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Mount Airy District

EDDIE HARRIS
South District

VAN TUCKER
East District



CHRIS KNOFF
County Manager

EDWIN M. WOLTZ
County Attorney

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Historic Courthouse
114 W. Atkins Street
Dobson, NC 27017

**PROCLAMATION REQUESTING GOVERNOR ROY COOPER
TO ALLOW BUSINESSES TO REOPEN IN SURRY COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Surry County, like many rural counties in North Carolina, has a low number of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and has not experienced the same effect from the pandemic that has transpired in the State's urban counties; and

WHEREAS, we will stay focused and vigilant to work with our local and state health officials to monitor COVID-19, to adhere to restrictions and guidelines and to adjust to impacts from COVID-19 as needed, as COVID-19 numbers may or may not increase; and

WHEREAS, the current stay at home order and closure of businesses through May 8 will create a significant hardship on Surry County residents; and

WHEREAS, as a rural county, we depend heavily on our small businesses because they make up a significant portion of our business community; and

WHEREAS, if the current business closure order continues, Surry County's economic situation will continue to decline; and

WHEREAS, closed businesses and unemployed residents will take longer to economically recover based on the length of the stay at home order; and

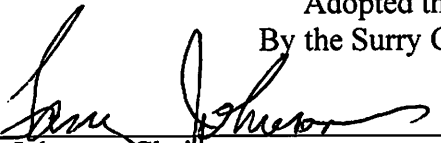
WHEREAS, due to our rural population of approximately 73,000 citizens, it is achievable for our residents to practice social distancing to prevent further community transmission more so than urban counties; and

WHEREAS, our citizens have listened and responded by practicing these protective measures and following the Governor's Executive Orders, as well as NC DHHS and CDC guidelines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Surry County Board of Commissioners requests that Governor Roy Cooper allow Surry County and other rural counties in the state to reopen businesses in a safe and responsible manner, taking into account social distancing and mass gathering restrictions, exercise of proper hygiene, increased COVID-19

testing capability and extensive contact tracing measures to prevent the continued spread of COVID-19.

Adopted this the 29th day of April 2020
By the Surry County Board of Commissioners



Larry Johnson, Chairman
Surry County Board of Commissioners