

GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA  
★  
EXECUTIVE ORDER

Executive Order 2020-18

**Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected**  
*Physical Distancing to Mitigate COVID-19 Transmission*

**WHEREAS**, Arizona is committed to combating COVID-19, which represents a serious threat to public health; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Arizona has taken proactive actions to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 to public health and address the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 26-303 and 36-787, I, as Governor of the State of Arizona, issued a declaration of a Public Health State of Emergency due to the necessity to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 15, 2020, a statewide school closure was issued in coordination with Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Hoffman, later extended on March 30, 2020, through the end of the school year; and

**WHEREAS**, many businesses have greatly reduced their hours and operations as directed by health officials and in an effort to protect the public health and slow the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, following updated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) issued updated guidance that included canceling or postponing gatherings of 10 or more people, recommending telework and other alternatives, restricting access to nursing homes, retirement homes and long-term care facilities to provide critical assistance, and providing recommendations to restaurants and eating establishments to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, Executive Order 2020-09 was issued requiring restaurants in Arizona counties with confirmed COVID-19 cases to provide dine-out options only and required all bars, gyms and movie theaters in those counties to close; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, Executive Order 2020-10 halted all elective surgeries in the State of Arizona to free up medical resources and maintain the capacity for hospitals and providers to continue offering vital services; and

**WHEREAS**, essential services were identified in Executive Order 2020-12 as those specifically necessary to promote the public health, safety and welfare of the state or assist others in fulfilling such functions; and

**EXHIBIT N**

**WHEREAS**, to combat COVID-19, and at the recommendation of the state's health officials, the State of Arizona must continue its efforts by further limiting potential exposure through a policy of physical distancing while maintaining social connectedness; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 26-303(E), the Governor of Arizona, after a Declaration is issued, has "the right to exercise, within the area designated, all police power vested in the state by the constitution and laws of this state"; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-787(A), during a State of Emergency declared by the Governor, the Arizona Department of Health Services has primary jurisdiction, responsibility and authority for:

- (1) Planning and executing public health emergency assessment, mitigation, preparedness response and recovery of the State;
- (2) Coordinating public health emergency response among State, local and tribal authorities;
- (3) Collaborating with relevant federal government authorities, elected officials or other states, private organizations and private sector companies; and
- (4) Coordinating recovery operations and mitigation initiatives subsequent to public health emergencies; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 30, 2020, the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services, based on an epidemiological assessment of Arizona specific data and in alignment with CDC guidance, recommended the state implement enhanced mitigation strategies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State, including but not limited to A.R.S. § 26-303 and after consultation with the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services, do hereby order, effective at 5:00 p.m. on March 31, 2020:**

1. Arizona shall institute a "Stay home, Stay healthy, Stay connected" policy that promotes physical distancing, while also encouraging social connectedness. This builds on actions the state has already taken, and further memorializes some already in effect, to slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect our citizens.
2. Under this policy, all individuals in the State of Arizona shall limit their time away from their place of residence or property, except:
  - a. To conduct or participate in Essential Activities.
  - b. For employment, to volunteer or participate in Essential Functions.
  - c. To utilize any services or products provided by Essential Businesses.
  - d. Employment, if as a sole proprietor or family owned business, work is conducted in a separate office space from your home and the business is not open to serve the public.
  - e. No person shall be required to provide documentation or proof of their activities to justify their activities under this order.
3. Arizonans are encouraged to improve social connectedness, resiliency, and help-seeking behavior by:

- a. Maintaining ongoing connections and communication with current social supports and structures such as family, friends, neighbors and other social groups;
  - b. Educating fellow Arizonans on the negative health impacts of social isolation;
  - c. Developing habits and activities that increase resilience, such as physical activity, virtual social gatherings, assisting neighbors, implementing or participating in connection campaigns for at-risk populations, and participating in volunteer activities;
  - d. Sharing information and awareness of newly available social services and resources to improve the stability of families and reduce financial stressors; and
  - e. Sharing information and awareness of resources in the community by providing information on where and how high risk populations can access suicide prevention services throughout Arizona, including specific resources that are targeted to high risk populations.
4. Under this policy, Essential Activities include:
- a. Obtaining necessary supplies and services for family, household members and pets, such as groceries, food and supplies for household consumption and use, supplies and equipment needed to work from home, assignments for completion of distance learning and products necessary to maintain safety, sanitation and essential maintenance of the home and residence.
  - b. Engaging in activities essential for the health and safety of family, household members and pets, including things such as seeking medical, behavioral health or emergency services and obtaining medical supplies or medication.
  - c. Caring for a family member, friend, or pet in another household or residence, which includes but is not limited to transportation of a family member, friend or their pet for essential health and safety activities and to obtain necessary supplies and services for the other household.
  - d. Engaging in outdoor exercise activities, such as walking, hiking, running, biking or golfing, but only if appropriate physical distancing practices are used.
  - e. Attending or conducting work or volunteering in Essential Functions which includes but is not limited to transporting children to child care services for attending work in an essential service.
  - f. Engaging in constitutionally protected activities such as speech and religion, and any legal or court process provided that such is conducted in a manner that provides appropriate physical distancing to the extent feasible.
5. To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces when outside their residence or property for Essential Activities, they shall to the extent possible maintain physical distancing of at least six feet from any other person, consistent with guidance from the CDC.
6. All persons may leave their place of residence only for Essential Activities, to participate in or receive Essential Governmental Functions, or to participate in or fulfill Essential Functions outlined in Executive Order 2020-12.
7. Individuals shall limit use of public transportation to when absolutely necessary to obtain or conduct Essential Activities or attend work in an Essential Function. While using public transportation, riders shall maintain to the extent possible recommended physical distancing of at least six feet from other riders and the operator.

