



Office of the Majority Leader
North Carolina House of Representatives

JOHN R. BELL, IV
10TH DISTRICT

June 8, 2021

Governor Roy Cooper
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Governor Cooper,

We are seeking additional information on your continued statewide state of emergency declaration and the specific metrics and data that will need to be met for it to come to an end.

North Carolina has now been under a self-declared state of emergency for over 450 days.

In response to a question about ending your emergency order during a June 2nd press conference, you said, "We are still in the middle of this pandemic" and "The State of Emergency needs to continue."

This is deeply concerning. Vaccinations are widely available, cases are at new lows, and capacity restrictions have been completely lifted. Yet, we are in the "middle of this pandemic?" There seems to be no urgency or plan to end the state of emergency. We believe this is unsatisfactory.

Across the country, Governors are ending their state of emergencies, including the South Carolina Governor who just this week allowed its order to expire. Furthermore, the Virginia Governor recently said that he will not extend its declaration when it expires on June 30th.

The people of North Carolina have worked extremely hard to follow and adhere to social distancing guidelines and restrictions. They deserve more information and transparency in this process.

We respectfully ask that you provide the legislature and the citizens of this great state with the specific details on how and when the state of emergency can be lifted.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of John R. Bell, IV in black ink.

Rep. John R. Bell, IV
House Majority Leader

Handwritten signature of Keith Kidwell in black ink.

Rep. Keith Kidwell
House Deputy Majority Whip