JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

Wednesday, May 6, 2020

The House of Representatives was called to order at 5:00 o'clock p.m., Speaker Joe Aresimowicz in the Chair.

Prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Representative Themis Klarides of Derby, Connecticut.

The following is the prayer:

Let us pray. Creator and loving God, we bow our heads in prayer on this last day of the 2020 Legislative Session. We invoke your Holy Presence, asking for guidance over this Legislative Body as we navigate the challenges of a global pandemic. Grant the citizens of this great State comfort where there has been loss, peace where there has been anxiety and hope for healing and restoration. We ask Your blessing for our Legislators as they serve their communities. Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Representative Ritter of the 1st District.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM HIS EXCELLENCY,
THE GOVERNOR

The following communications were received from His Excellency, the Governor, on the date indicated, read by the Clerk and ordered printed in the Journal.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID 19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE

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, 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, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons who are living in congregate settings, such as long-term care facilities, and most residents of long-term care facilities are at increased risk for severe COVID-19; 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 down the transmission of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, Sections 10-15 and 10-16 of the Connecticut General Statutes require that public schools be in session for at least 180 days during each year and for nine hundred hours of actual schoolwork for full-day kindergarten and grades one to twelve, inclusive, and four hundred and fifty hours for half-day kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, due to these unprecedented circumstances and because of the existence of this public health emergency and the anticipated temporary closure of schools due to COVID-19 risks where such local and regional boards of education deem it necessary to protect the safety and public health, multiple school districts may not be able to fulfill these requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Public Health and my administration continue to manage the public health aspects of this incident;

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. **Prohibition of Large Gatherings.** Throughout the State, gatherings of 250 people or more for social and recreational activities including, but not limited to, community, civic, leisure, or sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; movie screenings; plays or performances; conventions; and similar activities; are prohibited. Such prohibition shall remain in effect until midnight on April 30, 2020, unless modified by a future Executive Order. Nothing in this order shall prohibit any spiritual gathering or worship service. Violators of this order may be subject to criminal penalties pursuant to Section 28-22 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

2. **Limits on Nursing Home Visitors.** Section 19a-550(b)(12) of the Connecticut General Statutes, specifically providing that each patient in a nursing home facility, residential care home or chronic disease hospital “may associate … privately with persons of the patient's choice, including other patients,” is hereby modified to provide that the Commissioner of Public Health may issue restrictions on the number, category and frequency of outside visitors and the screening and protective measures as the Commissioner may deem necessary to assure the health and welfare of patients in a nursing home facility, residential care home or chronic disease hospital, provided that nothing in this order or any order by the Commissioner may prohibit a visit, where sufficient protective measures are able to be put in place, from 1) at least one family member, domestic partner, or other person designated by the patient, each day; 2) a patient’s attorney, conservator, or any process server related to matters under the jurisdiction of the Probate Court; 3) persons necessary to conduct hearings under the jurisdiction of the Probate Court; or 4) a person authorized by law to oversee or investigate the provision of care and services (e.g. ombudsman). Except as provided herein regarding visitors, nothing in this order shall suspend or modify the provisions of Sec. 19a-550(b)(12) providing the right to communicate privately with persons of the
patient’s choice, send and receive the patient's personal mail unopened and make and receive telephone calls privately, unless medically contraindicated, as documented by the patient's physician or advanced practice registered nurse in the patient's medical record.

3. **Waiver of 180-Day School Year.** For the 2019-2020 school year, the mandates of Sections 10-15 and 10-16 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and any associated implementing regulations or policies, requiring 180 school day sessions and the associated requirements for a threshold number of hours of actual school work, are immediately suspended for all schools that are closed for any period of time due to COVID-19 risks and, upon the reopening of the schools, hold school sessions through June 30, 2020. Nothing in this order shall preclude schools from satisfying the existing mandates of Sections 10-15 and 10-16 sooner than June 30, 2020 through distance learning or other alternatives approved by the Commissioner of Education. The Commissioner shall approve any such alternatives if they are filed with the State Department of Education on or before June 1, 2020 and consist of an attestation by the Superintendent or school leadership official, and signed by the Chair of the local or regional board of education, stating that the alternative methods comply with all legal and regulatory requirements.

4. **Extension of DMV Licensing Renewal Deadlines and Suspension of Other DMV Requirements.** Pursuant to Section 14-5c of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles is authorized for the duration of the aforementioned public health and civil preparedness emergency to issue such orders pursuant to such section as she deems necessary.

5. **Modification of Police Academy Attendance Requirements.** Section 7-294e-15 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, which prohibits police training academy recruits from being absent from any basic training program for more than five days, is hereby suspended. The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection or his designee, subject to their discretion, may permit leave in excess of five days for any recruit if they determine such leave to be necessary as a result of the effects of or response to the COVID 19 pandemic; may permit a recruit on such leave to continue basic training via distance learning; and may permit a recruit who is unable, because of extended absence as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic, to complete the basic training in the next available or a future training class.

This order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect for the duration of the aforementioned state of emergency, unless earlier modified by me.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 12th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 12th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7A

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PROTECTION OF RESIDENTS OF NURSING HOME FACILITIES, RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES AND CHRONIC DISEASE HOSPITALS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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, 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 is higher for people who are 60 years old or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons who are living in congregate settings, such as long-term care facilities, and residents of long-term care facilities are at increased risk for severe COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the 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 down the transmission of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, I issued Executive Order No. 7, which, among other things, authorized the Commissioner of Public Health to restrict visitation in nursing home facilities, residential care homes and chronic disease hospitals, with certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, nursing homes and related facilities throughout Connecticut are experiencing staffing shortages as a result of the closure of schools and other effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, increasing the risks to patients, residents, and staff; and

WHEREAS, there exists a compelling state interest in restricting visitation in nursing home facilities, residential care homes and chronic disease hospitals to protect the health and safety of their patients, residents, and staff;

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. For the duration of the aforementioned public health and civil preparedness emergencies, or until such time as I repeal or modify this executive order, notwithstanding Section 19a-550(b)(12) of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other statute, regulation, local rule or ordinance or provision of law, the Commissioner of Public Health is authorized to issue any and all orders restricting entrance into nursing home facilities, residential care homes or chronic disease hospitals that she deems necessary to protect the health and welfare of patients, residents and staff.

2. This order supersedes paragraph 2 of Executive Order No. 7 (“Limits on Nursing Home Visitors”). All other provisions of Executive Order No. 7 remain in effect.
This order shall take effect immediately.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 13th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 13th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7B

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - FURTHER SUSPENSION OR MODIFICATION OF STATUTES

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, 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, 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, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons living in congregate settings, such as long-term care facilities, and most residents of long-term care facilities are at increased risk for severe COVID-19; 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 large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, attendance at public meetings and proceedings is likely to increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, increased demand on the healthcare system resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic has created an imminent shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE); and

WHEREAS, the imminent shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) will significantly impact pharmacies compounding sterile pharmaceuticals in the State of Connecticut due to their inability to comply with statutorily mandated garbing requirements;

WHEREAS, the Department of Consumer Protection has issued liquor permits to persons and organizations sponsoring public outings, picnics, social or charitable events that would draw crowds of people, but fees for such permits are currently non-refundable;

WHEREAS, the need to enact social distancing, limit large crowds, and other measures, combined with the closure of schools and workplaces to limit the transmission of COVID-19, has vastly expanded the need for childcare for families throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, Section 19a-420 (1) of the Connecticut General Statutes provides in relevant part that youth camps operate based on a summer instructional program schedule; and

WHEREAS, due to unprecedented circumstances and because of the existence of this public health emergency and the anticipated need for additional childcare for families faced with multiple school closures, it is deemed necessary to allow camps to open and provide care for a period longer than the summer season; and

WHEREAS, Section 10-16p (6) of the Connecticut General Statutes requires School Readiness programs to remain open for 50 weeks of the year; and

WHEREAS, due to the unprecedented circumstances and because of the existence of this public health emergency and the temporary closure of School Readiness programs due to COVID-19 risks, where such School Readiness programs deem it necessary to protect the safety and public health, multiple School Readiness programs may not be able to fulfill this requirement; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of the Office of Health Strategy directs and oversees the Health Systems Planning Unit established under section 19a-612 and all of its duties and responsibilities as set forth in Sections 19-610 through 19-689 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Health Systems Planning Unit oversees the Certificate of Need program, hospital financial reporting and other functions; and

WHEREAS, healthcare providers in the state of Connecticut may need the flexibility to establish temporary health care facilities to test, diagnose and treat patients exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 in response to the anticipated surge in COVID-19 cases; and

WHEREAS, the current licensed bed capacity within the state of Connecticut may be insufficient to accommodate and facilitate the safe and effective treatment of individuals diagnosed with COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the utilization of certain imaging equipment is required to diagnose, treat, and monitor the progression of COVID-19; and
WHEREAS, Section 19a-638(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes requires a certificate of need for the establishment of a new health care facility; the establishment of a freestanding emergency department; the acquisition of computed tomography scanners; and an increase in licensed bed capacity of a health care facility in the state of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, Section 19a-639a through 19a-639f of the Connecticut General Statutes sets forth notice requirements and timelines related to the certificate of need analytic process, and sets forth a process to request public hearings;

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. **Suspension of In-Person Open Meeting Requirements.** Sections 1-206, 1-225, and 1-226 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and any open meeting provision of any municipal charter, ordinance, or regulation that conflicts with this order, are suspended to the extent necessary to permit any public agency to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting or requiring in-person, public access to such meetings, and to hold such meetings or proceedings remotely by conference call, videoconference or other technology, provided that: 1) the public has the ability to view or listen to each meeting or proceeding in real time, by telephone, video, or other technology; 2) any such meeting or proceeding is recorded or transcribed, and such recording or transcript shall be posted on the agency’s website within seven (7) days of the meeting or proceeding, and made available within a reasonable time in the agency’s office; 3) the required notice and agenda for each meeting or proceeding is posted on the agency’s website and shall include information about how the meeting will be conducted and how the public can access it; 4) any materials relevant to matters on the agenda, including but not limited to materials related to specific applications, if applicable, shall be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty four (24) hours prior and posted to the agency’s website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting, and any exhibits to be submitted by members of the public shall, to the extent feasible, also be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting and posted to the agency’s website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting; and 5) all speakers taking part in any such meeting or proceeding shall clearly state their name and title, if applicable, before speaking on each occasion that they speak.