8. Individuals experiencing homelessness are exempt from this directive, but are strongly urged to obtain shelter as soon as possible and to the maximum extent practicable.
9. Individuals whose residences are unsafe or become unsafe, such as victims of domestic violence, are permitted and urged to leave their home and stay at a safe alternative location.
10. For purposes of this Executive Order, homes or residences include hotels, motels, shared rental units, shelters, and similar facilities.
11. Businesses and entities that remain open shall implement rules and procedures that facilitate physical distancing and spacing of individuals of at least six feet.
  - a. All businesses that are classified as Essential Functions may remain open and maintain operations, but shall establish and implement social distancing and sanitation measures established by the United States Department of Labor or the Arizona Department of Health Services.
  - b. Essential Functions conducted by governmental entities shall remain open. Government leaders may adjust operations to promote physical distancing, including but not limited to offering on-line services as feasible, limiting the number of persons in a physical space or limiting access to specific facilities or areas to protect from the spread of COVID-19.
  - c. Employment in Essential Businesses and Operations means an essential employee performing work for an Essential Function as identified in the "Prohibiting the Closure of Essential Services" Executive Order list.
12. Non-essential businesses may continue to operate those activities that do not require in-person, on-site transactions and are encouraged to maintain at least minimum basic operations that maintain the value of the business' inventory, preserve the condition of the business' physical plant and equipment, ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, facilitate employees of the business being able to continue to work remotely from their residences, and related functions to include mail pickup.
13. This Executive Order shall not be construed to prohibit working from home, operating a single owner business with no in-person, on-site public interaction, or restaurants and food services providing delivery or take-away services, so long as proper physical distancing and sanitation measures are established and implemented.
14. Arizonans are already acting responsibly during this public health emergency. The intent of this Executive Order is to ensure that people maintain physical distance to the maximum extent feasible, while enabling essential services to continue, protecting people's rights and slowing the spread of COVID-19 to the greatest extent possible. When people need to leave their places of residence, whether to perform Essential Activities, or to otherwise facilitate authorized activities necessary for continuity of social and commercial life, they should at all times and as much as reasonably possible comply with physical distancing recommendations. All provisions of this Executive Order shall be interpreted to effectuate this intent. Prior to any enforcement action being taken to enforce this order in accordance with A.R.S. § 26-317, a person shall be notified and given an opportunity to comply.

15. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 26-307, no county, city or town may make or issue any order, rule or regulation that conflicts with the policy, directives or intent of this Executive Order, including any order, rule or regulation that limits an individual from conducting, participating in or receiving Essential Services, Essential Activities or Non-essential Services as outlined in this order and prior executive orders.
16. If any provision of this Executive Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, this invalidity does not affect any other provision or application of this Executive Order, which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Executive Order are declared to be severable.
17. This Executive Order shall be in effect until April 30, 2020, unless extended.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.



*Douglas R. Ducey*

**GOVERNOR**

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Thirtieth Day of March in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Fourth.

**ATTEST:**

*[Signature]*

**Secretary of State**

**ORDER OF THE STATE HEALTH OFFICER  
SUSPENDING CERTAIN PUBLIC GATHERINGS  
DUE TO RISK OF INFECTION BY COVID-19**

**(APPLICABLE STATEWIDE)**

**AMENDED APRIL 3, 2020**

**WHEREAS** Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has been detected in Alabama; and

**WHEREAS** the appearance of COVID-19 in the State poses the potential of widespread exposure to an infectious agent that poses significant risk of substantial harm to a large number of people; and

**WHEREAS** the State Board of Health has designated COVID-19 to be a disease of epidemic potential, a threat to the health and welfare of the public, or otherwise of public health importance; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, on recommendation of the State Health Officer, Kay Ivey, Governor of the State of Alabama, declared a state public health emergency exists in the State of Alabama; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, the Jefferson County Health Officer, in response to a rapidly growing number of cases of COVID-19 being detected in Jefferson County, issued an order suspending certain public gatherings in that county; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, the State Health Officer issued a similar order for counties surrounding Jefferson, including Blount, St. Clair, Shelby, Tuscaloosa, and Walker Counties, and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, the State Health Officer issued an order, and on March 20, 2020, and March 27, 2020, amended orders, of statewide application suspending certain public gatherings; and

**WHEREAS** further social distancing measures are necessary to be implemented on a statewide basis to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS** Ala. Code § 22-2-2(4) authorizes the State Health Officer, on behalf of the State Board of Health, to direct that conditions prejudicial to health in public places within the State be abated;

**NOW THEREFORE, THESE PREMISES CONSIDERED**, it is ordered that the following Stay at Home order be implemented statewide:

1. Effective Saturday, April 4, 2020, at 5:00 P.M., every person is ordered to stay at his or her place of residence except as necessary to perform any of the following “essential activities”:

- a. **To obtain necessary supplies.** A person may leave his or her place of residence to obtain the following supplies for himself or herself, for other household members, including pets, or for a loved one or friend who cannot or should not leave home or cannot care for himself or herself:
  - (i) Food and other consumer goods necessary to maintain a person's daily routine or to maintain the safety, sanitation, and routine operation of a home or residence;
  - (ii) Supplies needed to work from home;
  - (iii) Pharmaceutical prescriptions or other medical supplies;
  - (iv) Fuel for automobiles or other vehicles or other vehicle supplies;
  - (v) Materials for distance learning or other education-related purposes; and
  - (vi) Any other supplies necessary to maintain a person's or pet's daily routine or to maintain the safety, sanitation, and routine operation of a home or residence.
  
- b. **To obtain or provide necessary services.** A person may leave his or her place of residence to obtain or provide the following services for himself or herself, for other household members, including pets, or for a loved one or friend who cannot or should not leave home or cannot care for himself or herself:
  - (i) Dental, medical, or surgical procedures allowed under paragraph 14 of this Order;
  - (ii) Government-funded services or benefits;
  - (iii) Automobile repair services;
  - (iv) Services vital to the treatment or care of people with physical, intellectual, or developmental disabilities, or people with substance-use disorders;
  - (v) Services related to any public or private distance learning activities and education continuity, including all services under education continuity plans approved by the State Superintendent of Education; and
  - (vi) Any other services necessary to maintain a person's or pet's health and safety or to preserve the person's ability to perform an essential activity as defined in this paragraph.
  
