



# ORO VALLEY CHAMBER

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## Governor extends ‘stay -home’ order to 5/15; some retail Monday

**Gov. Doug Ducey** has extended his “**Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected**” order through **Friday, May 15**, with phased-in easing of retail business restrictions “so we can return stronger.”

At a Wednesday afternoon press briefing, the governor announced “a **partial reopening** of retail” businesses previously deemed non-essential this **Monday, May 4**, with activities expanding through the week.

Starting Monday, businesses may “operate and offer goods” through various external **delivery** means, or by **appointment**, provided they adhere to the physical distancing, personal safety and limited occupancy requirements of the original March 31 order.

Then, effective **Friday, May 8**, non-essential businesses may “**open, operate and offer goods for sale to customers in their stores**” if **protocols** and **best practices** are in place to stop the spread of the coronavirus, the new order reads.

Ducey’s Executive Order 2020-33, “Returning Stronger,” does not specifically address personal service businesses such as **hair and nail salons, studios, spas** and **gyms**. He said government is working with those businesses “on what best practices are,” to include increased sanitation, social distancing and face covering for both clients and staff. It is “**aspirational**” they’ll be open in May. “We are not there yet,” he said. “I’m **hopeful** for the month of May.”

Nor does the order address the **full re-opening of restaurants**, which have been **closed to in-house dining since March 19**. But he



spoke about restaurants at length on Wednesday.

In Ducey's "best case" scenario, restaurants may be able to open to **dine-in** service by **Tuesday, May 12**. The industry itself has suggested that may be the earliest date it can serve customers on site, he said.

When restaurants open, dining "will be a **different experience**, a temporary experience." Workers will be masked. They'll tell guests they've just washed their hands. They'll ask "how would you like your food delivered?"

He characterized it as a "**temporary normal**." He believes Arizona restaurateurs will establish "a standard of expectations and excellence" that will bring customers back. "People are going to have a healthy skepticism."

Ducey is **not proposing bars** be re-opened at this point. Beginning Friday, a previous ban on elective surgeries **expires**, allowing 1,090 hospitals, surgery centers and dentists to resume such procedures across Arizona. **Travel restrictions** to the hot-spot states of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut **continue** through **May 15**.

Ducey, a businessman before he became governor, spoke to small- and medium-sized business owners and employees whose businesses and lives have been turned upside-down by the pandemic and the great reduction in or elimination of business they've experienced for 6 weeks.

"I feel your frustration," he said. "I have a **sense of urgency** to re-open. But it would be irresponsible to make decisions to re-open" only to have COVID-19 cases rise, "and ask people to do this again.

"Every decision was difficult" in this pandemic, and he was reluctant to make them. In each instance, "I thought it was the best possible decision to slow the spread of COVID-19.

"I know it's been a long 30 days for all of us. **Fifteen** more days, I'm asking for some **patience**."

Ducey was asked about businesses that plan to fully re-open Friday, May 1, when the original order expires. From his perspective, most businesses have **complied** with the order to remain closed. Those who do not could face **penalties**, to include \$2,500 fines and up to 6 months imprisonment.

"I don't take any joy at all in putting an order out there" with enforcement consequences. "You are playing with your liquor license," the governor said. "Don't do that."

Ducey concluded "we are **headed in the right direction**" in combating the pandemic. "There is a real opportunity for May to be dramatically different than March and April. I'm **cautiously optimistic**."

To read the full executive order, [click here](#).

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## When will you be comfortable

# going out to dine? Governor perceives full array of opinion

**Gov. Doug Ducey** has had “a lot of phone calls” and communications with business owners and citizens who point out the actions of other states, and **give suggestions on how to re-open** Arizona’s economy during the coronavirus pandemic.

A Fortune 100 company CEO told the governor “**30 percent** of your citizens are **ready to go out** tonight to dinner,” and they’re frustrated they are unable to do so. Another **30 percent** “**don’t want to leave the house** until a vaccine is found,” the CEO said. And there are “**40 percent** in the **middle**, who aren’t sure and don’t know, who want to see evidence before they re-enter the economy.”

Why should business be fully re-opened in the face of COVID-19 “without consumer confidence in the largest portion of our economy?” he asked.

Safe consumer participation is **paramount**, for restaurants, services and retail, the governor emphasized.

“I don’t think anybody believed that on May 1, we would have a return to normalcy,” Ducey said. He wants Arizonans to “**maintain strong physical distancing**, not forever, but for the **time being**.”

