1 2	State of Arkansas 93rd General Assembly	A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 2021		SENATE BILL 590
4	Regular 56551011, 2021		SERVITE DIEL 570
5	By: Senator T. Garner		
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7		For An Act To Be Entitled	
8	AN ACT TO END MANDATORY FACE COVERING REQUIREMENTS IN		
9	THE STATE OF ARKANSAS; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND		
10	FOR OTHER	PURPOSES.	
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13		Subtitle	
14	TO 1	END MANDATORY FACE COVERING	
15	REQ	UIREMENTS IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS;	
16	AND	TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.	
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18			
19	BE IT ENACTED BY THE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKAN	NSAS:
20			
21	SECTION 1. DO	NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. End	ing of mandatory
22	face covering requirements.		
23	<u>(a)</u> The Genera	al Assembly finds that:	
24	<u>(1)</u> On J	uly 16, 2020, Governor Asa Hutchinson	issued Executive
25	Order 20-43, which re	equired the Secretary of the Department	<u>t of Health to</u>
26	<u>issue a public health</u>	n directive requiring every person in A	Arkansas to wear a
27	face covering over th	e mouth and nose in:	
28	<u>(A)</u>	All indoor environments where a pers	<u>son would be</u>
29	exposed to nonhouseho	old members and distancing of six feet	(6') or more
30	cannot be assured; ar		
31	<u>(B)</u>		-
32		unless ample space of six feet (6') or	<u>r more exists to</u>
33	practice physical dis		
34		Sebruary 26, 2021, the Governor annound	
35		extended and that the Governor was con	ntinuing the face
36	covering requirements	s until March 31, 2021; and	



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1	(3) The requirement of wearing face coverings should be		
2	immediately ended as this requirement is no longer necessary.		
3	(b)(1) On the effective date of this act, all mandatory face covering		
4	requirements, including without limitation requirements imposed by Executive		
5	Order 20-43 issued by the Governor on July 16, 2020, and extended by		
6	Executive Order 21-03, and the Department of Health under directives issued		
7	under §§ 20-7-109, 20-7-110, or both, in response to the current coronavirus		
8	2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, shall end.		
9	(2) Any mandatory face covering requirement imposed by an		
10	executive order of the Governor or the department under directives issued		
11	under §§ 20-7-109, 20-7-110, or both, in response to the current coronavirus		
12	2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, is superseded by this act on the effective date of		
13	this act.		
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15	SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the		
16	General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that due to the coronavirus 2019		
17	(COVID-19) pandemic, the Governor required the Secretary of the Department of		
18	Health to issue a public health directive requiring face coverings; that a		
19	regulation in place when it is no longer necessary is a burden on the public		
20	peace, health, and safety of the citizens of this state; that the requirement		
21	of face coverings should be removed as soon possible as it is no longer		
22	necessary; and that this act should become effective as soon as possible as		
23	the requirement of face coverings is no longer necessary to protect the		
24	health and safety of the citizens of Arkansas and is a burden on the public		
25	peace, health, and safety of the citizens of this state. Therefore, an		
26	emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for		
27	the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become		
28	effective on:		
29	(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;		
30	(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,		
31	the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the		
32	bill; or		
33	(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is		
34	overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.		
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