- c. **To attend religious services.** A person may leave his or her place of residence to attend an event that is a religious worship service, wedding, or funeral in either of the following circumstances:
  - (i) The event involves fewer than 10 people and the people maintain a consistent six-foot distance from one another; or

- (ii) The event is a “drive-in” worship service that adheres to the following rules:
  - 1. All participants shall remain in their vehicles for the entirety of the service;
  - 2. The participants in each vehicle all share the same place of residence; and
  - 3. Participants do not come within six feet of participants in other vehicles.
- d. **To take care of others.** A person may leave his or her place of residence to care for a family member, friend, or pet in another household, or to donate blood, or to transport family members, friends, or pets as allowed by this Order.
- e. **To work.** A person may leave his or her place of residence to perform work at “essential businesses and operations” as defined in paragraph 2 below or to perform essential work-related activities as follows:
  - (i) Work-related activities to maintain the value of a business, establishment, corporation or other organization, such as managing inventory, ensuring security, and processing payroll and employee benefits;
  - (ii) Work-related activities to enable people to work or shop remotely from their residences or to allow people to buy products through drive-by, curbside, or door-to-door delivery; or
  - (iii) Work-related activities that do not require any regular interaction within six feet of another person.
- f. **To engage in outdoor activity.** A person may leave his or her place of residence to participate in outdoor activity that involves fewer than 10 people so long as the person maintains a consistent six-foot distance from other persons.
- g. **To seek shelter.** A person may leave his or her place of residence to seek shelter if required by his or her employment by an “essential service of business” or if his or her residence is unsafe or at imminent risk of becoming unsafe. A person may also leave his or her place of residence to seek help from providers of basic necessities to economically disadvantaged people, such as food pantries.
- h. **To travel as required by law.** A person may leave his or her place of residence to travel as required by law enforcement or court order, including the transportation of children required by a custody agreement.
- i. **To see family members.** A person may leave his or her place of residence to visit the residence of other persons who are related to him or her.

Anyone leaving his or her home or place of residence as authorized in this order shall take reasonable steps to maintain six feet of separation from other persons.



2. For the purposes of this Order, “essential businesses and operations” means and includes:

- a. **Government operations**, including public safety and first responders, law enforcement, fire prevention and response, courts and court personnel, military, emergency management personnel, corrections, probation and parole, child protection, child welfare, EMTs, 911 call-center employees, all workers and vendors that support law enforcement and emergency management operations and services, and other federal, state, tribal, or local officials or employees;
- b. **Health-care providers and caregivers**, including physicians, dentists, mental health workers, nurses, chiropractors, physical therapists, veterinarians, hospitals/clinics, medical practices, research and laboratory operations, hospice, health care facilities, clinical staff, nursing homes, residential health care facilities, adult day care centers, blood banks, congregate-care facilities, assisted living facilities, elder care, medical wholesale and distribution, home health workers and aides, medical supply and equipment manufacturers and providers, medical waste disposal, hazardous waste disposal, other ancillary healthcare services;
- c. **Infrastructure Operations**, including electric, natural gas, and water utilities, nuclear facilities and other generating facilities, utility poles and components, fuel pipelines and transmission systems, petroleum producers, telecommunications, electronic security and life safety services, wireless communication companies, communications sales and customer support, telecommunication and data centers, cybersecurity operations; businesses and other operations concerned with flood control, aviation, and the maintenance, operation, or construction of dams, airports, ports, roads and highways, and mass transit; automotive sales and repair, vehicle rental and taxi services, network providers (such as Uber and Lyft), freight and passenger rail, motor carriers, pipelines, and other transportation infrastructure and businesses, water and waste water systems, transportation companies such as airlines and bus lines, hazardous waste disposal, hotels and commercial lodging services, and RV parks;
- d. **Manufacturing facilities**, including food processing and production; companies that produce pharmaceuticals, food additives, medical equipment, medical devices and supplies, technology, biotechnology, chemical products, telecommunications products; automotive production and suppliers, airplane, ship, and space vehicle or rocket manufacturers; companies involved in healthcare, energy, steel and steel products, fuel and petroleum exploration and production, lubricants, greases and engine oils, mining, national defense, sanitary and cleaning products, household products, personal care products, products used by any other Essential Business or Operation;
- e. **Agricultural operations and farms**, including food cultivation, livestock, cattle, poultry and seafood operations, transportation of agricultural products, livestock auctions, feedlots, dealers and brokers of livestock, farmer’s markets, feed stores, repairers and suppliers of agricultural equipment, gas, diesel and petroleum suppliers, companies involved with aquaculture, horticulture, and chemicals, including pesticide, herbicide,

and fertilizer producers and distributors, forest products businesses, including those involved in forestry operations, logging, manufacture of lumber and paper products; meat processing facilities, rendering facilities and transporters, feed processing facilities, veterinary services;

- f. **Essential retailers**, defined as all supermarkets, food and beverage stores, including liquor stores and warehouse clubs, food providers, convenience stores, office-supply stores, bookstores, computer stores, pharmacies, health care supply stores, hardware stores, home improvement stores, building materials stores, stores that sell electrical, plumbing, and heating materials, gun stores, gas stations; auto, farm equipment, bicycle, motorcycle, and boat supply and repair stores, and businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, and goods directly to residences;
- g. **Restaurants and bars**;
- h. **Essential personal services**, defined as trash collection, mail and shipping services, home repair, automotive sales and repair; warehouse, distribution and fulfillment centers, kennels, animal shelters, laundromats/laundry service, drycleaners, childcare facilities, public transportation, and providers of business services including security and payroll; funeral, cemetery, and related services;
- i. **Media operations**, including newspapers, digital news sites, television, radio and other media services;
- j. **Education operations**, including educators supporting public and private K-12 schools, colleges and universities or other educational institutions, for purposes of facilitating distance learning and education continuity plans approved by the State Superintendent of Education, performing critical research or other essential functions, including public schools preparing and transporting distance-learning materials and meals to eligible students and colleges providing lodging for students (all in compliance with paragraph 12 below);
- k. **Financial services**, including banks and related financial institutions, credit unions, payday lenders, businesses that process credit card and other financial transactions, and other services related to financial markets;
- l. **Professional Services**, including legal services, accounting services, insurance services, real estate services (including appraisal and title services);
- m. **Providers of basic necessities to economically disadvantaged populations** including businesses, religious and secular non-profit organizations, food banks, homeless shelters and congregate-care facilities;
- n. **Construction and construction-related services**, including building and construction, lumber, building materials and hardware businesses, electricians, plumbers, other construction tradesmen and tradeswomen, exterminators; cleaning and janitorial, HVACR and water heating businesses; painting, moving and relocating services, other

skilled trades, and other related construction firms and professionals for maintaining essential infrastructure;

- o. **Essential public services**, defined as services necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation and essential operations of residences and essential businesses and essential business operations, including law enforcement, fire prevention and response, firearm and ammunition manufacturers and retailers, building code enforcement, security, emergency management and response, building cleaning including disinfection, automotive sales and repair, mortuaries and cemeteries;
- p. **Military or defense operations**, including employers and personnel who support the essential products and services required to meet national security commitments, including personnel working for companies and their subcontractors, who perform under contract to the Department of Defense providing materials and services to the Department of Defense and government-owned/contractor-operated and government-owned/government-operated facilities.
- q. **Essential services or product providers**, defined as vendors that provide services or products, including logistics, transportation, and technology support, child care programs and services, medical waste disposal, hazardous waste disposal, services needed to ensure the continuing operation of an essential business or operation, operation of government agencies, and to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public;
- r. **Religious entities**, including religious and faith-based facilities, entities and groups;
- s. **Federally-designated critical infrastructure**, defined as workers and related industries identified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) in its “Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response,” <https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19>, as may be amended;
- t. **Other state-designated essential businesses and operations**, defined as businesses and operations deemed essential by the Alabama Department of Public Health or the Alabama Emergency Management Agency; and
- u. **Support operations for essential businesses and operations**, defined as employees, contractors, agents, suppliers, or vendors of an essential business or operation as defined in this paragraph.

3. Operators of “essential businesses and operations” as defined in paragraph 2 may, but need not, issue credentials to their employees verifying their status as an employee of an essential business or operation. The decision to provide any such credentials is left to the discretion of the essential business or operation.

4. “Essential businesses and operations” as defined in paragraph 2 shall take all reasonable steps, for employees and customers, to (a) avoid gatherings of 10 persons or more and (b) maintain a consistent six-foot distance between persons.

5. Effective March 28, 2020, at 5:00 P.M., the following businesses, venues, and activities shall be closed to non-employees or not take place:

a. **Entertainment venues** as follows:

- (i) Night clubs
- (ii) Bowling alleys
- (iii) Arcades
- (iv) Concert venues
- (v) Theaters, auditoriums, and performing arts centers
- (vi) Tourist attractions (including museums and planetariums)
- (vii) Racetracks
- (viii) Indoor children’s play areas
- (ix) Adult entertainment venues
- (x) Adult novelty stores
- (xi) Casinos
- (xii) Bingo halls
- (xiii) Venues operated by social clubs

b. **Athletic facilities** and activities as follows:

- (i) Fitness centers and commercial gyms
- (ii) Spas and public or commercial swimming pools
- (iii) Yoga, barre, and spin facilities
- (iv) Spectator sports
- (v) Sports that involve interaction with another person of closer than 6 feet
- (vi) Activities that require use of shared sporting apparatus and equipment

(vii) Activities on commercial or public playground equipment

c. **Close-contact service providers** as follows:

- (i) Barber shops
- (ii) Hair salons
- (iii) Waxing salons
- (iv) Threading salons
- (v) Nail salons and spas
- (vi) Body art facilities and tattoo services
- (vii) Tanning salons
- (viii) Massage therapy establishments and services

6. Effective Saturday, April 4, 2020, at 5:00 P.M., all “essential retailers” as defined in paragraph 2, including grocery stores, pharmacies, and “big box” stores, shall comply with the following rules in addition to any other applicable provisions of this Order:

- a. **Emergency maximum occupancy rate.** Occupancy shall be limited to no more than 50 percent of the normal occupancy load as determined by the fire marshal. This “emergency maximum occupancy rate” shall be posted in a conspicuous place, and enough staff shall be posted at the store entrances and exits to enforce this requirement.
- b. **Social distancing.** An employee of the essential retailer place may not knowingly allow customers or patrons to congregate within six feet of one another.
- c. **Sanitation.** The essential retailer shall take reasonable steps to comply with guidelines on sanitation from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Alabama Department of Public Health.

7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Order, a business may continue to operate through curbside pickup, delivery, remotely, or any other method that does not involve a customer entering its building, provided that the business takes all reasonable steps to ensure a consistent six-foot distance between persons.

8. Effective March 28, 2020, at 5:00 P.M., all non-work related gatherings of 10 persons or more, or non-work related gatherings of any size that cannot maintain a consistent six-foot distance between persons, are prohibited.

