

RESOLUTION NO. 21 - _____

A Resolution Requiring Masks in County Owned Buildings.

WHEREAS the Health and Human Services Board serves as the local board of health per s.251.04 Wis. Stats.,

WHEREAS the local board of health is responsible to assure that measures are taken to provide an environment in which individuals can be healthy, and

WHEREAS COVID-19 disease activity in Wisconsin remains at a high level. All four “variants of concern” have been identified in the state and it is likely that these strains may be contributing to the current level of disease activity as these have the potential to spread more effectively throughout populations. As of May 11, 2021, 44.5% of Wisconsin residents had received at least one dosage of COVID-19 vaccine and 37.6% had completed the series. The goal for herd immunity in Wisconsin is much greater and the current vaccination rates do not offer the level of protection that will permit state residents to return to normal activities., and

WHEREAS in Richland County, COVID-19 disease activity is considered high. The P.1 variant (a variant of concern) has been identified locally. Vaccination rates include the following: 44.2% have received one dosage of a COVID-19-containing vaccine and 39.0% have completed the series, and

WHEREAS statewide, in last two weeks, a large proportion of positive COVID-19 cases occurred in 14-17 year olds. As of May 11th, those under the age of 16 are ineligible to be vaccinated and concerns exist regarding the continued transmission of the disease in this age group, and

WHEREAS given the fact that COVID-19 disease activity remains high, variants continue to circulate, and vaccination rates have not sufficiently risen to the levels necessary to offer community-wide protection, the use of preventive measures remains a critical part of protecting our staff and those we serve. The use of face-coverings, when used correctly and consistently, have been identified as an extremely effective method for minimizing the transmission of the COVID-19 virus, and

WHEREAS the Richland County Health Officer, Ms. Rose Kohout, has recommended requiring masks in county-owned buildings to the Health and Human Services Board, and

WHEREAS the Health and Human Services Board functioning as the local board of health has carefully considered this proposal and is now presenting this Resolution to the County Board for its consideration.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Richland County Board of Supervisors that all individuals entering county-owned buildings shall be strongly recommended to wear a mask or face covering.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Richland County employees shall be strongly recommended to wear a mask or face covering in county-owned buildings except when alone in their office, work station, or enclosed work space, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator shall inform department heads of this requirement and provide policy guidance on its implementation and administration, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication.

VOTE ON FOREGOING RESOLUTION

AYES _____NOES _____

RESOLUTION _____

COUNTY CLERK

DATED _____

RESOLUTION OFFERED BY THE COUNTY BOARD
SUPERVISOR MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

	FOR	AGAINST
Kerry Severson	X	
Van Nelson	X	
Ingrid Glasbrenner	X	