



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

May 8, 2020

David Simon, CEO
Simon Malls
225 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mr. Simon,

I am in receipt of your request for New Hampshire to open retail malls. As you know, last week my administration moved forward with a plan to re-open retail businesses in our state beginning on Monday, May 11, 2020.

Like you, I am eager to see Granite Staters heading back out to their favorite stores and shops. However, health and safety in this challenging COVID-19 environment remain paramount. In addition to the safety precautions, it is expected that you will follow the guidelines put forward by the state's reopening task force. Those safety precautions, both the universal and the retail specific guidance, have been vetted by health officials in New Hampshire and have been carefully designed to ensure the safety of shoppers. It is imperative that they be followed carefully.

Further, I am impressed by the guidelines that you have outlined in your letter. It goes without saying that shopping malls present unique and sometimes difficult dynamics to manage. This notably includes ensuring social distancing and avoiding congregation in common areas, such as food courts. Also, management of crowd size and ensuring sanitary precautions must be paramount. I strongly encourage you to take all steps necessary to ensure compliance with both the state expectations, as well as the internal policies you have put forward.

State officials will be monitoring the dynamics in New Hampshire's malls with a careful eye to ensure safety. State officials and our reopening task force have worked tirelessly to strike the appropriate balance between ensuring health and allowing our economy to get back on track. That balance must be maintained and I will not hesitate to reassess my position on allowing shopping malls to open if the guidance is not properly followed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher T. Sununu".

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor