With all due respect to the RRRCC, their proposal does not go far enough. State government has overstepped its bounds and greatly overreacted to this situation. This has crushed our economy. New Mexico is fortunate to have resisted past attempts by politicians to drain the state's "rainy day fund" in order to fund new, frivolous spending, but it is not nearly enough for the torrents and flooding we face. As residents of Rio Rancho, as well as our county and state, we should accept nothing less than the complete removal of government restrictions, most of which were created from the governor's need to do "something." Actions such as banning the use of playground equipment or state parks, restricting occupancy in stores (which, at best, were probably only anywhere near 100% on black Friday), and pushing the use of worthless (for the healthy) face masks will prove to have done nothing. The whole idea of the government deciding which businesses are "essential" is offensive, as is its attempt to curtail peaceful gatherings. We, the public, are neither infants nor imbeciles -- we are capable of making rational decisions to protect our families, our customers and ourselves. By not falling into the trap of a "one size fits all" approach, we can do this more efficiently than government could ever dream.

Additionally, it has been shocking to see how easily governments have seized freedoms that most thought were inalienable rights. We fear it will be hard for them to ever relinquish this power. The U.S. Constitution, and by extension the state Constitution, was intended to protect citizens in extreme times -- possibly even more so than "normal" times of peace and prosperity.