9. Effective immediately, any person who has tested positive for COVID-19—other than institutionalized persons—shall be quarantined to their place of residence for a period of 14 days

after receiving positive test results. Any person quarantined pursuant to this provision shall not leave their place of residence for any reason other than to seek necessary medical treatment. Any person requiring assistance while under quarantine may contact Alabama Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), <http://alvoad.communityos.org/cms/>. While under quarantine, the person must shall take precautions as directed by his or her health care provider or the Department of Public Health to prevent the spread of the disease to others.

10. Effective March 28, 2020, at 5:00 P.M., all beaches shall be closed. For purposes of this section, the term “beach” means the sandy shoreline area abutting the Gulf of Mexico, whether privately or publicly owned, including beach access points.

11. Effective, March 20, 2020, all regular programs at Senior Citizen Centers shall be ended except that Senior Citizen Centers and their partners are urged to assure that their clients continue to receive needed meals via curbside pick-up or delivery.

12. Effective March 20, 2020, the following shall be closed:

a. In-person instruction or classes at all schools, public and private, including but not limited to: elementary, secondary, postsecondary, technical, or specialty schools, and colleges and universities.

(i) This order is not intended to prevent any employers from making continued necessary staffing decisions. Employers are authorized to advise employees to work from home or maintain flexible work schedules. If working from home is not feasible, the employee should practice social distancing, maintaining consistent six-foot distance between persons, for the duration of this order and follow public health guidelines.

(ii) This order shall not apply to-daytime special activities programs provided by local boards of education for children, ages 6 through 12 as of March 13, 2020, of first responders (including EMS and fire services) and licensed health-care providers and their essential employees; and essential employees of the following categories of employers: state and local governments, law enforcement, hospitals, nursing home/long-term care facilities, (including assisted living and specialty-care assisted living facilities), end-stage renal disease treatment centers, pharmacies, and grocery stores. In these special activities programs, 12 or more children shall not be allowed in any one room at the same time, and operators of these programs are encouraged to use enhanced sanitation practices consistent with guidance from the CDC and the Alabama Department of Public Health.

b. Facilities providing child day care, including any child day care facility described in Ala. Code § 38-7-2, at which 12 or more children are in a room or other enclosed space at the same time. Center employees are encouraged to use enhanced sanitation and social-distancing practices consistent with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Alabama Department of Public Health. This Order does not change the Minimum Standards for Day Care promulgated by the Alabama Department of Human Resources, except that 12 or more children shall not be allowed in a room or other enclosed space at the same time.

13. Effective March 20, 2020, all Hospitals and Nursing Home/Long Term Care Facilities (including Assisted Living and Specialty Care Assisted Living Facilities) shall prohibit visitation of all visitors, as defined by the facility, and non-essential health care personnel, except for certain compassionate care situations such as maternity and end-of-life.

14. Effective March 28, 2020 at 5:00 P.M., all dental, medical, or surgical procedures shall be postponed until further notice, subject to the following exceptions:

a. Dental, medical, or surgical procedures necessary to treat an emergency medical condition. For purposes of this order, “emergency medical condition” is defined as a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain, psychiatric disturbances, and/or symptoms of substance abuse) such that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected by a person’s licensed medical provider to result in placing the health of the person in serious jeopardy or causing serious impairment to bodily functions or serious dysfunction of bodily organs.

b. Dental, medical, or surgical procedures necessary to avoid serious harm from an underlying condition or disease, or necessary as part of a patient’s ongoing and active treatment.

15. Effective March 19, 2020, at 5:00 P.M., all restaurants, bars, breweries, or similar establishments shall not permit on-premises consumption of food or drink.

a. Such establishments may continue to offer food for take-out or delivery provided the social distancing protocols, including maintaining a consistent six-foot distance between persons, are followed.

b. Such establishments are strongly encouraged to offer online ordering and curbside pick-up of food.

c. Hospital food service areas are excluded from this order provided they have their own social distancing plan.

16. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until 5:00 P.M. on April 30, 2020. Prior to 5:00 P.M. on April 30, 2020, a determination shall be made whether to extend this Order—or, if circumstances permit, to relax this Order.

17. This Order supersedes and preempts all orders previously issued by the State Health Officer and Jefferson and Mobile County Health Officers concerning COVID-19 mitigation measures, and this Order shall remain in full force and effect until rescinded by order of the State Health Officer or its expiration. After the date this order is issued, the Jefferson and Mobile County Health Officers are authorized, after approval by the State Health Officer, to implement more stringent measures as local circumstances require.

This Order also supersedes and preempts any county and municipal orders or ordinances, whenever adopted, that purport to impose less stringent COVID-19-related curfew or quarantine measures.

Done on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Harris", written in a cursive style.

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Scott Harris, M.D., M.P.H.  
State Health Officer



**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

EO 20 - 13

**EXECUTIVE ORDER TO AMEND EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-03 REGARDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY CONCERNING COVID-19 FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPOSING FURTHER RESTRICTIONS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

WHEREAS: An outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has spread throughout the world resulting in a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS: On March 11, 2020, by Executive Order 20-03, an emergency was declared in the state as a result of COVID-19, and that emergency is on-going; and

WHEREAS: COVID-19 continues to spread throughout the United States and Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: In response to COVID-19, significant measures have been taken by Executive Order and Directives by the Secretary of Health to limit person-to-person contact, restrict gatherings, and suspend businesses that require significant person-to-person interaction; and

WHEREAS: On March 26, 2020, by Executive Order 20-10, amending Executive Order 20-03, I declared the entire State of Arkansas a disaster area in which ingress and egress to and from, the movement of persons within, and the occupancy of premises therein, may be controlled, pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 12-75-114(e)(7); and

WHEREAS: Pursuant to Act 96 of 1913, Ark. Code Ann. §§ 20-7-101 et seq., and the rules promulgated therefore, the Secretary of Health has the authority to impose such quarantine restrictions and regulations upon commerce and travel by railway, common carriers or any other means, and upon all individuals as in his judgment may be necessary to prevent the introduction of communicable disease into the State, or from one place to another within the State; and

