A resolution requesting the Shelby County Health Department to reinstate a mask mandate

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council's highest priority is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the city of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, the delta variant of the COVID-19 virus has driven positive case and hospitalization rates in the city of Memphis up to levels not seen since vaccines were made widely available; and

WHEREAS, as of August 2, 2021, there was an average of 349 cases per day reported in Shelby County, marking a 147 percent increase from the average two weeks ago, leading to 30 deaths over the last two weeks, and causing a 105 percent increase in hospitalizations of COVID patients over the past two weeks, leading to 93 percent of intensive care rooms in the region occupied; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council passed on June 16, 2020 Substitute Ordinance No. 5751 amending the Memphis Code of Ordinances Relative to Requirements for Persons to wear facial coverings or masks while present in businesses and public places within the city of Memphis during public health emergencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Memphis City Council requests the Shelby County Health Department to reinstate a mask mandate for Shelby County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Memphis City Council requests the Shelby County and City of Memphis Administrations do what is in their power to aid in the effort of reinstating a mask mandate.

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