2. **Waiver of Manufacturer Registration Requirement for Hand Sanitizer:** The requirement for a manufacturer registration under 21a-70(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, and any associated implementing regulations or policies, is suspended to authorize the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to allow pharmacists licensed pursuant to chapter 400j to compound and sell finished hand sanitizer products over the counter to customers requesting this product, provided that the Commissioner shall issue an implementing order to prescribe the rules for such activity, and such activity shall be allowed only upon issuance of such order.

3. **Suspension of Garbing Requirements For Non-Hazardous Compounding of Sterile Pharmaceuticals.** The requirement in Section 20-633b of the Connecticut General Statutes that pharmacies compounding sterile pharmaceuticals, in community pharmacies and institutional pharmacies, meet the garbing requirements set forth in United States Pharmacopeia (USP) Chapter is suspended for the purpose of allowing such pharmacies to continue compounding non-hazardous sterile pharmaceuticals. This suspension shall apply only to the garbing requirements for non-hazardous compounding of sterile pharmaceuticals and shall apply only for the duration of this imminent shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE), as determined by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. Pharmacies compounding sterile pharmaceuticals shall follow all other relevant state and federal laws and shall comply with all other requirements set forth in
United States Pharmacopeia (USP) Chapter 797. Additionally, all deviations from current Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for garbing shall be memorialized and dated. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders that she deems necessary.

4. Refunds of Certain Liquor License Application Fees Permissible. Section 30-39(b)(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, is modified to authorize the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to cancel and refund the application fee for a liquor permit to any person or organization who cancels public outings, picnics, social or charitable events, and no longer requires the liquor permit granted for use at the event. The Commissioner may issue any such implementing orders as she deems necessary.

5. Waiver of Face-to-Face Interview Requirements for Temporary Family Assistance. Section 17b-688c of the Connecticut General Statutes is suspended to authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to 1) waive prohibitions on temporary family assistance to applicants prior to an applicant’s attendance at an employment services interview or participation in development of an employment services plan, 2) to consider the effects of or a pandemic or the response to it as good cause when assessing compliance with any provision of Section 17b-688c, and 3) issue any implementing orders that she deems necessary.

6. Flexibility to Maintain Adequate Childcare Resources. The provisions of Sections 10-16p (6), 10-530, 19a-420 through 19a-429, 19a-77, 19a-79 through 19a-87f and 10-530 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding youth camps, family childcare homes, childcare centers, and group childcare homes, are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Early Childhood to temporarily waive any requirements, including licensing requirements, contained therein as she deems necessary to maintain a sufficient capacity of childcare services or otherwise respond to the need for childcare during this public health and civil preparedness emergency. The Commissioner may issue any implementing orders that she deems necessary.

7. Flexibility to Provide For Adequate Healthcare Resources and Facilities. Sections 19a-610 through 19a-689 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any related regulations, rules, or policies are modified to authorize the Executive Director of the Office of Health Strategy to waive provisions of such sections as she deems necessary to ensure that adequate healthcare resources and facilities are available to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to issue any implementing orders that she deems necessary.

Unless specified herein, each provision of 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 14th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 14th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020
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, 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, 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 large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, attendance at public meetings and proceedings is likely to increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons residing in congregate settings, such as inpatient or outpatient hospitals, clinics or other facilities for the diagnosis, observation or treatment of persons with psychiatric and intellectual disabilities; and

WHEREAS, there exists a compelling state interest in collecting health information pertaining to COVID-19 and its spread throughout state; and
WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health has added COVID-19 to the list of reportable diseases under Section 19a-215 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Section 17a-547 of the Connecticut General Statutes governs the rights of patients to receive visitors at regular visiting hours at inpatient or outpatient hospitals, clinics or other facilities for the diagnosis, observation or treatment of persons with psychiatric and intellectual disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Section 17a-238 of the Connecticut General Statutes governs the rights of persons under the supervision of the Commissioner of Developmental Services to communicate freely and privately with any person; and

WHEREAS, Section 52-146e of the Connecticut General Statutes limits the disclosure of information that identifies a patient to any person, corporation or governmental agency without the consent of the patient or the patient’s authorized representative; and

WHEREAS, Section 52-146f of the Connecticut General Statutes provides exceptions to Section 52-146e of the Connecticut General Statutes;

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. **Cancellation of School Classes.** To promote and secure the safety and protection of children in schools related to the risks of COVID-19, all public school classes will be cancelled for all students effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020 until March 31, 2020, unless extended beyond that date. Private schools and other non-public schools are encouraged to follow the same schedule. The Connecticut State Department of Education, the Connecticut Department of Public Health, the Department of Children and Families, and the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, are directed to immediately work together to implement measures to provide for the health, nutrition, safety, educational needs and well-being of children during the class cancellation period.

2. **Flexibility of Graduation Requirements, and Prescribed Courses of Study.** The provisions of Sections 10-16b and 10-221a, and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding prescribed courses of study and graduation requirements are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Education to temporarily waive any requirements, contained therein as he deems necessary to address the impact of COVID-19 and school class cancelations.

3. **Flexibility for Educator Prep Programs.** The provisions of Section 10-145a, and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding educator preparation programs is modified to authorize the Commissioner of Education to temporarily waive any requirements, contained therein as he deems necessary to address the impact the repercussions of college, university, and school class cancelations on students pursuing secondary education programs. The Commissioner may issue any order that he deems necessary to implement this order.

4. **Flexibility for Educator Certification Timelines, Educator Evaluations, and School In-Services.** The provisions of Sections 10-145, 10-145b, 10-145d, 10-151b, 10-151 and 10-220a, and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding educator certification timelines, evaluations, and professional development requirements are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Education to temporarily waive any requirements, contained therein as he deems necessary to address the impact the school class cancelations and COVID-19 risks when classes resume and students return. The Commissioner may issue any order that he deems necessary to implement this order.
5. **Extension of Municipal Budget Adoption Deadlines.** Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, including Title 7, or any special act, municipal charter or ordinance, that conflicts with this order, all municipal budget deadlines for the preparation of the municipal budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 that fall on any date prior to and including May 15, 2020 may be extended by thirty (30) days. The legislative body of the municipality, or in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting, the board of selectmen, may alter or modify the schedules and deadlines pertaining to the preparation and submission of a proposed budget and the deliberation or actions on said budget by the legislative body or other fiscal authority, including any required public hearing(s), publication, referendum or final budget adoption. All submission dates may be postponed until such time as the legislative body approves said modified schedule and deadline, consistent with the thirty (30) day extension.

6. **Extension of Regional Board of Education Budget Adoption Deadlines.** Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, including Title 10, or any special act, municipal charter or ordinance, that conflicts with this order, all budget deadlines for the preparation of regional school district budgets for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 that fall on any date prior to and including May 15, 2020 may be extended by thirty (30) days. Any regional board of education may alter or modify the schedules and deadlines pertaining to the preparation and submission of a proposed budget and the deliberation or actions on said budget by the legislative body or other fiscal authority, including any required public hearing(s), publication, referendum or final budget adoption.

7. **Remote Conduct of DMV Operations.** To protect public health and safety, particularly the risk of transmission of COVID-19, by reducing in-person interactions, Title 14 of the Connecticut General Statutes is hereby modified to authorize the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to issue any and all orders she deems necessary to close any DMV branch to transaction of business by the public, facilitate the conduct of business remotely using online methods or any other feasible means, including provision of any notice or conduct of any hearing required pursuant to that Title, waive the suspension of licenses and other credentials as required, and waive, modify or suspend related requirements in Title 14 that result from closure of DMV branch offices to the public. The Commissioner may suspend any timeline or deadline for any notice or hearing required by this Title or by the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act for up to 90 days. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall post a plan on its website to instruct customers how to conduct business remotely and provide updated information on services conducted by its partners. The DMV shall implement its plan as soon as feasible, and shall review the plan weekly to determine whether any modifications are necessary.

8. **Limits on Visitors to Facilities That Treat Persons with Psychiatric Disabilities.** For the duration of the aforementioned public health and civil preparedness emergencies, or until such time as I repeal or modify this executive order, notwithstanding Section 17a-547 of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other statute, regulation, local rule or ordinance or provision of law, the Commissioners of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Department of Public Health are authorized to issue any and all orders restricting entrance into facilities, as defined in Section 17a-540(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes and including Whiting Forensic Hospital, that the Commissioners deem necessary to protect the health and welfare of patients, residents and staff.

9. **Limits on Visitors to the Southbury Training School.** For the duration of the aforementioned public health and civil preparedness emergencies, or until such time as I repeal or modify this executive order, notwithstanding Section 17a-238 of the of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other statute, regulation, local rule or ordinance or
provision of law, the Commissioners of the Department of Developmental Services and the Department of Public Health are authorized to issue any and all orders restricting entrance into facilities, as referenced in Section 17a-231(1), the Southbury Training School and any other facility operated by the Department of Developmental Services that the Commissioner deems necessary to protect the health and welfare of patients, residents and staff.

