

Julie Enea

Subject: FW: Add to ad hoc committee agenda

From: Bill Costello <billc@regalgift.com>

Organization: Regal Art & Gifts

Date: Friday, August 14, 2020 at 5:20 PM

To: "Colleen A. Isenberg" <Colleen.Isenberg@bos.cccounty.us>

Subject: Protesting COVID restrictions in CC County



Dear Ms. Colleen Isenberg,

I am a business owner in Concord, CA 94520 (Contra Costa County) and we employ 30 employees. We have been in business for 29 years, it is a family business. Due to the strict work at home policies you have imposed, and due to the fear that is being generated by your announcements we have had to lay off 20% of our workers and reduce 10-20% of hours on the balance. We have lost millions of dollars in revenue this year, and the state of CA is losing 13% of that in tax revenue.

We are an honest business that has paid millions in taxes over the years and contribute 10-15% to charity every year. We are a great asset to CA and the economy here. But the over exaggerated fear based policies being forced on us and other CA residents is harming our company, our employees and the economy in general.

My voice as part of the silent majority is speaking up and letting you know and all the elected officials know that we have had enough. Small business owners will not stand by and watch local government ruin the economy, ruin our businesses and the economy.

There is enough research regarding mortality rate from COVID to put it on par with the normal seasonal flu (see your own Contra Costa County Health statistics online - links below)

- As of 7-19-2020 there have been 5,606 confirmed cases of COVID in Contra Costa County. <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/dashboard>. Take into perspective that this number is only from the 108,454 people who have been tested. To qualify to get tested generally you have to have some symptoms. So of all the people tested with symptoms only 5% were positive for COVID. There is most likely many more persons who were exposed to COVID who were either symptomatic or non-symptomatic but were never been tested. We can safely guess then that the total number of actual infected persons may be much higher, perhaps two or three times what has been reported.
- The total number of deaths attributed to COVID in CC County is only 98 from the website of the Contra Costa County Health Services (<https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/dashboard>).
- 70 of the 98 COVID deaths were in elderly and sick persons living in Long Term Care Facilities (nursing homes, etc.). That leaves the balance of 28 persons who have died from COVID in CC County that can be termed 'normal healthy persons', but some of them may also have had health conditions also. <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/lcf-dashboard>

- The 28 deaths outside of LTC facilities equates to 0.5% deaths from confirmed cases. If you consider the number of infected persons who have not been tested, it may be closer to < 0.2%.
- The total Population in CC County is 1,154,000 (2019 census). 98 deaths attributed to COVID is 0.0085% chance of death from COVID,
- In 2017 in CC County there were 164 deaths from the common flu, which is more than COVID to date. <https://www.livestories.com/statistics/california/contra-costa-county-influenza-flu-pneumonia-deaths-mortality>

So, as logical human beings with these kinds of statistics we can only deduce that there is some other motive, political or otherwise for why so much fear is being aroused and such serious social restrictions are being put on us.

As a business owner, employer and CA taxpayer I PROTEST the restrictions being imposed on businesses and the fear that is being generated by your restrictions. This is the first in what will be a series of complaints and actions against the state in protest of your unlawful, unconstitutional and immoral restrictions. Please desist immediately from ruining the lives and livelihoods of the CA residents that you swore to protect. As a government official it is your duty to protect the people of the state, not oppress them. I appeal to your sense of decency to stop the restrictions before it is too late and you have more problems on your hands than you can deal with in terms of poverty, civil unrest from an unemployed frustrated and angry population. Do the right thing and research yourself from ALL sides what is really going on with this so called pandemic, and the cures that are out there, and put into perspective the actual threat level and act accordingly.

Thank you for reading this longer letter. This is one of the first letters I have every written to an elected official, but will not be my last expression of frustration and disappointment at the unfair government policies of exaggerated restrictions due to COVID.

Sincerely,

Bill Costello
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