



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 133 JBE 2021

***COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
MITIGATION MEASURES
AMENDMENT TO 131 JBE 2021***

- WHEREAS,** pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, the Governor declared a public health emergency on March 11, 2020 in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020 in response to the threat posed by COVID-19;
- WHEREAS,** on July 20, 2021, the Governor renewed the public health emergency in Proclamation 131 JBE 2021 extending it until August 11, 2021;
- WHEREAS,** the State of Louisiana continues to experience a dramatic rise in the threat of COVID-19, most primarily associated with the Delta (B.1.617.2) variant;
- WHEREAS,** the State is unquestionably in its fourth surge at this time with a steep rise in COVID-like illnesses (CLI), cases, and hospitalizations, with hospitalizations reaching levels not seen since early February;
- WHEREAS,** as a result, the State has been officially designated by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as a “State of Concern”;
- WHEREAS,** it is necessary to aggressively confront this surge with a renewed push for vaccination efforts and more vigilance with mitigation measures to slow the spread of COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS,** these measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the people of Louisiana.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby amend and replace Section 3 of 131 JBE 2021 and direct as follows:

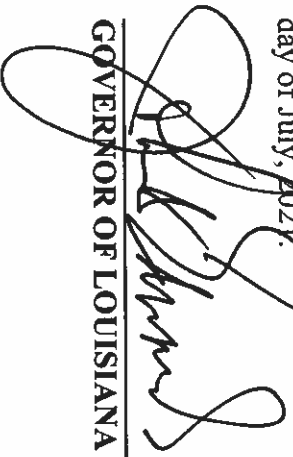
SECTION 3: FACE COVERINGS

- A)** All individuals are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings when indoors and when unable to socially distance from others outside of one’s immediate family.
- B)** In accordance with the order issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on January 29, 2021, all individuals shall wear a face covering over the nose and mouth while passengers and operators of public conveyances, including airplanes, ships, ferries, trains, buses, taxis, ride-shares, and the corresponding transportation hubs. The CDC order is found at https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/pdf/Mask-Order-CDC_GMTF_01-29-21-p.pdf.
- C)** All offices of the State of Louisiana are hereby authorized to set a face covering policy which may include a face covering mandate for employees, visitors, and other members of the public.

- D)** All Local Education Agencies (LEAs), early childhood centers, and higher education institutions are authorized to set a face covering policy which may include a face covering mandate for students, employees, visitors, and other members of the public.
- E)** All correctional institutions in the State of Louisiana shall continue to require a face covering over the nose and mouth.
- F)** The requirements or authorizations in Section 3 (B), (C), (D), and (E) do not apply to the following:
- 1) Any individual who will not come in contact with any other individual (outside of their immediate household members) or who will be able to maintain strict social distancing of six feet apart from any other individual (outside of their immediate household members);
 - 2) any child under the age of eight, however all children between the ages of two and seven years old are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering in accordance with Subsection (A) of this Section;
 - 3) any individual with a medical condition that prevents the wearing of a face covering;
 - 4) any individual who is consuming food or drinks;
 - 5) any individual seeking to communicate with someone who has or is suspected of having a communication disorder;
 - 6) any individual giving a speech for broadcast or to an audience;
 - 7) any individual temporarily removing his or her face covering for identification purposes; or
 - 8) any athlete participating in organized athletic activities.
- G)** All local governing authorities and operators of private businesses and organizations shall retain the authority to issue more restrictive measures than that imposed by the State, including requiring members of the public to wear face coverings while in local governmental buildings and private business establishments.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 23rd day of July, 2021.


GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE**

SECRETARY OF STATE