10. **COVID-19 Information Sharing Between Facilities That Treat Persons with Psychiatric Disabilities, DPH, and Local Health Directors.** For the duration of the aforementioned public health and civil preparedness emergencies, or until such time as I repeal or modify this executive order, Section 52-146f(6) of the Connecticut General Statutes is amended to read as follows: (6) Communications or records may be disclosed to (A) the Commissioner of Public Health in connection with any inspection, investigation or examination of an institution, as defined in subsection (a) of section 19a-490, authorized under section 19a-498, [or] (B) the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services in connection with any inspection, investigation or examination authorized under subsection (f) of section 17a-451, or (C) the Commissioner of Public Health and Local Health Directors to report cases of COVID-19 as required under Section 19a-215 of the Connecticut General Statutes and as they may deem necessary to lead to the effective control or further spread of COVID-19.

Unless specified herein, each provision of 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 15th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 15th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7D

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - CROWD REDUCTION AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

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 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, 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 fifty people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health has added COVID-19 to the list of reportable diseases under Section 19a-215 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut is coordinating with other states to develop consistent strategies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 infections throughout the state and region;

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. Further Reduction of Large Crowds. Effective immediately, and through April 30, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me, the prior order set forth in Executive Order No. 7 prohibiting social and recreational gatherings of 250 people or more is hereby amended and modified to require that all such gatherings of 50 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, as well as religious, spiritual or worship gatherings of such size, are prohibited throughout the State of Connecticut.

2. Limits on Restaurant, Bar and Private Club Operations. Effective at 8 p.m. on March 16, 2020 and through April 30, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me, any restaurant or eating establishment and any location licensed for on-premise consumption of alcoholic liquor in the State of Connecticut, except for Class III and Class II Tribal Gaming enterprises, shall only serve food or non-alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption. The Governor continues to work
with the state’s federally recognized tribes on the temporary closure of their casino operations and, if necessary, reserves the right to address on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages on tribal lands in a future Executive Order.

3. Closure of Off-Track Betting Facility Operations. Effective at 8 p.m. on March 16, 2020 and through April 30, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me, any facility authorized to conduct off-track betting shall cease on-site operations.

4. Restriction on Gym, Sports, Fitness and Recreation Facility and Movie Theater Operations. Effective at 8 p.m. on March 16, 2020 and through April 30, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me, any indoor gym, fitness center, or similar facility or studio offering in-person fitness, sporting or recreational opportunities or instructions, and all movie theaters shall cease all operations.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 16th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 16th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7E

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - FURTHER SUSPENSION OR MODIFICATION OF STATUTES

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 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 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, 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 fifty people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, Sections 10-15 and 10-16 of the Connecticut General Statutes require that public schools be in session for at least 180 days during each year and for nine hundred hours of actual schoolwork for full-day kindergarten and grades one to twelve, inclusive, and four hundred and fifty hours for half-day kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, due to these unprecedented circumstances and because of the existence of this public health emergency and the anticipated temporary closure of schools due to COVID-19 risks where such local and regional boards of education deem it necessary to protect the safety and public health, multiple school districts may not be able to fulfill these requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and State Police are critical to the response to this public health and civil preparedness emergency, and must prioritize personnel and resources to critical public safety needs, as well as limit transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, to ensure that the pandemic does not cause undue hardship for the state’s poorest residents, and to ensure that the Department of Social Services has the necessary flexibility to prioritize work during a period of diminished operational capacity; and

WHEREAS, in-person attendance at a fair hearing held by the Department of Social Services (DSS) is likely to increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19, and DSS must fulfill its statutory responsibilities concerning fair hearings in the event of the closure of buildings or staff reduction as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic by holding telephonic hearings;

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. **Waiver of 180-Day School Year.** The provisions of Sections 10-15 and 10-16, and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding the requirement for 180 days of school per year and certain hours of schoolwork are modified to allow all public schools, upon reopening in the spring 2020, to close school on their normally scheduled end-dates, so long as local and regional boards of education provide opportunities for continuity of education to all students, to the greatest extent possible, and consistent with federal and state guidance. This order modifies my previous Executive Order No. 7 issued on March 12, 2020, as a result of evolving circumstances, including my Executive Order No. 7C issued March 15, 2020, which cancelled classes in all Connecticut schools from March 17, 2020 until at least March 31, 2020, and the potential impact on schools that may be subject to longer-term cancellations of in-school classes.

2. **Suspension of Required Fingerprinting Availability.** Section 29-17c (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, which prohibits employees of a municipal police department or the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection from refusing to collect the fingerprints of a person requesting such fingerprinting for the purposes of a criminal history records check, is hereby suspended. The chief of police or Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection or his designee, subject to their discretion, may limit or eliminate fingerprinting hours to limit the transmission of COVID-19 or focus resources on critical public safety needs. The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall continue to perform fingerprinting services for long term care providers pursuant to section 19a-491c of the general statutes at its headquarters in Middletown. Unless modified by further order of the Commissioner or me, State Police barracks will continue to remain open to the general public for other business.

3. **Extension of Time Period for Permits.** Connecticut General Statutes §§ 21-40, 21-47d, 29-28a, 29-147, 29-152h, 29-155b, 29-161m, 29-161q, 29-349, 29-357 are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection to extend the expiration date of any permit, license or other credential governed by such sections that expires or expired at any time on or after March 1, 2020, by 90 days, provided that he is authorized to revoke such extensions as he deems necessary in his sole discretion to protect public safety, and to further extend such expiration dates or deadlines for the duration of this public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless extended or terminated by me, and to issue such implementing orders as he deems necessary.

4. **Suspension of the Immediate Recoupment of Public Assistance Benefit Overpayments.** Section 17b-88 and any implementing regulations are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Social Services, to the extent permitted by federal law, to temporarily suspend recoupment of non-fraudulent overpayments for public assistance programs for the duration of this public health and civil preparedness emergency, and issue any implementing orders she deems necessary.

5. **Suspension of In-Person Hearing Attendance at DSS Fair Hearings.** Section 17b-60 of the Connecticut General Statutes is hereby modified to authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to suspend any requirement that an aggrieved person authorized by law to request a fair hearing on a decision of the Commissioner appear in person at such hearing.

Unless 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 by me.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 17th day of March, 2020.
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7F

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - FURTHER CROWD REDUCTION AND OTHER MEASURES

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 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 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 7E, dated March 17, 2020, among other things, waived the requirement for an 180-day school year, suspended fingerprinting availability to that for critical 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, 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 fifty people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, there exists a critical need to protect the health of residents and patients of various types of nursing, long term care, and psychiatric facilities while providing for essential legal proceedings under the authority of the Probate Court in order to protect the legal rights of certain such residents; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 7C ordered the cancellation of classes at all public schools throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut Unified School District 1 (established per Section 18-99a) and Unified School District 2 (established per Section 17a-37), and Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services inpatient facilities providing school classes, are uniquely situated entities and require individualized considerations to maintain stability for the population; and

WHEREAS, the existing COVID-19 pandemic and the accelerating spread of the disease in Connecticut require additional, extraordinary mitigation and social distancing measures, particularly in response to incidents of large gatherings resulting from school cancellations, to protect the public health and safety of our citizens; and

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. **Closure of Large Shopping Malls.** For purposes of this Order, “Large Shopping Malls” means the Brass Mill Center in Waterbury, the Connecticut Post Mall in Milford, the Crystal Mall in Waterford, the Danbury Fair Mall in Danbury, the Stamford Town Center in Stamford, The Shoppes at Buckland Hills in Manchester, the SoNo Collection in Norwalk, Westfarms Mall in Farmington, the Westfield Mall in Meriden and the Westfield Mall in Trumbull. Effective at 8 p.m. on March 19, 2020 and through April 30, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me, all indoor common areas of Large Shopping Malls shall be closed to the public. Any stores, pharmacies, restaurants or other establishments located within or connected to Large Shopping Malls, which have their own external entrances and exits, separate from the general entrances to the Large Shopping Malls, may remain open to the public, provided that (a) only the separate entrances and exits are used; (b) any restaurant or eating establishment and any location licensed for on-premise consumption of alcoholic liquor shall remain subject to Executive Order No. 7D, which requires all such restaurants and establishments to only serve food or non-alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption; (c) any interior entrances to common areas of the Large Shopping Malls remain closed to the public; and (d) they abide by and comply with all state and local health and safety codes and ordinances.
and any other existing or future Executive Orders issued pursuant to the current Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergency.

2. **Closure of Places of Public Amusement.** Effective at 8:00 p.m. on March 19, 2020 and through April 30, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me, all places of public amusement, whether indoors or outdoors, including but not limited to, locations with amusement rides, carnivals, amusement parks, water parks, aquariums, zoos, arcades, fairs, funplexes, theme parks, bowling alleys, and other family and children’s amusement attractions shall be closed to the public. This directive shall not apply to public parks and open recreation areas.

3. **Expansion of Medicaid Telehealth Coverage to Audio-Only Telephone.** Section 17b-262 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any implementing regulations, policies rules or other directives related to the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program, whether or not specifically adopted pursuant to said statute, are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to temporarily waive any requirements contained therein as the Commissioner deems necessary to enable the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program to cover applicable services provided through audio-only telehealth services. The Commissioner may issue any order and take other action that she deems necessary to implement this order.

