

# Public Health Organizations: Support statewide face covering order

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(Kimberly, WI) – July 30, 2020 – Following today’s announcement of a statewide mask order, the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards (WALHDAB) and Wisconsin Public Health Association (WPHA) issued the following statement:

“WALHDAB and WPHA support Governor Evers’ order for a statewide face covering or masking requirement. In combination with physical distancing and regular handwashing, masking is an essential component in preventing the spread of COVID-19. While a number of communities have already implemented similar orders, it is appropriate and necessary to have statewide consistency.”

“Wearing a mask or face covering is a simple, effective way to protect our neighbors and in return protect ourselves. Numerous respected organizations have publicly endorsed wearing masks, including physician organizations like the Wisconsin Medical Society, the Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians, and the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Additionally, forty-one other governors, both Republicans and Democrats, have implemented similar orders in states across the nation. Masking is not a partisan political issue; it is a public health necessity.”

Together, WPHA and WALHDAB represent over 1,200 public health professionals in communities across Wisconsin, striving to prevent, promote, and protect the residents of the state. WPHA and WALHDAB actively engage in legislative advocacy and we are committed to promoting a healthy population and workforce.