WHEREAS: On March 26, 2020, in conjunction with a directive issued by the Secretary of Health, Executive Order 20-10, amending Executive Order 20-03, imposed restrictions on gatherings of ten (10) or more people to limit the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: Executive Order 20-10 exempted certain entities from the restrictions on gathering; and

WHEREAS: I, as Governor, in consultation with the Secretary of Health, have determined that more actions must be taken to protect the people of the State of Arkansas from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: All Arkansas citizens must observe proper social distancing, and the Department of Health has issued a directive on proper social distancing protocols for businesses, manufacturers, construction companies, and places of worship; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas prides itself on being a destination for out-of-state guests who travel here to enjoy all that our state has to offer; however, during this health emergency, all resources must be maintained and

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preserved to the greatest extent possible for the health and safety of Arkansas citizens; and

WHEREAS: The Secretary of Health has directed that occupancy of commercial lodgings and short-term rentals shall be limited to authorized guests as set forth in the Secretary's directive; and

WHEREAS: Executive Order 20-03 established that no quarantine regulations of commerce or travel shall be instituted or operated by any place, city, town or county against another place, city, town, or county in this or in any other state except by authority of the Secretary of Health; and

WHEREAS: Reasonable city or county curfews and closures of city or county owned parks and facilities, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, shall not be interpreted as a quarantine regulation of commerce or travel, as long as, they are consistent with this order; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Asa Hutchinson, Governor of the State of Arkansas, acting under the authority vested in me by Ark. Code Ann. §§ 12-75-101, *et seq.*, do hereby amend Executive Order 20-03 declaring an emergency in the State of Arkansas. The entire state is impacted by COVID-19, and I am declaring the entire state an emergency disaster area. In conjunction with the Directive of the Secretary of Health, I am ordering the following, effective as of 12:01 a.m. on April 6, 2020 until further notice:

- (1) The Directives of this order shall supersede the directives of Executive Order 20-10; and
- (2) All public and private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are subject to the following directives and exceptions:
  - a. Due to the high risk of community spread of COVID-19, gatherings of more than ten (10) people in any confined indoor or outdoor space are prohibited until further notice. Gatherings subject to this directive include, without limitation, community, civic, public, leisure, commercial, or sporting events, concerts, conferences, conventions, fundraisers, parades, fairs, and festivals; and
  - b. This directive does not apply to gatherings of ten (10) or more people in unenclosed, outdoor spaces such as parks, trails, athletic fields and courts, parking lots, golf courses, and driving ranges where social distancing of at least six (6) feet can be easily maintained; and
  - c. This directive does not apply to businesses, manufacturers, construction companies, places of worship, the Arkansas General Assembly, municipal or county governing bodies, or the judiciary; however, these entities are advised to limit person-to-person contact, maintain appropriate social distancing of at least six (6) feet, and adhere to the social distancing protocols mandated by this order; and
  - d. The Secretary of Health reserves the right to exercise his authority to prevent the spread of disease in this State if, in his judgment, any of the excluded entities are operating in a manner that is a risk to public health;

- (3) All businesses, manufacturers, construction companies, and places of worship shall implement the following social distancing protocols:
  - a. Limit the number of people who can enter into the facility at any one time to ensure that people in the facility can easily maintain a minimum six-foot distance from one another;
  - b. If lines form at a facility (inside or outside), facilities shall mark off six-foot increments at a minimum, establishing where individuals should stand to maintain adequate social distancing;
  - c. Provide hand sanitizer, soap and water, or effective disinfectant at or near the entrance of the facility and in other appropriate areas for use by the public and employees, and in locations where there is high-frequency employee interaction with members of the public;
  - d. Retail businesses shall provide contactless payment systems or provide for disinfecting all payment portals, pens, and styluses after each use;
  - e. Regularly disinfect any high-touch surfaces;
  - f. Post a sign at the entrance of the facility informing all employees, customers, and congregants that they should: avoid entering the facility if they have a cough or fever; maintain a minimum six-foot distance from one another; sneeze and cough into one's elbow; not shake hands or engage in any unnecessary physical contact;
- (4) Commercial lodgings and short-term rentals, including, but not limited to, hotels, motels, and vacation rentals, shall only permit occupancy for the following authorized guests:
  - a. Healthcare professionals;
  - b. First responders;
  - c. Law enforcement;
  - d. State or Federal employees on official business;
  - e. National Guard Members on active duty;
  - f. Airline crew members;
  - g. Patients of hospitals and their families;
  - h. Journalists;
  - i. Persons unable to return to their home due to COVID-19 travel restrictions;
  - j. Arkansas citizens unable to return to their home due to exigent circumstances, such as fire, flood, tornado, or other disaster;
  - k. Persons in need of shelter due to domestic violence or homelessness;
  - l. Employees of hotels, motels, or other service providers/contractors of a hotel or motel; and
  - m. Persons away from their home due to work or work-related travel;
- (5) K-12 schools and extracurricular activities, including athletic events and practices, will remain closed for on-site instruction until such time as the Governor and Secretary of Education deem appropriate;
- (6) State government employees will continue to conduct business through both remote work and on-site work. On-site government work will be limited to employees that are critical to the necessary function of government during a public health emergency and are required to report to work on site;
- (7) Bars, Clubs, and Restaurants shall remain closed for dine-in purposes and remain open for takeaway and delivery only;
- (8) Gyms (including fitness centers/clubs, fitness classes, and group fitness studios) and indoor entertainment venues, such as bowling alleys, trampoline parks, and indoor amusement centers, shall remain closed to nonessential functions;
- (9) Casinos shall remain closed;

