

Greetings Board Members,

My name is Courtney Gupta and I am writing this email to be considered regarding the current parameters and classification of Essential Business. I am a licensed Cosmetologist by the state of California of over 10years. I am also self-employed. While I understand safety is of utmost importance currently, I also believe that cosmetologists & estheticians can, in fact, abide by all safety measures and still operate.

The California Board of Barbering & Cosmetology requires that all operators perform services with the highest of sanitation standards. We are required to sanitize any and all implements and workstations before and after each and every guest. We are required to keep the salons and spas clean and sanitized. Our sanitation solution company - Barbicide - which is used by all operators, has issued a statement that the EPA has approved its efficacy against the Human CoronaVirus including COVID-19 (link: <https://barbicide.com/barbicide-statement-regarding-covid-19/>).

Because of the above stated, I believe that we should be reinstated immediately. Along with using Barbicide as required to keep our operational licenses, each salon/spa can implement the following to keep the curve flat, but also be able to keep our livelihoods:

- Masks on guests and operators.
- Sanitize stations and shampoo bowls before & after each client.
- Sanitize front desk and all door handles every 30-60min.
- No one allowed who's been sick in the last 2 weeks (fever, coughing, etc.)
- Only allow in clients who are being actively worked on.

I truly believe that as long as the above are followed, we can & should be able to operate. Again, I have worked in this industry for 10years, I can assure you that we hold only the highest of cleanliness standards.

As a member of this industry and self-employed individual, I find it imperative that salons and spas are reinstated. Most of this industry is self-employed, in order to feed our families, pay our bills, and generally survive we need to work. We are not given Paid Time Off, Insurance Benefits, or even Unemployment.

As a community member, I have served as the former President of the Board on the Ukiah Main Street Program and former Secretary/Treasurer of the new Greater UKIAH Business and Tourism Alliance. The vitality of our small businesses is crucial at this time. Continuing to extend the Shelter in Place orders and not allowing businesses to operate will be the financial downfall to our small business economic structure. I understand taking safety into the highest consideration, but we have had only 4 confirmed (and since recovered) cases. It's time we start opening up commerce again before we face another recession.

Also, on a separate note, I find it irresponsible and unnecessary to give County Health Officer Dr. Noemi Doohan an additional \$100,000 raise on top of her already handsome salary of \$125,000. While I can appreciate that she stayed on as a favor after resignation during this crisis, she made that choice on her own. I find it hard to believe there was not another qualified individual here locally so that she could move with her family. Additionally, I find it irresponsible and a poor display of leadership that she was allowed to travel to San Diego during this Shelter in Place order. Regardless if she is following quarantine/sheltering guidelines, the citizens of this county

were told they couldn't travel unless it was essential... is visiting family now deemed essential? Because if that's the case, it might be said that people could have traveled all over yesterday to celebrate the Easter holiday. This puts forth a "do as I say, not as I do" attitude to the community and creates a lack of trust and morale.

Board members, I ask you to please immediately reinstate the Salon/Spa industry immediately. I have outlined above a strategy to keep ourselves and our guests safe and capable of keeping the curve flat. I also ask that you do not give this raise, especially when our economy is in real danger of suffering.

With respect,

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