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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 2021

Statement on Governor Greg Abbott Lifting Mask Order

Austin, Texas - Today, Texas Governor Greg Abbott announced that he will be ending Texas' statewide mask mandate next week and will allow all businesses to operate at 100% full capacity. Texas currently ranks second to last on vaccination rates for COVID, and this move by the Governor is absolutely unacceptable.

University Democrats issued the following statement:

“Many of us here at the University of Texas at Austin have seen the devastating effects of the COVID-19 virus firsthand and we are outraged by the governor’s blatant disregard for public health. Texas is not fully vaccinated yet, and there are still many amongst our community that remain at high risk for COVID-19. By eliminating the mask order, Greg Abbott is only putting more Texans at risk for the virus, and this comes on the heels of a major snowstorm that has left so many Texans vulnerable.

This is not a political matter at all, rather this is a matter of the health and safety of all Texans everywhere, and this includes our own UT Community. This is the time to listen to the scientists who overwhelmingly warn against the governor’s course of action, not to blatantly ignore them for the purposes of pushing an agenda. Therefore, we strongly urge the UT Administration, the city of Austin, and Travis County leaders to listen to science and to protect our community.”

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