- (10) Barbers, Body Art Establishments, Body Art Schools, Cosmetology Establishments and Massage Therapy Clinics/Spas, and Medical Spas shall remain closed;
- (11) The directives of the Arkansas Department of Health issued on March 13, 2020, regarding long term health facilities shall remain in effect for the duration of this order;
- (12) Cities and counties taking reasonable measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by imposing curfews and closing city or county owned parks and facilities shall not be interpreted as a quarantine regulation of commerce or travel. Curfews should not prevent citizens of any age from traveling to and from work, acquiring food or essential goods and services, walking pets, or acquiring exercise outdoors while maintaining social distance of at least six (6) feet;
- (13) Executive Orders of the Governor issued pursuant Ark. Code Ann. §§ 12-75-101, *et seq.*, have the force and effect of law. Additionally, pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 20-7-101, violation of a directive from the Secretary of Health during this public health emergency is a misdemeanor offense, and upon conviction thereof is punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500) or by imprisonment not exceeding one (1) month, or both. All law enforcement officers within this state shall enforce the directives of this order and those of the Secretary of Health to preserve the health and safety of all Arkansans during this emergency.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord 2020.



  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**

**NED LAMONT**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7N**

**PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC  
AND RESPONSE – INCREASED DISTANCING, EXPANDED FAMILY ASSISTANCE,  
AND ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT SUSPENSION**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, I issued declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, proclaiming a state of emergency throughout the State of Connecticut as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed spread in Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7, dated March 12, 2020, among other things, prohibited gatherings of 250 people or more for social and recreational activities, including but not limited to, community, civic, leisure, and sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; movie screenings; plays or performances; conventions; and similar activities, and suspended various statutes and regulations to protect public health and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7A, dated March 13, 2020, authorized the Commissioner of Public Health to restrict entrance into nursing homes and similar facilities to protect people who are most vulnerable to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7B, dated March 14, 2020, among other things, modified in-person open meetings requirements, waived certain rules to mitigate the critical shortage of hand sanitizer and personal protective equipment (PPE), maintain and increase the availability of childcare, and provide for increased healthcare resources and facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7C, dated March 15, 2020, among other things, cancelled classes in public schools for at least two weeks, provided for closure and remote conduct of business at Department of Motor Vehicle branches, extended deadlines for municipal budget preparations, and suspended or modified laws and regulations governing health care data and visitation at certain health care and congregate care settings; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7D, dated March 16, 2020, restricted social and recreational gatherings of all types to fewer than 50 people, closed bars and restaurants to all service except food and non-alcoholic beverage takeout and delivery, closed gyms, fitness centers and movie theaters, and prohibited on-site operations at off-track betting facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7E, dated March 17, 2020, among other things, waived the requirement for an 180-day school year, limited fingerprinting availability to that for critical

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requirements, extended the duration of various licenses and permits under the authority of the Commissioner of Emergency Services and public protection, and suspended certain requirements for recoupment of overpayment and hearings conducted by the Department of Social Services; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7F, dated March 18, 2020, ordered the closure of Large Shopping Malls, the closure of places of public amusement except public parks and open recreation areas, expanded Medicaid telehealth coverage, waived in-person service, hearing, and screening requirements for certain Probate Court proceedings in vulnerable group care settings, and clarified my order cancelling school classes; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7G, dated March 19, 2020, ordered the postponement of the presidential primary, suspended non-critical court operations, expanded the availability of telehealth services, and enacted additional public health measures; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7H, dated March 20, 2020, limited the workplace operations of non-essential businesses, and on-profit, created a process to designate those that are essential, and provided for consistency across the state in governmental response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7I, dated March 21, 2020, among other things, granted various forms of financial relief to recipients of public health and economic assistance, enacted measures to protect the health of children in the care of the Department of Children and Families, and enacted a series of measures to allow municipalities and their administrative bodies to conduct essential business while reducing the risk of COVID-19 transmission; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7J, dated March 22, 2020, among other things, expanded the availability of temporary retired workers to fill critical staffing needs, provided authority to expedite acquisition and leasing of property to meet emergency response needs, and clarified restrictions on the operations of non-essential businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7K, dated March 23, 2020, among other things, suspended non-critical operations of the Probate Court and the Workers' Compensation Commission, authorized remote notarization, and provided the Commissioner of Public Health with additional authority to expedite the public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7L, dated March 24, 2020, among other things, extended the cancellation of public school classes through April 20, 2020, opened fishing season early to provide a safe recreational activity during this period of limited availability of other options, provided for continued availability of medical marijuana for patients with debilitating conditions, eased the ability for certain patients to transfer between nursing homes, and provided for increased availability of vital records services; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7M, dated March 25, 2020, preserved the rights of the public in certain proceedings under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act and authorized commissioners of state agencies to suspend or modify administrative deadlines and other requirements of Chapter 54 of the Connecticut General Statutes and other agency-specific administrative requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization has declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 appears to be higher for individuals who are 60 years of age or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, to reduce spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Connecticut Department of Public Health recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus and to slow transmission of the virus, including cancellation of gatherings of ten people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

**WHEREAS**, confirmed COVID-19 infections and resulting hospitalizations have increased significantly in recent days, at the same time that residents of areas with high infection rates have arrived in Connecticut, creating a need to enact further mandatory distancing measures to limit the rate of spread of the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, Public Act 19-117, codified as Section 22a-246a of the 2020 Supplement to the Connecticut General Statutes, in order to reduce waste and litter and their resulting harm to the quality of the environment and waters of the State of Connecticut and associated environmental costs, imposed a 10-cent-per-bag tax on single-use plastic checkout bags at various retail and other establishments; and

**WHEREAS**, while the Connecticut Department of Public Health has examined this issue and found that existing precautions, including frequent handwashing for at least 20 seconds or use of alcohol based sanitizer, avoiding touching the face with unwashed hands, and routine cleaning of public spaces and frequently handled items will greatly reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission for workers in high volume retail settings, many employees of retail establishments have expressed concern about the handling of such bags; and