4. **Waiver of In-Person Service, Hearing, and Screening Requirements for Facilities that Have Issued Orders Limiting Visitor Access to Protect the Public Health.** Notwithstanding sections 52-57(a), 45a-644 through 45a-667u, 17a-495 through 17a-528, 17a-540 through 17a-550, 45a-669 through 45a-683, and 45a-703 of the Connecticut General Statutes, 1) any requirement for personal service is waived as it relates to any person currently located in a facility that has restricted visitor access under an emergency order issued by a state agency pursuant to an Executive Order, and service may be made by serving an administrator or the administrator’s designee provided that the administrator or administrator’s designee shall sign a certification, provided by the process server, that the named party is currently located in the facility and that the administrator or administrator’s designee will personally serve the named party; and 2) any requirement for an in-person meeting, hearing, or screening is waived and meetings, hearings, or screenings may take place by any other method that allows for the participation of the interested parties. For the purposes of this order, “administrator” shall mean the nursing home administrator or such other person with administrative oversight of the facility who is on site at the time of service.

5. **Continuation of Classes and Programming at Certain State-operated Schools.** Connecticut Unified School District 1, established per Section 18-99a of the Connecticut General Statutes, Unified School District 2, established pursuant to Section 17a-37, and Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services inpatient facilities providing school classes or programs are exempt from Section 1 of Executive Order No. 7C, which cancelled school classes throughout the state.

Unless 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 by me.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 18th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 18th day of March, 2020
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7G

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY POSTPONEMENT AND ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES

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, suspended fingerprinting availability to that for critical 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, 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 fifty people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, healthcare providers providing services to patients and those with Medical coverage, need flexibility in testing, diagnosis and treatment while supporting adequate social distancing measures, and to provide healthcare services during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic through the increased utilization of the delivery of health care or other health services through certain modes of telehealth service; and

WHEREAS, subsection (a)(11) of Section 19a-906 of the Connecticut General Statutes provides, in part, that “telehealth” does not include, in part, the use of audio-only telephone as a mode of delivering health care or health services via information and communication technologies to facilitate the diagnosis, consultation and treatment, education, care management and self-management of a patient’s physical and mental health; and

WHEREAS, subsection (a)(12) of Section 19a-906 of the Connecticut General Statutes provides, in part, that a “telehealth provider” means health care providers specifically licensed pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes governing those health care professions; and

WHEREAS, subsection (f) of Section 19a-906 provides, in part, that the provision of telehealth services and health records maintained and disclosed as part of a telehealth interaction shall comply with the provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 P.L. 104-191, as amended from time to time; and

WHEREAS, an in-person visit to investigate a report that an elderly person allegedly is being, or has been, abused, neglected exploited or abandoned, or is in need of protective services, is likely to increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, if COVID-10 is transmitted to an elderly person, there is a high risk of serious illness or mortality; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services (“DSS”) can fulfill its statutory obligation to investigate such reports without making an in-person visit of the elderly person by using alternative means of communication; and

WHEREAS, DSS staff may be reduced as a result of illness or the need to self-isolate due to COVID-19, and may need additional time to disclose the results of its investigation of such reports; and

WHEREAS, attendance at public proceedings is likely to increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and
WHEREAS, in consultation with the Chief Court Administrator on behalf of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Judicial Branch, I have determined that there exists a compelling state interest that courts conduct only essential business in order to minimize the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, there is a compelling interest in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among voters, poll workers, and residents, which risk would be heightened in the settings of indoor polling places and potential lines for voting, especially in polling places such as senior centers, schools, community centers, and other public facilities;

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. **Postponement of Presidential Primary to June 2.** Under my sole authority pursuant to the declaration of public health and civil preparedness emergency, and to protect the health and safety of voters, poll workers, and the most vulnerable members of our population, I hereby modify Section 9-464 of the Connecticut General Statutes to provide that on June 2, 2020 each party shall conduct a primary in each town if the names of two or more candidates for President of the United States are to be placed on such party's ballot in accordance with the provisions of chapter 154 of the General Statutes.

2. **Suspension of Non-Critical Court Operations and Associated Requirements.** Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes or of any regulation, local rule or other provision of law, I hereby suspend, for the duration of this public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless earlier modified or terminated by me, all statutory (1) location or venue requirements; (2) time requirements, statutes of limitation or other limitations or deadlines relating to service of process, court proceedings or court filings; and (3) all time requirements or deadlines related to the Supreme, Appellate and Superior courts or their judicial officials to issue notices, hold court, hear matters and/or render decisions including, but not limited to, the following:

   a. All time limitations in Chapters 959, 959a, 960 and 961 of the General Statutes including, but not limited to, C.G.S. § 54-1g concerning the time of arraignments
   b. and C.G.S. § 54-82m concerning the right to a speedy trial;
   c. All time limitations for rendering judgments in civil actions provided in C.G.S. § 51-183b;
   d. All time limitations concerning civil process, service and return provided in Chapter 896 of the General Statutes;
   e. All statutes of limitations provided in Chapter 926 of the General Statutes;
   f. All time limitations concerning the automatic review of terms of probation provided in C.G.S. § 53a-29(g);
   g. All time constraints for the filing of administrative appeals provided in C.G.S. § 4-183;
   h. All time limitations concerning hearings and rulings pertaining to primary and election disputes provided in Chapter 149 of the General Statutes;
   i. All time limitations in Title 46b of the General Statutes including, but not limited to, family, juvenile and child support matters;
   j. All venue and filing requirements including, but not limited to, C.G.S. §§ 51-345, 51-348, 51-352 and 51-353, provided in Chapter 890 of the General Statutes;
k. The times and places for the sitting of the Superior Court provided in C.G.S. § 51-181;
l. The notice of sessions provided in C.G.S. § 51-182;

3. **Further Clarification of Limits on Restaurants, Bars and Private Clubs.**
   Effective at 12:00 p.m. on March 20, 2020, Executive Order 7D, which, among other things, restricted sales of alcoholic beverages by certain licensees, is modified as follows: Any business with an active restaurant, café or tavern liquor permit issued by the Department of Consumer Protection shall be permitted to sell sealed containers of alcoholic liquor for pick up at such restaurant, café or tavern under the following conditions: (i) the sale shall accompany a pick-up order of food prepared on the premises; (ii) the type of alcoholic liquor sold for off-premise consumption shall be the same as what the permit type would have permitted for on-premise consumption prior to Executive Order 7D, and (iii) the hours of such sales that include alcoholic liquor as part of the take-out order shall be the same as those for a package store. Delivery of alcoholic liquor by licensees with these permit types is not permitted. In addition:

   a. Any business whose liquor permit allows for the manufacture of alcoholic liquor, in addition to sales for on-premise and off-premise consumption, shall be permitted to sell sealed bottles of alcoholic liquor for off-premise consumption in a manner consistent with their manufacturer permit. Delivery of alcoholic liquor by these permit types is not permitted.

   b. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders and guidance that she deems necessary to implement this order.

4. **Restriction on Operation of Barbershops, Hair Salons, Tattoo or Piercing Parlors and Related Public Businesses.** Throughout the State, effective at 8:00 p.m. on March 20, 2020, the rendering of services by barbers, hairdressers and cosmeticians, nail technicians, electrologists, estheticians, eyelash technicians, and tattoo and piercing providers is prohibited in all public settings including, but not limited to, barbershops, beauty shops, hairdressing salons, nail salons, spas, kiosks, and tattoo or piercing establishments. The Commissioner of Public Health may issue any order she deems necessary to implement or modify such prohibition without further order from me.

5. **Flexibility for Medicaid Enrolled Providers and In-Network Providers for Commercial Fully Insured Health Insurance to Perform Telehealth Through Additional Methods.** The provisions of Section 19a-906 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any associated regulations, rules and policies regarding the delivery of telehealth are modified or suspended as follows:

   a. Subsection (a)(11)’s definition of “telehealth” is modified such that for telehealth providers that are Medicaid enrolled providers providing covered telehealth services to established patients who are Medicaid recipients, or telehealth providers that are in-network providers for commercial fully insured health insurance providing covered telehealth services to patients with whom there is an existing provider-patient relationship, these providers may engage in telehealth through the use of audio-only telephone;

   b. Subsection (a)(12)’s requirements for the licensure, certification or registration of telehealth providers shall be suspended for such telehealth providers that are Medicaid enrolled providers or in-network providers for commercial fully insured health insurance providing telehealth services to patients, in accordance with any related orders issued by the Commissioner
of Public Health pursuant to her established authority as a result of this declared public health and civil preparedness emergency and in accordance with Sections 19a-131a, 19a-131j and 28-9.

c. Subsection (f)'s requirements that the provision of telehealth services and health records maintained and disclosed as part of a telehealth interaction shall comply with the provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 P.L. 104-191, as amended from time to time (HIPAA), is modified to permit telehealth providers that are Medicaid enrolled providers or in-network providers for commercial fully insured health insurance providing telehealth services to patients to utilize additional information and communication technologies consistent and in accordance with any direction, modification or revision of requirements for HIPAA compliance as related to telehealth remote communications as directed by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights during the COVID-19 pandemic.

d. Notwithstanding paragraphs a through c herein, a provider who elects to provide telehealth services for a patient who is not a Medicaid beneficiary or covered by a fully-insured commercial plan, may engage in “telehealth” services as defined in such paragraphs for such patient, provided that any provider engaging in telehealth services under this section must, prior to engaging in such services, determine whether a patient is covered by a health plan other than Medicaid or a fully-insured commercial plan, and whether such plan provides coverage for such telehealth services. A provider who receives payment under such health plan shall not bill a patient for any additional charges beyond the reimbursement received under such health plan. A provider who determines that payment is not available under another such health plan or who determines a patient is uninsured, shall accept as reimbursement for that service as payment in full, the amount that Medicare reimburses for such service, provided that if the provider determines that the patient is uninsured or otherwise unable to pay for such services, the provider shall offer financial assistance, if such provider is otherwise required to provide financial assistance under state or federal law.

e. Any related regulatory requirement that such telehealth services be provided from a provider’s licensed facility is hereby waived.

