



Businesses are ready to restart our economy, keep us safe

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Minnesota Ready coalition asks to open businesses, get economy back on track

No administration action by June 19 means more businesses closing for good

St. Paul, MN (06/22/20) – The Minnesota Ready coalition – a growing group of more than 70 business organizations throughout Minnesota – asked Gov. Walz today to allow more businesses to safely open or open with more capacity. Coalition members previously requested this action by June 19, while illustrating the steps they’ve taken to welcome employees and customers safely.

“We’ve worked with businesses throughout the entire COVID-19 crisis to take the necessary health and safety steps in their workplaces. They are taking these precautions to mitigate the spread and help boost employee and consumer confidence,” said Doug Loon, President of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. **“But these steps are taken in vain if these businesses aren’t allowed to welcome back employees and customers.”**

According to a recent U.S. Chamber survey, 43 percent of small businesses say they have less than six months to remain in business. One in ten say they have one month before going out of business.

“We’re watching more small businesses close their doors forever,” said Cory Michaelson, co-owner of Sparetime Entertainment and Wings Tavern & Grille in Owatonna. **“Small businesses have taken the necessary steps to keep employees and customers safe, and they should be allowed to restart our economy, instead of suffering further losses and facing the decision to close their doors for good.”**

Members of the Minnesota Ready coalition include:

AgriGrowth	Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce
Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce	Melrose Area Chamber of Commerce
Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce	MetroNorth Chamber of Commerce
APEX	Minnesota Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus
Apple Valley Chamber of Commerce	Minnesota Beverage Association
Austin Area Chamber of Commerce	Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce	Minnesota Recruiting and Staffing Association
Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce	Minnesota Trucking Association
Big Lake Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Minnesota Utility Contractors Association
Brainerd Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce	Morris Area Chamber of Commerce
Buffalo Area Chamber of Commerce	New Prague Chamber of Commerce
Burnsville Chamber of Commerce	Nisswa Chamber of Commerce
Cannon Falls Area Chamber of Commerce	Northfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism
Crosslake Chamber of Commerce	Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism
Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce	Park Rapids Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce
Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce	Pequot Lakes Chamber of Commerce
Delano Area Chamber of Commerce	Pipestone Area Chamber of Commerce and CVB
Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce	Red Wing Area Chamber of Commerce

Eden Prairie Chamber of Commerce
Elk River Area Chamber of Commerce
Fairmont Area Chamber of Commerce
Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce
Fergus Falls Area Chamber of Commerce
Forest Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
Glenwood Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce
Greater Mankato Growth, Inc.
Greater Stillwater Chamber of Commerce
Ham Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
Hermantown Area Chamber of Commerce
I94 West Chamber of Commerce
Iron Mining Association
La Crescent Chamber of Commerce
Lanesboro Area Chamber of Commerce
Laurentian Chamber of Commerce
Leech Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
Lonsdale Area Chamber of Commerce

Redwood Area Chamber of Commerce
River Heights Chamber of Commerce
Sauk Centre Area Chamber of Commerce
Savage Chamber of Commerce
Shakopee Chamber and Visitors Bureau
SouthWest Metro Chamber of Commerce
St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce
The Chamber Grand Forks and East Grand Forks
Thief River Falls Chamber of Commerce
TwinWest Chamber of Commerce
Wabasha Kellogg Chamber of Commerce/CVB
Waconia Chamber of Commerce
Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce
Waconia Chamber of Commerce
White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce
Willmar Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce
Winona Area Chamber of Commerce
Worthington Area Chamber of Commerce

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