**WHEREAS**, retail and especially grocery and restaurant workers are making a critical contribution to keeping food readily available to the public during this public health and civil preparedness emergency, their continued contribution is essential to the state's ability to enact appropriate distancing measures, and their concerns are respected; and

**WHEREAS**, Connecticut law mandates annual statewide assessments to measure student achievement and to determine school accountability, in addition to the federal testing requirements which were waived by the U.S. Department of Education on March 20, 2020 for the full state; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of the major disruption caused by the cancellation of classes statewide in Connecticut, on March 20, 2020, the Connecticut State Department of Education secured a federal waiver for the 2019-20 school year from (i) all state-mandated assessments in all grades and subjects; and (ii) district/school accountability measures under the Every Student Succeeds Act; and

**WHEREAS**, demand for firearms and ammunition since the declaration of this public health and civil preparedness emergency has increased dramatically, for example with 19,943 firearms purchase or transfer authorizations completed in March 2020 so far compared to 12,572 in all of March 2019, resulting in difficulty for dealers in transmitting authorization requests, larger than normal lines and crowds, and significant burdens on the staff and systems who process such requests, compromising their ability to process the requests and perform other critical emergency services and public safety duties; and

**WHEREAS**, upon a proclamation that a civil preparedness emergency exists, section 28-9(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes authorizes the modification or suspension in whole or in part by executive order of any statute or regulation or requirement or part thereof that conflicts with the efficient and expeditious execution of civil preparedness functions or the protection of public health;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NED LAMONT**, Governor of the State of Connecticut, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Connecticut, do hereby **ORDER AND DIRECT**:

1. **Restriction of Social and Recreational Gatherings to No More Than 5 People.** Effective immediately, and through April 30, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me, the prior order set forth in Executive Order No. 7D, prohibiting social and recreational gatherings of 50 people or more, is hereby amended and modified to require that all such gatherings of six (6) or more people, including but not limited to, community, civic, leisure, or sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; plays or live performances; conventions; and similar activities, are prohibited throughout the State of Connecticut, except that religious, spiritual or worship gatherings shall not be subject to such increased restrictions, and shall instead remain subject to the prohibition on gatherings of 50 or more people, provided that they employ reasonable and appropriate distancing measures. To further clarify this order, it does not apply to government operations, private workplaces, retail establishments, or other activities that are not social or recreational gatherings.
2. **Restrictions on Restaurant Payment and Pickup Operations.** Where reasonably practicable, restaurants, eating establishments, and any bars that remain open for sales of food for off-premise consumption, shall limit entrance of customers into their locations to the minimum extent necessary to pick up and/or pay for orders, use touchless payment systems, and require remote ordering and payment, whether by telephone, computer, mobile application, or other technology. Nothing in this order shall require any such business to acquire or use ordering or payment technology that they do not already possess, prohibit drive-through ordering and pickup, or prohibit in-person payment or cash payment where there is no reasonable alternative. Previously issued guidance for hospital and business cafeterias remains in effect.



3. **Further Restrictions on Retail Operations.** Any retail establishment that has been allowed to remain open and permit customers inside such establishment during this public health and civil preparedness emergency shall take appropriate and reasonable measures to ensure customers maintain six feet of distance between each other, and to manage any resulting lines to maintain such distance while people are waiting to enter, and where reasonably practical, employ touchless payment technology if they already have such technology available.
  - a. **Firearms Transactions by Appointment Only.** Effective immediately and through May 15, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me, because the nature of certain regulated retail transactions, including purchase, sale, and transfer of firearms, ammunition, and their components or supplies, requires the customer's presence inside the business to accommodate certain parts of those transactions or associated background check processes, and in order to limit person-to-person contact as much as possible and manage the large increase in requests for authorizations for such transactions and the resulting burdens on the communications technology and public safety staff responsible for reviewing and providing such authorizations, any firearms dealer shall conduct all such transactions by appointment only, shall limit such appointments to a number that will maintain a distance of six feet between any customers and/or staff in a store, including customers and staff conducting such transactions, and shall allow entrance into their establishments only to those customers conducting such transactions.
4. **Temporary Suspension of Tax on Single-Use Checkout Bags.** All provisions of Section 355 of Public Act 19-117, as codified in Section 22a-246a of the 2020 Supplement to the Connecticut General Statutes, regarding single-use plastic checkout bags, are temporarily suspended through May 15, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me. The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall issue any implementing order he deems necessary, and any guidance for businesses on accounting or other necessary measures during this temporary suspension.
5. **Employees Not Required to Bag Items in Reusable Bags.** Effective immediately and through May 15, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me, no employer in a retail establishment shall require any employee to bag any item in a customer-provided reusable bag, provided that nothing in this order shall prohibit customers who wish to use such reusable

bags from doing so; such customers shall bag their own items where the employee of the retail establishment declines to do so.

6. **Suspension of 21-month Limit on Temporary Family Assistance.** Section 17b-112 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any implementing regulations are modified to exclude from the statutory 21-month time limit on receipt of Temporary Family Assistance all months of such assistance received during the public health and civil preparedness emergency.
7. **Suspension of School Testing Assessments for 2019-20 School Year.** The provisions of Section 10-14n of the Connecticut General Statutes related to the administration of all state summative and alternate assessments; Section 10-14t, related to the administration of universal screening reading assessment for students in Grades K-3; and Section 10-265g, related to the administration of reading assessments in priority districts at the end of the school year, are hereby suspended for the 2019-20 school year. Any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding statewide assessments are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Education to temporarily waive any requirements contained therein as he deems necessary to respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

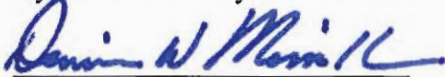
Unless otherwise specified herein, this order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless earlier modified or terminated by me.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 26th day of March, 2020.



Ned Lamont  
Governor

By His Excellency's Command



Denise W. Merrill  
Secretary of the State