6. Temporary Suspension of In-Person Investigative Visits Regarding Reports of Elder Abuse. Section 17b-452 is modified to provide the Commissioner of Social Services with authority to waive the required in-person visit to an elderly person in connection with investigation of a report of suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment, or a need for protective services, and, if possible and appropriate, use alternative means to conduct such in-person visit.

7. Extension of Time for Disclosure of Investigation Results. Section 17b-452 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide the Commissioner of Social Services with authority to extend by up to ninety (90) days the requirement that the Commissioner of Social Services, not later than forty-five (45) days after completing an investigation, disclose, in general terms, the result of the investigation to the person or persons who reported the suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment or a need for protective services.
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 by me.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 19th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 19th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7H

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - RESTRICTIONS ON WORKPLACES FOR NON-ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES, COORDINATED RESPONSE EFFORT

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, suspended fingerprinting availability to that for critical 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;

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 people and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate the most timely and effective response to the COVID-19 emergency disaster, it is critical for the State of Connecticut to act quickly to gather, coordinate, and deploy goods, services, professionals, and volunteers of all kinds;

WHEREAS, in a short period of time, COVID-19 has rapidly spread throughout Connecticut, necessitating updated and more stringent guidance from federal, state, and local officials; and

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. Restrictions on Workplaces for Non-Essential Businesses. Effective on March 23, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. and through April 22, 2020, unless earlier modified, extended, or terminated by me, all businesses and not-for-profit entities in the state shall employ, to the maximum extent possible, any telecommuting or work from home procedures that they can safely employ. Non-essential businesses or not-for-profit entities shall reduce their in-person workforces at any workplace locations by 100% not later than March 23, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. Any essential business or entity providing essential goods, services or functions shall not be subject to these in-person restrictions.

Not later than 8 p.m. on March 22, 2020, the Department of Economic and Community Development (“DECD”) shall issue lawfully binding guidance about which businesses are essential. Those business shall include, but not be limited to,
the 16 critical infrastructure sectors as defined by the Department of Homeland
Security and available at https://www.cisa.gov/critical-infrastructure-sectors,
essential health care operations including hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies,
elder care and home health care workers, companies and institutions involved in the
research and development, manufacture, distribution, warehousing, and supplying of
pharmaceuticals, biotechnology therapies, health care data, consumer health
products, medical devices, diagnostics, equipment, services and any other healthcare
related supplies or services; essential infrastructure, including utilities, wastewater
and drinking water, telecommunications, airports and transportation infrastructure;
manufacturing, including food processing, pharmaceuticals, and industries
supporting the essential services required to meet national security commitments to
the federal government and U.S. Military; the defense industrial base, including
aerospace, mechanical and software engineers, manufacturing/production workers,
aircraft and weapon system mechanics and maintainers; essential retail, including
grocery stores and big-box stores or wholesale clubs, provided they also sell
groceries; pharmacies, gas stations and convenience stores; food and beverage
retailers (including liquor/package stores and manufacturer permittees) and
restaurants, provided they comply with previous and future executive orders issued
during the existing declared public health and civil preparedness emergency;
essential services including trash and recycling collection, hauling, and processing,
mail and shipping services; news media; legal and accounting services; banks,
insurance companies, check cashing services, and other financial institutions;
providers of basic necessities to economically disadvantaged populations;
construction; vendors of essential services and goods necessary to maintain the
safety, sanitation and essential operations of residences or other essential businesses,
including pest control and landscaping services; vendors that provide essential
services or products, including logistics and technology support, child care and
services needed to ensure the continuing operation of government agencies and the
provision of goods, services or functions necessary for the health, safety and welfare
of the public.

Any other business may be deemed essential after requesting an opinion from
DECD, which shall review and grant such request, should it determine that it is in the
best interest of the state to have the workforce continue at full capacity to properly
respond to this emergency.

2. **Coordinated Response Effort.** Effective immediately and for the duration of the
public health and civil preparedness emergency, notwithstanding Section 28-8a of
the Connecticut General Statutes, in order to ensure the coordinated, clear and
expeditious execution of civil preparedness functions for the protection of the public
health, and pursuant to my emergency powers, including but not limited to Section
28-9(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, no municipal chief executive officer or
designee may enact or enforce any order that conflicts with any provision of any of
my Executive Orders or an order issued by an executive agency pursuant to the
existing public health and civil preparedness emergency, or issue any shelter-in-place
order or order prohibiting travel, unless they first seek and receive written permission
from the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. The provisions
of this order shall not be deemed to invalidate any order previously issued by a
municipal chief executive or designee or preclude a municipality from enforcing any
existing local rule or ordinance that does not conflict with any executive order issued
pursuant to my March 10, 2020 declaration of public health and civil preparedness
emergency.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 20th day of March, 2020.

**NED LAMONT**

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7I

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS AND AVAILABILITY OF ASSISTANCE AND HEALTHCARE

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, suspended fingerprinting availability to that for critical 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, 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 fifty people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, if COVID-10 is transmitted to an elderly person, there is a high risk of serious illness or mortality; and

WHEREAS, to ensure that the pandemic or other emergency does not interfere with the continuity of essential safety net programs, and because the Department of Social Services must be able to ensure ongoing delivery of basic assistance; and

WHEREAS, the state wishes to ensure that children, seniors, persons with disabilities and other low-income individuals can access their prescription medications covered by Medicaid and Medicare and are able to do so without interruption or delay; and

WHEREAS, the HUSKY B program is Connecticut’s Children’s Health Insurance Program that provides health care coverage to approximately 20,000 low- and moderate-income children and the state wishes to ensure that the pandemic does not interfere with these children’s access to medical care, including physician visits and medications; and

WHEREAS, Sections 10-234aa through 10-234dd of the Connecticut General Statutes impose certain requirements that vendors providing certain data and technology services agree in writing to privacy protections for student data; and

WHEREAS, the cancellation of classes has created an urgent need to continue opportunities for students throughout the state, including through the use of technology, but the urgency of such need precludes the ability to draft, review, and approve certain written contracts; and
WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Education has alternative means to assure that student data is afforded privacy protections, including federal student privacy laws, without the use of a written contract; and

WHEREAS, Sections 17a-10a and 17a-16 of the Connecticut General Statutes require the Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families to provide visitation with children in facilities that treat children or youth with psychiatric disabilities and with children in such facilities to protect the health and safety of the children and staff; and

WHEREAS, Sections 17a-76 and 17a-77 of the Connecticut General Statutes require the filing of an application for commitment of a mentally ill child with the Probate Court and a hearing on the application to be held within ten days of the application being filed; and

WHEREAS, Section 20-616 (b) of the Connecticut General Statutes permits a pharmacist to exercise his or her professional judgment in refilling a prescription that is not for a controlled drug, for an up to seventy-two hour supply, without the authorization of the prescribing practitioner, provided (1) the pharmacist is unable to contact such practitioner after reasonable effort, (2) failure to refill the prescription might result in an interruption of a therapeutic regimen or create patient suffering, and (3) the pharmacist informs the patient or representative of the patient at the time of dispensing that the refill is being provided without such authorization and informs the practitioner at the earliest reasonable time that authorization of the practitioner is required for future refills; and

WHEREAS, prescribing practitioners may have limited availability due to COVID-19 to provide a written, oral or electronically transmitted order for the refill of a non-controlled substance within seventy-two hours following a refill issued by pharmacist pursuant to 20-616(b); and

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Business Corporation Act, Sections 33-600 through 33-998, inclusive, of the Connecticut General Statutes (the “Act”), requires corporations incorporated under the laws of the State of Connecticut to hold annual shareholders’ meetings at a “place” stated in or fixed in accordance with the bylaws of such corporation or at the corporation’s principal office, and precludes the ability to hold such meetings solely by means of remote participation without a place; and

WHEREAS, for the protection of the public health, Connecticut corporations should be granted the option to hold shareholders’ meetings solely by remote participation, without requiring any representatives of the corporation or any shareholders to gather in a place; and

WHEREAS, many other states, including the State of Delaware, permit annual shareholders’ meetings to be held solely by remote participation without a place; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the State of Connecticut and the shareholders of Connecticut corporations to have the option to participate in the annual meeting of shareholders solely by remote participation without a place; and

WHEREAS, Sections 10-261a(c), 10-261b, 12-19a, 12-20b, 12-63c, 12-110, 12-111, 12-117, and 12-120, of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 12-2b-11 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies require municipalities to complete specific duties, including but not limited to Net Grand Lists, Assessor Reports, Board of Assessment Appeals applications and decisions, Grand Lists of Taxable and Tax-Exempt Property, Sales Data Reports, and State Owned, College and Hospital Claim Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) reimbursement claims that require in-person meetings, application filings, and the filing of reports based on completion of these duties, as well as auditing and review by OPM thereafter, which are likely to be delayed due to closures and staffing shortages arising from the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared to respond to COVID-19; and
WHEREAS, Sections 12-110, 12-111, 12-117 and 12-170aa of the Connecticut General Statutes require the in-person filing of applications that create increased risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Section 85 of Public Act 20-1 imposes new reporting requirements, including specific property data for tax exemptions under Subsections 60, 70, 72 and 76 of Section 12-81 by May 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Sections 14, 97a, 98, 103, 124, 126, 246, 368k, 440, 444, 446i of the Connecticut General Statutes require persons to participate in the process of various municipal decisions that require in-person, face-to-face interactions, meetings, filings, or service of process between various persons, and such activities are likely to be delayed or compromised due to closures and related staffing or quorum shortages arising from the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared to respond to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the in-person contact required for the aforementioned activities create an increased risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to continue municipal functions and decision-making, including budgetary and land use decisions, to the extent feasible without in-person, face-to-face interactions; 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. **Suspension of requirements that public assistance eligibility reinvestigations be conducted at least every 12 or 24 months.** Section 17b-104 and any implementing regulations, rules, or policies are modified to provide the Commissioner of Social Services, to the extent permitted by federal law, the discretionary authority to suspend or extend the time frames for establishing eligibility reinvestigations for public assistance programs, and issue any required implementing orders she deems necessary.

