

To whomever it may concern,

My name is Jack Breves. I am currently employed at Bowl America – Gaithersburg, where I work as an Assistant Manager. To phrase this simply, should Executive Order 122-20 be allowed to pass, my place of work will likely close down, in which case I will be laid off.

Safeguarding a county and its residents through a pandemic is not an easy task, and I am fully aware of that. The decisions you must be forced to make on a regular basis certainly cannot be easy. As you are on the cusp of yet another major decision, I must ask you to reconsider your course of action. To pass an ordinance, and to push it through in this manner, is as irresponsible as it is unfair.

I'm not someone who would put the economy over the pandemic on my list of concerns. The recent surge of cases across the country must raise concern as to whether or not business can continue in this capacity. The restrictions imposed on the bowling center I work at have not made things easy. But we've made the adjustments, and the fact that we have had no confirmed cases or spread from our bowling center should reflect that.

This is where my issues with Executive Order 122-20 come from. If the county had ever come in and investigated, you would see all the work we've put in in maintaining the safety of our customers; I say it like this as I've been present and on the clock for most of our center's hours of operation and would likely know if a county official was in my center. However, the county has never once investigated our center, and now these restrictions will surely see us shut down. I'm sure you can see why I called this ordinance unfair.

If other businesses are not following proper safety guidelines, then I would implore the county to act. Bowl America – Gaithersburg is not one of those businesses. Punishing us and other businesses that have maintained proper safety protocols by imposing a new wave of restrictions is not fair to everyone; a business closing would impact. And if the recent spread cannot be traced to the reopening of businesses, then these restrictions would be irresponsible to the livelihood of your county residents.

I understand that you are placing safety and caution above all else. But I want you to consider that we, as workers in your county, are doing the same thing. Before you vote to further restrict business operations, I ask that you consider how many of us will lose our jobs when this executive order goes into effect. The damage such hasty action may be irreparable.

Thank you for listening,

Jack Breves