

April 16, 2020



Michigan residents have been asked to make extraordinary sacrifices in our state's battle against the coronavirus. And Michigan businesses and workers have responded with tremendous displays of selflessness for the greater good. THANK YOU for your outstanding efforts.

While our battle continues, it is also time to begin planning for a transition back to typical daily life – including reopening businesses that can operate safely, especially those in which people operate alone, or can safely practice social distancing. Unfortunately, Gov. Whitmer's latest extension of the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order fails to contemplate this reopening of the economy, especially some sectors that may be ready to safely operate today.

To begin the process of planning for renewed economic activity, the Senate has created a bipartisan "Safe Behavior for Safe Workplaces" workgroup, which I was honored to be a part of. Three Republicans and three Democrats are developing recommendations to be presented to Gov. Whitmer as to how Michigan can safely and systematically open for business. And we need your input.

We have launched an online forum for you to share your thoughts and to help us understand the needs of job providers and workers as we work toward reopening our state for business. What are the safety protocols you feel need to be in place for your business or workplace to operate safely? What should the workgroup be considering as it contemplates resuming economic activity? Does your business or job require high or low levels of physical interaction between customers and/or employees? Can you operate at a successful level utilizing current social distancing, hygiene and mask guidelines?

Please share your thoughts and suggestions at www.MiSafeWorkplaces.com so the workgroup has feedback from the job providers and workers of the 35th District to make informed recommendations. Again, thank you for the role you have played in battling the deadly coronavirus. With your input, we can begin planning for an eventual return to a more typical daily life in our great state.

Sincerely,
Senator Curt VanderWall
35th District