



Secretary of the Senate

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TO: All Senators and Senate Staff

FROM: Erika Contreras
Secretary of the Senate

RE: Masks

Effective Monday, March 7, 2022 the Senate will modify its mask policy to “strongly recommend” masking for all Senators, staff and visitors in the Capitol, Legislative Office Building (LOB), and the 1021 O Street building.

This change aligns the Senate with the indoor masking guidance released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on February 25, and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Cal/OSHA (California Occupational Safety and Health Administration) earlier this week.

Masks remain an effective tool to minimize spread of the COVID-19 virus and its variants, especially when transmission rates are high. The Senate will continue to monitor and assess COVID-19 case rates, and should numbers indicate it necessary, the mask policy may be reinstated.

With regard to district offices, in accordance with the most current guidelines from the CDC, in counties where the community level of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations remain in the high category, masks will still be required indoors in district offices, regardless of vaccine status.

Currently, the following counties are in the CDC high community level category:

Butte	Imperial	Los Angeles	Monterey	Sierra	Tehama
Del Norte	Kern	Madera	Napa	Siskiyou	Trinity
Fresno	Kings	Mendocino	Nevada	Solano	Tulare
Glenn	Lake	Merced	San Diego	Stanislaus	Tuolumne
Humboldt	Lassen	Modoc	Shasta	Sutter	Yuba

To stay up to date with the CDC guidelines and community levels, please visit:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

The Senate will provide Senators the authorization to continue to require masks in their Sacramento and district offices. Senators who choose to require masking must communicate that requirement to their staff and visitors. There should be signage at the office entrance and masks must be available in the reception area.

Masking will continue to be required of all occupants, regardless of vaccine status, whenever there is more than one person in a vehicle. This applies when Senators are being transported by Special Services, when Senators are traveling with staff, or when staff are traveling together.

No person can be prevented from wearing a mask should they wish to do so.