



**WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL**  
Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty

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**Wisconsin Family Council  
Position Statement Regarding  
Governor Tony Evers' Emergency Public Health Declaration Issued July 30, 2020**

Wisconsin Family Council has not taken and will not take a position on masks during COVID-19. However, we have taken a position on Governor Evers' recent illegal Emergency Public Health Declaration (issued on Thursday, July 30, 2020). Our corporate and constitutional attorneys have advised us that what the Governor has done in issuing a second such declaration related to COVID-19 is patently illegal. When an elected official uses his/her position in an illegal way, especially when it directly impacts the churches in our state, we will oppose the action. The implications of a governor being able to issue basically an unlimited number of 60-day public health emergency declarations for a single health issue are breathtaking and should concern all Wisconsin citizens.

It would not have mattered to us at all what specific directive or guideline the governor issued as a part of the emergency declaration. He chose to do a statewide mask requirement, but it could have been any directive or order (and he may still issue other directives under this order). Whatever he orders doesn't matter. The declaration itself is illegal. However, all Wisconsin citizens should be aware that under this declaration, the Governor could add any number of orders he deems "necessary," including limiting public meetings, which would directly impact churches.

We believe masks can be both responsible and reasonable; but that's not the issue. The issue is, pure and simple, that the emergency declaration itself is illegal. The governor should and likely does know that. He is purposefully pushing his authority as far as he thinks he can get away with. Such an overreach requires that we publicly object to protect the rule of law, as well as the welfare of individuals, families and churches in our state.