



# NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Joseph Chaplik (R-3)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Are Masking Mandates Making a Comeback? Not in Arizona.

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – State Representative Joseph Chaplik issued the following statement today about Arizona’s laws and masking mandates:

**There have been plenty of recent media headlines panicking over the latest COVID variant, case numbers, and calls by some for the return of mask mandates.**

CNN: *“It may be time to break out the masks against Covid, some experts say.”*

CBS: *“As COVID cases flare, some schools and businesses reinstate mask mandates.”*

Washington Times: *“Return of the mask: COVID-19 spikes prompt restart of US mandates.”*

**While some states may go in that direction, the good news is that mandates won’t be happening here in Arizona. That’s due in large part to our state adopting common-sense laws to protect against government-imposed mask mandates on private businesses and requirements that children wear masks in public schools.**

**In April 2021, the governor signed [HB 2770](#) into law – a bill that I sponsored empowering businesses with the freedom to decide whether or not to observe and enforce any mask mandate imposed by government politicians from the state, county, city/town or other jurisdiction in Arizona. The next April, another bill of mine, [HB 2616](#), was also signed into law, prohibiting school districts and local governments from requiring minors to wear a mask or face covering without parental consent. This was a victory for parents’ rights and our children’s health.**

**Masking mandates imposed on the public didn’t work and certainly weren’t effective at preventing the spread of COVID. Mandates were especially unnecessary for children, the least at-risk population. If an individual chooses to wear a mask, that remains their personal choice, but it should never be mandated by the government. And, thankfully, the public won’t need to contend with new mandates in Arizona because of the action we’ve taken at the state capitol.**

*Joseph Chaplik is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 3, which includes Scottsdale, Fountain Hills, and the Northeast Valley in Maricopa County. Follow him on X/Twitter at @JosephChaplik.*

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