

On Friday afternoon, Governor Pritzker announced that restaurants in three regions can move to Tier 1 mitigations and are permitted to open.

Indoor service limited to lesser of 25% or 25 people per room • Establishment must serve food for indoor service • Reservations required and limited to 2 hours • No tables exceeding 4 people indoors
• Bars and restaurants close at 11 p.m. and may reopen no earlier than 6 a.m. the following day.

The official documents are included in this email.

- **Region 1** - North - Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside, Winnebago
- **Region 2** - North-Central - Bureau, Fulton, Grundy, Henderson, Henry, Kendall, Knox, La Salle, Livingston, Marshall, McDonough, McLean, Mercer, Peoria, Putnam, Rock Island, Stark, Tazewell, Warren, Woodford
- **Region 5** - Southern - Alexander, Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Marion, Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union, Wabash, Wayne, White, Williamson

The rest of Illinois restaurants have endured enough! The fact is only 4% of all cases can be traced back to people visiting restaurants. However even that number is debatable, as many people who visited restaurants also visited other retailers that day, and they could have contracted the virus at any one of them.

Currently, COVID – 19 vaccines have been developed and are being administered to the health care industry, first responders and our government officials. Each week, more and more people will receive the vaccine and as the general population trends towards herd immunity, it is time to start opening our doors again.

GARC has provided the following support to open whether Governor Pritzker agrees or not.

1. Our office will be launching a "Serving Safely" program that will provide tools and programs to communicate to your customers that you have taken all the proper measures to keep you, your employees, and your customers safe.
2. We have hired Thomas DeVore to represent our members. We have negotiated a \$250.00 fee per restaurant to retain his services
 - a. Counties include: Suburban Cook and Lake County.
3. GARC has developed programs with manufacturers and distributors for PPE and other materials to maintain a safe environment for your staff and customers.

Across Illinois there are many Mayors that have supported our restaurants and have allowed them to operate as long as safety measures are in place. It is time for the entire state to band together and show our support for our industry, our employees and our customers while keeping our businesses financially stable.

Best regards,
Christine