

May 4, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor  
State of California  
State Capitol  
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Progress towards the reopening of the State of California

Dear Governor Newsom:

San Benito County recognizes and commends your action in taking positive steps to the reopening of our great State, by creating a process to move towards wider reopening of businesses. San Benito County looks forward to progressing through Stage 2, based on determinations made at the local level, based on local San Benito County health conditions and capacity.

San Benito County is among one of the lesser populated counties in the State of California, ranked 42<sup>nd</sup> in population with approximately 60,000 persons. There have been 52 COVID-19 cases in San Benito County; only two of which are active infections. Our local hospital is operating at a “Green Capacity”, with available beds and ventilators. Our County was also selected as a testing site, which will increase the county’s testing capacity.

Our County will work immediately in preparing a plan which would allow more businesses to open, while preserving and maintaining public health. At the earliest opportunity, San Benito County looks forward to showing how our County has met, and will continue to meet, the key measures for moving forward through Stage 2.

The goal of Board of Supervisors of San Benito County, which we believe is shared by your administration, is to open as many businesses as is possible, while preserving the public’s health and safety.

Sincerely,

Jaime De La Cruz  
Chair