2. **Suspension of copayments for full benefit dually eligible Medicare Part D beneficiaries.** Section 17b-265d(c) is modified to eliminate the requirement that full benefit dually eligible beneficiaries are responsible for copayments of up to $17.00 per month (aggregate for all prescriptions) for their medications covered by Medicare Part D, and authorize the Department of Social Services to cover the copayment amounts in full, after any other insurer has paid, during the public health emergency. The Commissioner of Social Services may issue any implementing order or modification to the requirements of Section 17b-265d(c) that she deems necessary consistent with this order.

3. **Suspension of copayments for HUSKY B clients.** Section 17b-295(a) is suspended to eliminate HUSKY B copayments and authorize the Department of Social Services to reimburse providers for the full reimbursement amount for services subject to the copayment, including the copayment amount. This suspension applies to copayments only and does not apply to other forms of HUSKY B cost sharing; HUSKY B families will continue to be responsible for monthly premiums and co-insurance and
allowances for dental services. The Commissioner of Social Services may issue any implementing order or modification to the requirements of Section 17b-295(a) that she deems necessary consistent with this order.

4. **Suspension of limitations on refills of non-maintenance medications for HUSKY beneficiaries.** Section 17-134d of the Connecticut General Statutes and any implementing regulations, rules or policies are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to reimburse providers for supplies of both maintenance and non-maintenance medications for a period of up to ninety (90) days, regardless of the quantity of the supply, and to issue any necessary implementing order. This modification does not apply to controlled substances.

5. **Flexibility related to the Student Data Privacy Act.** For the duration of the period of school closure or class cancellation pursuant to any Executive Order or order of the Commissioner of Education, unless modified, extended, or terminated by me, or, if applicable, the Commissioner, the provisions of Sections 10-234aa through 10-234dd, inclusive, and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding contracts between boards of education and contractors regarding contracting, sharing, or providing access to student information, are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Education to temporarily waive any requirements contained therein as he deems necessary in order to provide quality online educational opportunities to students during the period in which schools classes are canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

6. **Limits on Visitation with Children Placed in the Care and Custody of the Department of Children and Families.** Notwithstanding Section 17a-10a of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other statute, regulation, local rule or ordinance or provision of law, the Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families is authorized to issue any and all orders restricting visitation with children placed in the care and custody of the commissioner pursuant to an order of temporary custody or an order of commitment, that the Commissioner deems necessary to protect the health and welfare of such children and staff.

7. **Limits on Visitors to Facilities That Treat Children or Youth with Psychiatric Disabilities.** Notwithstanding Section 17a-16 of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other statute, regulation, local rule or ordinance or provision of law, the Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families and the head of a facility or institution under the Commissioner's jurisdiction are authorized to issue any and all orders restricting entrance into facilities, as defined in Section 17a-32 of the Connecticut General Statutes, including the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center - South Campus, and the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center - North Campus, that the Commissioner deems necessary to protect the health and welfare of patients, residents and staff.

8. **Waiver of In-person Service, Screening and Hearing Requirements for Facilities that Have Limited Visitor Access to Protect Public Health.** Notwithstanding sections 17a-76 and 17a-77 of the Connecticut General Statutes, (1) any requirement for personal service is waived as it relates to any child or youth currently located in a facility operated by the Department of Children and Families that has restricted visitor access under an emergency order issued by a state agency pursuant to an Executive Order, and service may be made by serving an administrator or the administrator's designee provided that the administrator or administrator's designee shall sign a certification, provided by the process server, that the named child or youth is currently located in the facility and that the administrator or administrator's designee will personally serve the named party; and (2) any requirement for an in-person meeting, hearing, or screening is waived and meetings,
hearings, or screenings may take place by any other method that allows for the participation of the interested parties. For the purposes of this order, "administrator" shall mean the facility director or such other person with administrative oversight of the facility who is on site at the time of service.

9. **Pharmacist Discretion in Refilling Certain Prescriptions for Longer Periods.** Section 20-616(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes are modified to permit a pharmacist to exercise his or her professional judgment in refilling a prescription that is not for a controlled drug, as defined in section 21a-240, for a quantity of drug not to exceed a thirty-day supply based on the same criteria set forth in such section for a refill that was not to exceed a seventy-two hour supply.

10. **Commissioner Authority to Modify Pharmacy Operation Regulations.** Section 20-576-59 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is modified to permit the Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection, rather than the Commission of Pharmacy, to grant a waiver or modification of any regulation pertaining to the operation of a pharmacy utilizing the same criteria that would otherwise be considered by the Commission of Pharmacy.

11. **Suspension of In-Person Shareholder Meeting Requirements.** Section 33-703 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide a new clause (c), to read in its entirety as follows: “ (c) The board of directors may determine that any meeting of shareholders shall not be held at any place and shall instead be held solely by means of remote communication, but only if the corporation implements the measures specified in subsection (b) of this Section 33-703. The board of directors shall make the list of shareholders entitled to vote available for inspection by any shareholder beginning two business days after notice of the meeting is given for which the list was prepared and continuing through the meeting on a reasonably accessible electronic network, provided that the information required to access such list is provided with the notice of the meeting. The corporation may take reasonable steps to ensure that such information is available only to shareholders of the corporation. Any statute, regulation or requirement, or part thereof, or any bylaw of the corporation, inconsistent with this clause (c) shall be inoperative for the effective period of this Section 33-703(c), and any such meeting shall be deemed validly held if notice of the meeting is given during the effective period of this Section 33-703(c).”

12. **Extension of Budget Adoption Deadlines - Additional Municipal Bodies.** For purposes of the provisions set forth under Executive Order 7C, paragraph 5, regarding “Extension of Municipal Budget Adoption Deadlines,” as well as for the provisions set forth in this order, the term “municipal” or “municipality” shall include all municipalities and quasi-municipal corporations, whether created by statute, ordinance, charter, legislative or special act, including but not limited to any town, city or borough, whether consolidated or unconsolidated, any village, school, sewer, fire, lighting, special services or special taxing districts, beach or improvement association, any regional water or resource recovery authority or any other political subdivision of the state or of any municipality having the power to make appropriations or to levy assessments or taxes.

13. **Suspension of In-Person Budget Adoption Requirements for Municipalities.** Notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, including Title 7, or any special act, municipal charter or ordinance that conflicts with this order, the legislative body of a municipality or, in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting, the board of selectmen, shall authorize the budget-making authority within said municipality to adopt a budget for the July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 fiscal year and to set a mill rate sufficient, in addition to the
other estimated yearly income of such town and in addition to such revenue surplus, if any, as may be appropriated, not only to pay the expenses of the municipality for said fiscal year, but also to absorb the revenue deficit of such town, if any, at the beginning of said fiscal year without holding votes required by charter or without complying with any in-person budget adoption requirements, including but not limited to, annual town meetings requiring votes, referendum, and special town meetings. In so acting, the budget-making authority of the municipality shall comply with public meeting requirements consistent with requirements set forth in Executive Order 7B and shall thereby take all reasonable steps to publicize the draft municipal budget for said fiscal year and to receive public comment thereon, including but not limited to publishing draft budgets on the website and providing an email address or other means for the public to submit timely comments on the proposed budget.

14. Suspension of In-Person Budget Adoption Requirements for Regional Boards of Education. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, including Title 10, or any special act, regional plan, municipal charter or ordinance that conflicts with this order, any regional board of education shall adopt a budget for the July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 fiscal year which otherwise complies with the requirements of Section 10-51 of the Connecticut General Statutes without complying with any in-person budget adoption requirements, including but not limited, annual district budget meetings requiring votes, referendum, and special district meetings. In so acting, the regional board of education shall comply with public meeting requirements consistent with requirements set forth in Executive Order 7B and take all reasonable steps to publicize the proposed budget for said fiscal year and to receive public comment thereon, including but not limited to publishing draft budgets on the website and providing an email address or other means for the public to submit timely comments on the proposed budget.

15. Extension of Municipal Deadlines and Waiver of Penalties Related to Municipal Planning, Assessment and Taxation. The deadlines set forth under Sections 10-261a(c), 12-63c, 12-110, 12-111, 12-117, and 12-120, of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 12-2b-11 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, for Net Grand Lists, Assessor Reports, Board of Assessment Appeals applications and decisions, Grand List of Taxable and Tax-Exempt Property, Sales Data Reports, and State Owned, College and Hospital Claim Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) reimbursement claims are extended without penalty. Additionally, the penalty provisions set forth under Sections 10-261b, 12-19a, and 12-20b of the Connecticut General Statutes are suspended.

