

California City Tries to Open Businesses

Read the article and then fill in the gaps using the words in the box.

One city decided not to follow the lockdown _____ in its state. The city council in Atwater, California, decided to become a sanctuary city for businesses. This means they will let _____ open.

The idea came from the city of Coalinga, another city in California. Coalinga let all its businesses reopen on May 11, saying that all businesses were "essential". Atwater tried a different method, naming itself a sanctuary city for business. A sanctuary is a _____ place. This city wanted to make a safe place for businesses to _____. This means it won't _____ people for opening their businesses, even though it is against state law to open. Even though the _____ government won't punish them, the state government could still do so.

Some people worry that they will be fined by California's state government if they open. The California governor could stop giving the city money, too. Others don't think they would get money, anyway. "There's never going to be any money coming from the governor," the _____ of Atwater said. "I say we focus on ourselves."

It looks like the small towns in _____ are standing up to the state and trying to take back their independence. Will more towns, cities, or counties stand up for their rights and defy their lawmakers?

mayor

open

rules

punish

California

city

safe

businesses