

KS governor seeks mask mandate again

MISSION, Kan. (AP) -- Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly is again calling for a statewide mask mandate as the coronavirus case count continues to climb in rural parts of the state that don't require them.

Kelly said Wednesday that two-thirds of the state's COVID-19 cases are now coming from outside the Wichita and Kansas City region.

She issued an order requiring Kansas residents to wear masks over the summer, though more than 90 counties opted out. Kelly says she now plans to have discussions with House and Senate leadership to work toward a stronger bipartisan requirement.

Since Monday, the state health department reported that Kansas has had 1,488 new confirmed and probable coronavirus cases.

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