



## **Alexander County Administration**

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### **PROCLAMATION REQUESTING GOVERNOR ROY COOPER TO ALLOW ALEXANDER COUNTY BUSINESSES TO REOPEN**

**WHEREAS**, Alexander County, like many rural counties in North Carolina, has a low number of laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 and has not experienced the same effect from the pandemic that the state's urban counties have; and

**WHEREAS**, we will stay focused and vigilant to work with our local and state health officials to monitor COVID-19, adhere to restrictions and guidelines, and adjust to impacts from COVID-19 as needed; and

**WHEREAS**, the current stay-at-home order and closure of businesses through May 8<sup>th</sup> has and will continue to create significant hardships on Alexander County citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, as a rural county, we depend heavily on sales tax revenue generated mainly by small businesses, which make up a significant portion of our economic community; and

**WHEREAS**, if the current business closures continue, Alexander County's economy will continue to decline; and

**WHEREAS**, the longer the stay-at-home order remains in effect, the longer it will take businesses and unemployed residents to financially recover; and

**WHEREAS**, due to our rural population of approximately 38,000, it is achievable for our citizens to practice social distancing to prevent further community transmission; and

**WHEREAS**, our citizens have listened and responded by practicing protective measures and adhering to Governor Cooper's executive orders as well as NCDHHS and CDC guidelines.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alexander County Board of Commissioners requests for Governor Roy Cooper to allow Alexander County and other rural counties in North Carolina to reopen businesses in a safe and responsible manner, taking into account social distancing and mass gathering restrictions, exercise of proper hygiene, along with increased testing capabilities and extensive contact tracing measures to prevent the continued spread of COVID-19.

Adopted this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020.