



## EXECUTIVE ORDER ALLOWS TENNESSEANS TO RETURN TO WORK

Governor Lee Lifts Restrictions on Businesses and Employees, Allows Gyms to Reopen

The Governor's Office issued Executive Order 30 on Tuesday which "supersedes and repeals" previous orders related to COVID-19 containment and allows most businesses to reopen under new health restrictions.

The order went into effect on Wednesday and allows Tennesseans to return to work in almost all industries; however, it encourages employees and employers to work remotely if possible. All employers and businesses that choose to open are expected to comply with the Governor's Economic Recovery Group (ERG) guidelines for operating safely, as well as general health guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other government entities. The order urges Tennesseans to continue limiting activity by staying at home and wear face masks when in proximity to others.

While the order did green light the reopening of fitness facilities, several businesses will remain closed until May 29 or an amendatory declaration from Gov. Lee. Businesses excluded from this order are nursing homes and recreational and entertainment venues such as bars, nightclubs, theaters, auditoriums, concert and sporting venues. Additionally, social and recreational gatherings of 10 or more people will continue to be prohibited under Executive Order 30 including festivals, fairs, parades, and camps.

The order supersedes and repeals Executive Order Nos. 17, 21, 22, 23, 27, and 29 but does not affect Executive Order No. 25 concerning dental and medical procedures. The order supersedes any contrary orders or measures, preventing counties from issuing independent orders regarding the opening, closure, or operation of businesses, organizations, or venues covered by this order. Localities may continue issuing and enforcing measures related to their respective governmental entities.

## ECONOMIC RECOVERY GROUP ISSUES GUIDANCE FOR MAY 6 REOPEN

Governor's Group Releases Recommendations for "Close Contact" Businesses



Gov. Bill Lee gives his daily COVID-19 briefing from Nashville.  
Source: wrctv.com

Gov. Bill Lee's Economic Recovery Group released its first set of guidelines yesterday for businesses considered "close contact services" to begin reopening in 89 of Tennessee's 95 counties. These guidelines will allow roughly 38,000 citizens to return to work and reopen businesses such as barbershops, hair salons, nail salons and massage therapy services. Six counties— Shelby, Madison, Davidson, Hamilton, Knox, and Sullivan— will create individual plans in coordination with their local health departments.

"As we continue a measured reopening of the economy, it's critical we provide evidence-based guidance to businesses so they can keep their employees and customers safe," said Lee in a

statement. "The very nature of close contact businesses calls for strong solutions and we're inspired by the willingness of these small business owners to take the Tennessee Pledge. These guidelines will allow thousands

of businesses to reopen, put their employees back to work, and serve customers in a thoughtful and safe manner.”

The guidance includes several adaptations to the business process such as limiting the capacity of customers to 50 percent, incorporating strict social distancing measures, and routinely sanitizing all surfaces. Employees reporting to work must be screened and temperature-checked upon arrival and are encouraged to increase hygiene practices. In addition to business restrictions, consumers must adhere to CDC recommendations that include being screened prior to entry, wearing face masks during services, and limiting congregations in waiting and/or common areas. The full list of guidelines can be found [here](#).

## CORDELL HULL OFFICE BUILDING TO REOPEN MAY 4

After nearly six weeks of closure, the legislative offices of Cordell Hull will reopen to staff and members on Monday but will remain largely closed to the public. While the legislature is not set to resume business until June 1, lawmakers and staff plan to begin organizing for their return and will allow lobbyists and visitors to enter the building via appointment only.

In preparation to return to work, the Office of Legislative Administration issued guidelines on protective working conditions for visitors and staff while the Facilities Management Office implemented new cleaning procedures.

The memo states that all employees are encouraged to maintain six feet of social distancing and wear a face mask when walking in the hallway or other common areas. While in their suites, doors must be kept shut with visitors remaining outside until their scheduled appointment time. The facility operations team will regularly clean and disinfect the premises in accordance with CDC protocols.

