



May 18, 2020

Dear Chairman Wilborn and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

Drive 5 Sports, a youth sports program, unfortunately has been delegated to the losers per Governor Laura Kelly's emergency order for Kansas shutting down our sports facility. Governor Kelly's orders are discriminatory and arbitrary.

We provide an academy with individual and team skills instructions for youth 7 – 18 years old. Our program employs 40-50 full or part-time employees who work with these youth to develop their physical abilities on the basketball court but also provide mentorship and coaching on life lessons beyond sports.

One of our biggest concerns is that with this shutdown the players affected and families affected have no idea when or if they will be able to continue pursuing their goals of making school teams, travel teams, high school varsity teams and possibly college teams. This adds to the mental challenges of many young individuals, thus leading to depression and anxiety that is caused by this situation. Also, the fact that so many young individuals are being deprived of the opportunity to continue with basketball creates barriers to their overall health, mental and physical. This plays a part in several young adults' opportunities to pursue a college scholarship and in rare cases professional careers. Without the chance to work on their overall skills, these individuals are missing this opportunity to improve.

We as a business believe that we can provide a safe environment with social distancing and sanitizing regularly.

Drive 5 has been an ongoing entity for 6 years and has 40-50 full or part-time employees. This government mandated shutdown is creating a strain on all the employees. Employees don't know when the business will be able to open or even if the business will be able to open. Many of our employees are looking to further their coaching opportunities and are currently unable to do so. This is creating a mental and emotional strain on these individuals and their families with no clarity in sight.

Drive 5 is a business entity that is being threatened financially with 100% of our revenue being taken from us because of the governor's shutdown. If we don't receive some definite time lines that tell us when we can get back to business as normal Drive 5 will cease to exist as a business due to the governor's overreach.

I do not believe that the governor should be able to unilaterally closedown businesses in Kansas without legislative oversight.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas G. Evans", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Douglas G. Evans
President