

To the powers that be:

On March 28, 2020 the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) updated its list of essential services during the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis and expressly included residential and commercial real estate services.

Since Governor Newsom's March 4, 2020 order incorporates this list, the order now includes residential and commercial real estate, including settlement services, as essential services in California.

However, because the County of Mendocino SIP Order is stricter than this and does not recognize Real Estate services as an essential business, we must still adhere to the county's stricter order.

I write to you to ask that the County follows the CISA and State orders and updates the Essential Business list to include real estate services. While I understand that precautions must be made and the health of our people is of the utmost importance, there are people who need to close escrow on their home, sell their home, complete final inspections on their home. These people of our community need their Real Estate Professional's to be able to continue to help them. I believe virtual interaction when at all possible is best practice. I believe those that are of a high risk group should take extra precautions. I believe we should still not hold open houses and continue to practice social distancing and SIP when at all possible.

Please consider making Real Estate services an essential business so we can continue to serve our community and do our part to help the economy.

Thank you,

Tanya Gilmore