bend the curb. The numbers are not going down, and to that end we must take more significant actions if we hope to drastically curb the spread of Coronavirus.

The bell is tolling multiple times a day, Governor, not for some romantic notion of personal freedom but rather for death. The longer you refuse to take stronger action is another day that the question for whom does the bell toll is answered by families grieving the loss of loved ones. This must stop."

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