16. Suspension of In-Person Filing Requirements Related to Municipal Planning, Assessment and Taxation. The requirement under Sections 12-110, 12-111, 12-117 and 12-170aa of the Connecticut General Statutes for a taxpayer to appear in person are suspended to the extent necessary to permit any public agency to meet and take such actions authorized by law without permitting or requiring in-person participation in such meetings or filings, and to hold such meetings or obtain necessary information remotely by conference call, videoconference, electronic communication, or other technology, consistent with requirements set forth in Executive Order 7B.

17. Suspension of Deadlines and Modification of Public Hearing and Appeals Requirements for Assessment and Taxation. The appeals deadlines set forth under Section 12-19b and 12-20b for the valuation, revaluation, and appeals related to land and buildings for grants and property of private colleges and general hospitals for purposes of state grants in lieu of taxes are suspended.
18. **Extension of New Reporting Requirements on Property.** The reporting requirements set forth under Section 85 of Public Act 20-1 requiring additional specific property data for tax exemptions under Subsections 60, 70, 72 and 76 of Section 12-81 are suspended.

19. **Suspension, Modification and Clarification of Certain Municipal Procedural Requirements and Time Limitations Regarding Notice, Commencement and Holding of Public Hearings, Decisions, and Appeals.** In connection with Executive Order 7B (1), dated March 14, 2020, and in order to further prevent the potential health threat and spread of COVID-19 to any person who might otherwise participate in the process of submitting, reviewing, hearing, discussing, deciding, or appealing any municipal decision or action regarding any petition, application or proposal, or in the adoption or amendment of any municipal plan, regulations or ordinances, under specific Sections of Connecticut General Statutes Chapters 14, 97a, 98, 103, 124, 126, 246, 368k, 440, 444, 446i, and the repealed Section 14-55, if and to the extent such repealed section is revived by current judicial action, and any related special act(s), and municipal charter, ordinance, resolution, or regulation (all such state and municipal laws and regulations being, collectively, the “Covered Laws”); any provision of such Covered Laws that establish procedural requirements for municipal decisions and that conflict with this order, is suspended and modified, as enumerated below, and as hereafter provided:

   a. Any time deadlines contained in the Covered Laws that may pass or expire during the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared by me on March 10, 2020 (“state of emergency”) are extended by an additional 90 days for any and all of the following circumstances: the commencement or completion of any public hearing; the rendering of any decision required to be made within a particular period; and the submission or reporting by any municipality to any agency or quasi-public agency of the State; provided, however, that such preceding 90-day extension shall not apply to any time extensions that are already expressly allowed by the Covered Laws, meaning that, for example, a decision for which the statute already allows up to a total of 65 days of extension (such as site plan decisions) may be further extended by no more than an additional 90 days, for a total of 155 extension days (in this example); and further provided that each individual petition, application, or other proposal, or adoption or amendment of any municipal plan, regulations, or ordinance shall only obtain one 90-day extension period in total, which may be allocated, in part, by an applicant or municipality or agency, for each deadline period, and not multiple 90-day extensions for each time deadline related thereto.

   b. If the 90-day demolition delay required by Section 7-147j would commence or expire during the state of emergency, such period of delay shall be extended for 90 days.

   c. Any Covered Law requiring a municipality or agency to publish any notice or notices in a newspaper of general or substantial circulation is suspended and modified to allow a single notice to be published electronically on a municipality’s or agency’s website, provided the earlier deadline required for posting notice by the Covered Law is maintained for the electronic posting, and such posting shall remain visible on the municipality’s or agency’s website until completion of the action, meeting, or proceeding for which such notice is provided, and for any notice of decision, for the duration of the applicable appeal period provided by the Covered Laws.
d. Any Covered Law requiring any notice to be filed in the office of any municipal clerk, including any town, city, borough, or district clerk, is suspended and modified to allow said notice to be posted electronically on a municipality’s website, provided the deadline required for posting remains unchanged, and such posting shall remain visible on the municipality’s or agency’s website until the completion of the action, meeting, or proceeding for which such notice is provided, and for any notice of decision, for the duration of the applicable appeal period provided by the Covered Laws.

e. Any Covered Law requiring a physical sign to be posted in relation to any zoning, inland wetlands, planning, or historic district petition, application or proposal, may be satisfied by the electronic posting on a municipality’s website described in paragraph (c) above.

f. Any Covered Law requiring direct or personal notice by mail from a municipality, agency or applicant to any other person, agency, municipal clerk (including any town, city, borough, or district clerk), municipality, utility company or water company regarding the filing or pendency of any petition, application, or other proposal is suspended and modified to allow said notice requirement to be satisfied by electronic mail notification, if electronic mailing addresses are known or reasonably available for the party to be noticed, provided the same deadline for publication of the electronic notice is met; provided that if electronic mailing addresses are not known or reasonably available, said notice requirement is satisfied by: (i) the posting of a physical, weatherproof sign of at least two feet by three feet in area, in a prominent location on the parcel of land which is the subject of any petition, application, or proposal, specifying the existence of such petition, application, or proposal, and information regarding the date, time, and location of any hearings (including remote access details) related thereto, provided such sign shall be posted for the duration of the period for which notice is otherwise required by the Covered Laws; or (ii) the mailing of letters (via regular U.S. mail) to addressees provided by a municipality or agency, or agent thereof, where the noticing party has relied in good faith on the accuracy and completion of said list of addressees.

g. Any Covered Law prescribing the procedure for any petition, including petition of a decision, to an agency or legislative body, is suspended and modified to allow such petition to be signed electronically (including by pdf or other imaging technology or compilation of emails or other electronic communication) and to allow applicable notice requirements to be fully satisfied by electronic mail notice of such petition on the designated entity. The time period to commence and submit said petition shall remain unchanged.

h. Any Covered Law prescribing the procedure for commencement of an appeal of a decision to the Superior Court and associated service of process is suspended and modified to permit any such appeal to be commenced by a proper officer by electronic mail notice on the designated municipal clerk (including any town, city, borough, or district clerk). The time period to commence said appeal shall remain unchanged. Municipalities shall clearly post the email address to be used for the electronic service on their website. Notwithstanding C.G.S. Section 6-32, the damages clauses which may result from a state marshal’s failure to duly comply with any service requirements of section 6-32(a), to the extent such requirements conflict with this Section 19 of this order, are suspended.
i. Any Covered Law prescribing the procedure for commencement of an appeal of a decision by a zoning enforcement officer or an agent for an inland wetland agency is suspended and modified to permit any such appeal to be commenced by regular mail or by electronic mail notice to the zoning commission, zoning enforcement officer, zoning board of appeals or inland wetlands agency, as appropriate. The time period to commence said appeal shall remain unchanged.

j. The suspensions and modifications specified in this, Section 19 of this order, are hereby permitted, provided, however, that: (1) the municipality, within a reasonable time after the reopening of the relevant office, include printed or electronic confirmations of all modifications, extensions, notices, and decisions in the permanent office records, (2) any document required by the Covered Laws to be recorded or filed in the town, borough, district or city clerk records be recorded or filed, as applicable, within a reasonable time thereafter; and (3) any municipality may, by declaration of head of an agency accepting or administering applications, waive any rules, regulations, or policies related to any requirement that applications to such municipal agency be submitted in paper copy or in duplicate.

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 21st day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 21st day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7J

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - CLARIFYING EO NO. 7H REGARDING OPERATIONS AT NON-ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES AND PROVIDING FOR RAPID STATE GOVERNMENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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, suspended fingerprinting availability to that for critical 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, 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 fifty people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, if COVID-19 is transmitted to an elderly person, there is a high risk of serious illness or mortality; and

WHEREAS, the availability of methadone for ongoing medication assisted treatment is critical for the treatment of patients by Methadone Maintenance Clinics;

WHEREAS the delivery of methadone take-home doses will allow for patients that are unable to travel to the facility an opportunity to receive their medication in their home and decrease the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that fire service personnel in the midst of certification testing are able to meet contractual, bylaw, and probationary requirements as mandated by their employers, and are able to perform their vital public safety role throughout this state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, Governor Rell’s Executive Order No. 27, adopted and extended by Governor Malloy’s Executive Order No. 3, restricts the rehiring of Temporary Worker Retirees (TWRs) to two calendar years; and

WHEREAS, Public Acts 3-01 and 03-2 prohibit the rehiring of any state employee who participated in the Early Retirement Incentive Program offered in 2003; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has created staffing disruptions in state agencies and has also increased the need for services provided by state agencies, resulting in critical skills shortages in certain areas, including those related to healthcare and public safety; and

WHEREAS, people who have retired from state service already possess the requisite knowledge, experience and/or licenses and are willing to return to work on a temporary basis can help agencies mitigate the such staffing shortages; and

WHEREAS, during the current public health crisis, accommodations for safe and effective operations of state agencies and state employees and the clients of these agencies are rapidly changing and evolving; and

WHEREAS, during the current public health crisis, additional accommodations and facilities beyond what is currently available in Connecticut may be necessary to address the effects of COVID-19, including but not limited to housing, health care, and medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to the health and safety of the general public that the State of Connecticut is able to adapt to the current crisis on an emergency basis, and provide essential human services for the duration of this emergency; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to the protection of the public health and safety that the Department of Administrative Services and the agencies for which it provides real estate services be able to respond to these emergency circumstances as expeditiously as possible; and

WHEREAS, in order to effectively respond to and alleviate the effects of the emergency, certain statutorily mandated procedures for the leasing, assignment and use of real estate for state
agencies, employees and the general public should be condensed and streamlined, to enable the State to enter into leases relating to emergency needs created by the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, effective utilization of leased real estate may require the State to make certain minor capital improvements, or acquire furniture, fixtures and equipment; and

WHEREAS, non-essential retailers provide useful and necessary products and employ tens of thousands of people throughout the state, and with proper precautions, may be able to conduct limited operations without increasing the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to the safety and recovery of non-essential businesses and nonprofit organizations that their buildings and grounds remain secure and in good working order and continue to receive and process mail and packages; 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. Clarification of Executive Order No. 7H Regarding Non-Essential Business Operations. Executive Order No. 7H, dated March 20, 2020 is hereby amended to permit 1) non-essential retailers to be staffed on site, provided that they may only offer remote ordering (e.g. phone, internet, mail, dropbox) and delivery or curb-side pick-up, and 2) non-essential businesses and nonprofits to allow staff or third parties on site to the minimum extent necessary to provide security, maintenance, and receipt of mail and packages, or other services deemed essential in implementing guidance issued by the Department of Economic and Community Development.

