



# Religious Leaders Urge Ducey To Extend Stay-At-Home Order

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Hundreds of Arizona religious leaders urged Gov. Doug Ducey to extend his stay-at-home order.

Ducey's executive order, made over a month ago, is set to expire at midnight on Thursday, unless the governor modifies or extends it.

In a letter organized by the **Arizona Interfaith Network**, religious leaders praised Ducey for issuing the order in the first place. Now the governor must avoid the "false calculus" that pits Arizona's economy against peoples' lives, they wrote.

The economy should serve the common good and promote dignified, safe work, particularly for the most vulnerable," the letter states. "This a moral decision, not just a business decision. We must do all we can to save lives; life is irreplaceable."

Ducey faces pressure from Republican leaders in Arizona, including the head of the Arizona GOP, to reopen the economy as soon as possible.

But faith leaders stated that Ducey should rely on clear and convincing science — that means robust testing and contact tracing — to decide when it's safe to reopen Arizona's economy.

"The coronavirus will only be contained by broad testing and the application of our best public health measures," they wrote. "The disease will not cooperate with deadlines imposed by us. It will not respond to political calculations or wishful thinking, and neither should the state of Arizona."