



House Health Reported Substitute for HB158

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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to mask mandates; to prohibit governmental entities and the State Health Officer from imposing a face mask mandate to prevent the spread of COVID-19 or any variant of COVID019; and to provide exceptions in certain circumstances.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) (1) Except as provided by subsection (b), no governmental entity may implement, order, or otherwise impose a mandate requiring an individual to wear a face mask or other face covering to prevent the spread of COVID-19 or any variant of COVID-19. For the purposes of this section, the term "governmental entity" includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

- a. The state, a county, or a municipality.
- b. Any instrumentality of the state, a county, or a municipality.
- c. A public k-12 school or public charter school.

(2) The State Health Officer may not implement, order, or otherwise impose a mandate requiring an individual to wear a face mask or other face covering to prevent the spread of



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29 COVID-19 or any variant of COVID-19.

30 (b) This section shall not apply to an order or mandate
31 that relates to either of the following:

32 (1) Any facility providing medical or dental services.

33 (2) Any state or local detention center, as defined in
34 Section 13A-3-27, Code of Alabama 1975.

35 (3) Any student, resident, faculty, or staff in a
36 program at an institution of higher education which may
37 require placement for educational or training purposes in a
38 clinical, health care, or research setting.

39 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
40 1, 2024.