

## The Deadly Consequences of Reopening Businesses Too Soon

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Dear Governors, Senators, and Representatives,

Please download a copy of our latest report that provides guidelines for how we can and must open local businesses as soon as possible while protecting the health and well-being of customers and employees. We strongly recommend that these guidelines be followed as businesses are reopened. **Failure to do so will have consequences that include excess loss of life from COVID-19.**

The report details the background of what we're dealing with during this pandemic crisis and provides **guidelines for safely opening nine different kinds of local businesses from barber shops and restaurants to public transportation and auto dealerships**. There are obviously other kinds of business that will need to be eventually reopened - as soon as is feasible. But the nine businesses we've chosen are illustrative. Download the Report:

<https://bit.ly/3a1pU8>

### Here's the three principles that need to be understood:

- Businesses should not be open in the absence of (1) widespread rapid test for the SARS-Cov-2 virus which is responsible for COVID-19 and (2) the ability to do effective contact tracing of people who have tested positive.
- Premature reopening, as much as we truly need to kick-start our economy, will cause more disease and deaths from COVID-19.
- Low prevalence of COVID-19 in any community should not cause complacency. Every community can, at any point, become the next serious center of a serious outbreak.

We clearly understand the need to reopen America's businesses. People need the work and families desperately need the income and businesses need to survive. And people need to come out of isolation and resume the normal activities of social interactions, attending events and getting our children back to school.

**But if we don't do this properly, more people will die.** *Is that a burden and responsibility that America's governors wish to assume?*

**We implore you to do everything in your power to make sure we have the testing and contact tracing we need to move forward safely. Until we get there, it is inappropriate and dangerous to reopen local businesses.**

Don't hesitate to reach out to us for further questions or clarifications. For a brief summary of the report you may read a recent [press release](#).

Sincerely,



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