



May 11, 2020

The Honorable Tom Wolf
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf:

As elected officials of Huntingdon County, this letter serves to inform you of our intention to support the reopening of businesses that can practice safe and responsible operation following CDC guidelines for effective mitigation, effective May, 15, 2020.

Huntingdon County has met the requirement of your original Stay-at-Home Order, which was to flatten the curve of the COVID-19 outbreak and allow hospitals the time to prepare if an outbreak of COVID-19 occurred. For months, Huntingdon County residents have dutifully heeded your instructions to practice social distancing and other mitigation efforts. As a result, the Huntingdon County Community has not experienced a public outbreak or a single death to date.

Currently, the Department of Health is reporting 181 positive cases of COVID-19 in Huntingdon County. Meanwhile, the Department of Corrections is reporting 110 inmates and 36 staff at SCI Huntingdon and 2 staff at SCI Smithfield are positive for COVID-19. It is clear that with 148 of the 181 cases in Huntingdon County that the vast majority of all COVID-19 cases are confined to SCI Huntingdon or Smithfield.

Your Administration and the Department of Corrections have continually indicated that efforts to prevent community spread from the State Correctional facilities have been in place. Those exact efforts are the reason why the cases at SCI Huntingdon and SCI Smithfield should not be used against the Huntingdon County community and business owners in determining eligibility to reopen.

We, the undersigned, as duly elected State and County officials take the safety of our constituents very seriously. Reviewing the analytics, and the initial conditions laid out by your administration, Huntingdon County has achieved the milestones delineated by the Secretary of Health. The curve has been flattened, ICU beds are in abundance, and access to ventilators is not in question, therefore, the undersigned stand with any business in Huntingdon County that chooses to reopen. Subsequent movement to returning to normal operations will be at the discretion of the undersigned when certain thresholds are achieved.

Senator Jake Corman
34th Senatorial District

Senator Judy Ward
30th Senatorial District

Representative Rich Irvin
81st Legislative District

Commissioner Mark Sather
Huntingdon County

Commissioner Scott Walls
Huntingdon County

District Attorney Dave Smith
Huntingdon County