

Carol DeSoto

From: applications@charlescountymd.gov on behalf of Charles County Government
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Sent: Saturday, January 1, 2022 1:15 PM
To: Public Record
Subject: *NEW SUBMISSION* Required Face Coverings to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19

Required Face Coverings to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19

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Public Hearing Comment Form

Questions or More Information (301) 645-0555

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Are you:

Neutral

Comment

Society does not function in a plastic bubble constructed as a "barrier" against all bad things. In our homes, work places, and outdoors, we are daily exposed to a plethora of natural and man-made organisms and materials (smoke, smog, mold, bacteria, pollen, asbestos, lead, heavy metals, viruses, etc). Our natural immunity works to ward off significant health impact. Science and the regulatory agencies recognize this which is why interpretation of a hazard is based on what is present, at what dosage and what levels present as a serious health condition. Each of us is exposed to germs, mold, bacteria, asbestos, lead at small dosages yet freely walk around living life without a second thought. Why? This fact is not routinely publicized and instilling fear. This virus is just like viruses in the past and should not be treated differently. For years, I have worked alongside fellow industrial hygienists and occupational safety personnel as well as guidance from lawyers and physicians, to identify health related hazards and determine if personal protective equipment (PPE) was necessary. That assuredly required knowledge on the limitations of PPE effectiveness. Please know that face coverings require a filtration media to filter out the size of what you are using it for, a tight fit around the face, and knowing if the individual wearing it has a health condition which would prevent its use. One major take away I learned early on and you, the decision makers, should reflect upon. Once you direct use, you assume liability for the results... all the results. On the

surface, acting on a recommendation from a health related professional to mandate masks seems simplistic in nature. Enforcing that mandate on someone who has a health condition such as respiratory or cardiac conditions can be even more dangerous than exposure to the virus itself. You each become liable should your mandate result in someone's death. Asking you allow individuals to determine what is best

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Thank you,
Charles County, MD

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