

HB 29 -- PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY CLOSURES

SPONSOR: Murphy

This bill provides time limited authority for political subdivisions to order closures of businesses, churches, schools, or other public gatherings for reasons of public health or safety.

A public official is authorized to order closure for up to 15 days. Closures of up to 45 days must be authorized by a vote of the full governing body of the subdivision and closures of 45 to 90 days must be approved by the Department of Health and Senior Services. Closures of more than 90 days require the approval of the General Assembly, if in session, or of the Joint Committee on Disaster Preparedness and Awareness, if the closure occurs when the General Assembly is not in session.