

Bill No. 4964

Ordinance No. _____

Requested by: Joe Brazil

Sponsored by: Joe Cronin, Joe Brazil

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A NEW SECTION 210.025 OF THE ORDINANCES OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI RELATING TO PROHIBITING MASK MANDATES

WHEREAS, St. Charles County, Missouri, continues to grapple with the health threat posed by SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes Novel Coronavirus 2019 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 can result in mild or severe symptoms, is highly contagious and is spread through close contact between persons and respiratory transmission; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 poses a serious health risk, particularly for residents and visitors who are elderly or have compromised immune systems; and

WHEREAS, encouraging the use of, and educating citizens about the possible efficacy of face mask wearing during a global pandemic is a worthy goal, and should continue unabated; and

WHEREAS, attempts to mandate such face mask wearing in County government buildings irrespective of an individual’s personal choice may erode confidence in lawfulness and effectiveness of Public Health Emergency Orders; and

WHEREAS, empirical data and studies of empirical data have not conclusively proven that mandating the wearing of face masks is guaranteed to prevent the spread and transmission of SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes Novel

Coronavirus 2019 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 2.529 of the Charter of St. Charles County provides that the County Council shall have the power to exercise legislative power pertaining to public health and welfare, police and traffic, building construction, and planning and zoning, in the part of the County outside incorporated Cities, Towns, and Villages, and on such other subjects as may be authorized by the Constitution or by applicable law

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A new Section 210.025, OSCCMo., is hereby enacted as follows:

Section 210.025 Prohibiting COVID-19 Mask Mandates

A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a face mask shall not be required as a condition for entry to any County government building for the purpose of preventing or slowing the spread of COVID-19.

B. If a County official recommends using a face mask to prevent or slow the spread of COVID-19, such recommendation shall be accompanied by a notice that the recommendation is not mandatory.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be effective upon passage and approval.

DATE PASSED

DATE APPROVED BY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ATTEST:

COUNTY REGISTRAR