



**STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

FAQs Regarding HB 76

What does House Bill 76 (HB 76) do? Why did Governor Dunleavy sign it?

The Legislature passed the bill to allow continued federal funding and create a new disaster declaration for COVID-19. Governor Dunleavy took immediate action and has ended this unnecessary COVID-19 disaster declaration.

By signing HB 76, and terminating the disaster declaration, Governor Dunleavy has saved the State of Alaska \$100 million in federal recovery costs and is ensuring the State's vaccine distribution and COVID-19 management programs continue uninterrupted.

Does HB 76 mandate the wearing of masks in Alaska?

No.

Does HB 76 require Alaskans to get a COVID-19 vaccine?

No. Governor Dunleavy already signed an Administrative Order banning "vaccine passports" for travel in Alaska. HB 76 also affirms the right for an individual to personally refuse to take the vaccine and to refuse on behalf of their children.

Does HB 76 require that tourists or Alaskans get tested for COVID-19 before coming to Alaska?

No. The bill provides the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services limited authority to continue the ongoing optional vaccine and testing programs, as well as other COVID-19 management processes, but testing is not mandated by the State of Alaska.

Does HB 76 give DHSS Commissioner power to shut down businesses or places of worship?

No. HB 76 does not give Governor Dunleavy or the DHSS Commissioner the power to issue any orders or mandates that would allow such shutdowns to occur. However, municipalities have their own local powers that may provide restrictions on businesses as well as a mask mandate. The Governor has no constitutional authority to interfere with local decisions in first-class cities.

Does HB 76 help businesses reopen and stay open?

HB 76 provides liability protection for businesses from COVID-19 cases.