

ORDINANCE 21-

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY, REPEALING ORDINANCE 20-14 SETTING INDOOR PUBLIC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS, MANDATING THAT INDIVIDUALS WEAR A FACE COVERING IN PUBLIC INDOOR PLACES; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic Pinellas County adopted Ordinance 20-14 providing for face coverings in indoor public places to protect public health; and

**WHEREAS**, the initial waves of the pandemic have passed, and the County, state and federal vaccination efforts have resulted in dramatic rises in the number of partially and fully vaccinated persons in Pinellas County; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor DeSantis has suspended the collection of fines for violations of mask requirements, and remitted fines for those levied before March 10, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, private individuals, businesses and government entities may take any legally appropriate steps to protect themselves, their businesses, their customers, or the persons entering their establishments without the County mandatory indoor public place face covering ordinance requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the need to continue to protect public health is ongoing, and all individuals are strongly encouraged to continue to follow all Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) recommended guidelines including but not limited to “How to Protect Yourself & Others.”

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, ON THIS 11<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2021, BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of Pinellas County, Florida, that:

SECTION 1. Pinellas County Ordinance 20-14 setting indoor public safety requirements, mandating that individuals wear a face covering in public indoor places is hereby repealed and is of no further effect.

SECTION 2. Filing of Ordinance; Effective Date. Pursuant to Section 125.66, Florida Statutes, a certified copy of this Ordinance shall be filed with the Department of State by the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners within ten (10) days after enactment by the Board of County Commissioners. This Ordinance shall become effective upon filing of the ordinance with the Department of State.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM**  
By: Donald S. Crowell  
Office of the County Attorney