

April 9, 2020

Honorable Tony Evers, Governor Delivered by email & in person State Capitol, 115 E Madison WI 53702

Dear Governor Evers:

On March 26, Wisconsin Family Council hosted a conference call with over 450 Wisconsin faith leaders to discuss your Emergency Order No.12.

Many of those same leaders are now calling us regarding press releases issued yesterday by county health departments around the state that conflict with your Order. Because the counties' statements are detailed and uniform, it appears they were coordinated with your office with your approval.

I have reviewed the letter Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty just sent to you asking that you correct the county departments or clarify your intentions, and I'm writing to request that you immediately issue guidance for citizens and faith leaders who are confused by the counties' statements and the implications for Holy Week.

Good Friday and Easter are the most sacred observances of the year in the Christian faith, to be celebrated in community, not in isolation. We ask that you issue guidance immediately so that Christians may celebrate Good Friday and Easter without threat of prosecution, in keeping with rights of conscience protected by the Wisconsin Constitution and the sacred duties they owe their Lord.

Correcting the counties now would show respect not only for Christians' rights of conscience, but also for conscience rights of other faith communities and of those who practice no faith at all.

We encourage faith leaders and citizens to pray for wisdom for you and other officials in this challenging time and thank you in advance for your immediate response.

Sincerely,

Julaine K. Appling

President