2. Extension of Time Period for Fire Service Personnel Examinations. Section 7-323l-18a (d) (1) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is modified to authorize the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection to extend the time by which examination components for a given level of certification for fire-service personnel must be completed, by 90 days, provided that he is authorized, in his sole discretion, to revoke such extensions as he deems necessary to protect public safety, and to further extend such timeline as he deems necessary.

3. Delivery of Methadone to Homebound Patients by Methadone Maintenance Clinics. Section 21a-252 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to permit the delivery of take-home doses of methadone for the treatment of drug dependent patients who are determined to be unable to travel to the treatment facility due to COVID-19 or related concerns. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders or guidance that she deems necessary to implement this order.

4. Suspension of Rehiring Procedures and Restrictions on Temporary Worker Retirees (TWR). In order to enable agencies to meet critical staffing needs caused by COVID-19 with skilled and experienced employees who require little to no additional training, Gov. Rell’s Executive Order No. 37, Gov. Malloy’s Executive Order No. 3, Section 6(b)(F) of Public Act 03-01 and Section 6(b)(G) of Public Act 03-02 are suspended to remove the two-year limitation TWRs and to authorize
rehiring employees who participated in retirement incentive programs. Agencies shall expedite review and approval of any related extension or hiring requests.

5. **Modification of Real Property Statutes to Facilitate Leasing, Repairs, Alterations and Use of Real Property to Address the COVID-19 Emergency.** In accordance with the provisions of Section 28-9(b)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the following statutes are modified as set forth herein to authorize the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management or her designee, or the Commissioner of Administrative Services, as applicable, to take any action they deem necessary to expedite the leasing or use of real property by the State of Connecticut to respond to the COVID-19 emergency:

   a. subsections (a), (k) and (o) of Section 4b-23 of the Connecticut General Statutes, which require agencies to submit requests for space for approval by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management; to obtain approval for any space that was not included in the state facilities plan, and require the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management of all leases, lease renewals and holdover agreements proposed by the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services;

   b. subsections (3) and (4) of Section 4-67g(f) of the Connecticut General Statutes, which requires the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management prior to any use of state real property by an entity other than a state agency, or use of state real property by a state agency other than the state agency with custody and control over such state real property;

   c. subsection (f) of section 4b-3 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as to that portion of the statute that requires the approval of the State Properties Review Board of real estate acquisitions, sales, leases and subleases proposed by the Commissioner of Administrative Services;

   d. section 4b-29 of the Connecticut General Statutes, only as to that portion of the statute that requires the approval of the State Properties Review Board for the Commissioner of Administrative Services to order the assignment and removal of state agencies to and from real estate available to the state, through ownership or lease, when he deems it necessary to provide space, facilities and necessary accommodations to meet the needs of any of such agencies and when such assignment or removal will be in the best interests of the state;

   e. section 4b-33 of the Connecticut General Statutes in its entirety, which requires any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation or other entity, seeking to enter into a lease or lease-purchase agreement with the state through the Commissioner of Administrative Services to file a sworn statement with said Commissioner disclosing the names of any persons having a financial interest in the property or premises involved, and which provides that failure to make such disclosure is punishable by a civil penalty;

   f. section 4b-34 of the Connecticut General Statutes in its entirety, which mandates advertising for leased space and notification to the Connecticut Association of Realtors of requirements for leased space by executive branch agencies;

6. **State Contracting Statutes Modified to Facilitate Leasing, Repairs, Alterations and Use of Real Property to Address the COVID-19 Emergency.** In accordance with the provisions of Section 28-9(b)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the following statutes are modified as set forth herein to authorize the Secretary of the
Office of Policy and Management or her designee, or the Commissioner of Administrative Services, as applicable, to take any action they deem necessary to expedite the state-wide property transfers, assignments of space and leasing or use of real property by the State of Connecticut to respond to the COVID-19 emergency:

a. sections 4-252 and 9-612(f)(2)(E) of the Connecticut General Statutes and Governor Malloy’s Executive Order 49, which require disclosure of certain gifts and campaign contributions by state contractors and prospective state contractors for state contracts over $50,000;

b. section 4e-70 of the Connecticut General Statutes, which requires state contractors to comply with certain confidentiality requirements;

c. sections 4e-29 and 4e-30 of the Connecticut General Statutes, which require state contractors to permit certain audit and inspection activities by the State at the contractors’ expense;

d. section 4a-57 requiring competitive solicitations for all purchases and contracts for supplies, materials, equipment and contractual services, including, pursuant to section 4d-8, the purchasing, leasing and contracting for information system and telecommunication system facilities, equipment and services; and

e. section 4b-91 that sets forth the process for competitive solicitation for public works contracts.

7. Approval for Transactions Covered by Sections 5 and 6 of This Order. Department of Administrative Services shall submit all proposed real estate transactions subject to this order to the Deputy Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management or his/her designee for review and approval. The Deputy Secretary or his/her designee shall have one (1) calendar day to respond to any proposed transaction pursuant to this Order, after which it shall be deemed approved.

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 22nd day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 22nd day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7K
PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - REMOTE NOTARIZATION, SUSPENSION OF NON-CRITICAL PROBATE AND WORKERS’ COMPENSATION OPERATIONS, AND VARIOUS PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES

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 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, 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 fifty people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, if COVID-19 is transmitted to an elderly person, there is a high risk of serious illness or mortality; and

WHEREAS, the existing COVID-19 pandemic and the accelerating spread of the disease in the State of Connecticut warrants the modification or suspension of certain public health statutes and regulations delineated below or any part thereof that conflict with the execution of civil preparedness functions or the protection of public health; and

WHEREAS, nursing homes and related facilities throughout Connecticut are experiencing staffing shortages as a result of the closure of schools and other effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, increasing the risk to patients, residents and staff; and

WHEREAS, certain documents require the in-person services of a Notary Public or Commissioner of the Superior Court and such interactions should be avoided to the maximum extent possible in order to promote social distancing and the mitigation of the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the Chairman of the Workers Compensation Commission, I have determined that there exists a compelling state interest that the Workers Compensation Commission conduct only essential business in order to minimize the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the Probate Court Administrator, I have determined that there exists a compelling state interest that the Probate Courts conduct only essential business in order to minimize the spread of COVID-19; 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. Suspension of Non-Critical Probate Court Operations and Associated Requirements. Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, Probate Court Rules of Procedure or other provisions of law, I hereby suspend all statutory (1) reporting and filing requirements of the Office of the Probate Court Administrator concerning Probate Court operations; (2) Probate Court facility, location or venue requirements; (3) time requirements, statutes of limitation or other limitations or deadlines relating to service of process, court proceedings or court filings; and (4) all time requirements or deadlines related to the Probate Courts or their judicial officials to issue notices, hold court, hear matters and/or render decisions, including, but not limited to, the following chapters and sections of the Connecticut General Statutes:

   a. Chapter 801, relating to administrative procedures;
   b. Chapter 802b, relating to decedents’ estates;
   c. Chapter 802c, relating to trusts;
   d. Chapter 802d, relating to Uniform Transfers to Minors Act;
   e. Chapter 802g, relating to disclaimers of property;
   f. Chapter 802h, relating to protected persons including minors, conservatorships and guardians of adults with intellectual disability;
   g. Chapter 803, relating to termination of parental rights and adoption;
   h. Chapter 815p, relating to Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act;
   i. Sections 46b-150 through 46b-150i, relating to emancipation;
   j. Section 46b-172a, relating to paternity;
   k. Chapter 319, relating to commitment of mentally ill children;
   l. Chapter 319a, relating to Interstate Compact;
   m. Section 17a-274, relating to involuntary placement with DDS;
   n. Chapter 319i, relating to adults with psychiatric disabilities;
   o. Sections 17a-685 and 17a-686, relating to treatment of alcohol or drug dependent persons.

Nothing in this order shall preclude a Probate Court from holding hearings or rendering decisions in such time frames as the circumstances of the particular matter warrants and the interest of the parties requires.

2. Suspension of Non-Critical Workers’ Compensation Commission Operations and Associated Requirements. Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes or of any regulation, local rule or other provision of law, I hereby suspend all: (1) location or venue requirements; (2) time requirements, statutes of limitation or other limitations or deadlines relating to chapter 568 and the statutes enumerated in (b) below; and (3) all time requirements, or deadlines of the Workers’ Compensation Commission relating to the Workers’ Compensation Act and other statutory programs and schemes over which the Workers’ Compensation Commission provides adjudication, dispute resolution, administrative oversight or support, including, but not limited to, the following:

   a. Chapter 568, relating to the Connecticut Workers’ Compensation Act;
   b. Section 5-142, relating to disability compensation;
   c. Section 5-142a, relating to injury or death of sheriff;
d. Section 5-145a, relating to hypertension or heart disease in certain university, aeronautics, State Capitol police, correction, mental health, criminal justice or hazardous duty personnel;

e. Section 5-145b, relating to hypertension or heart disease in motor vehicle inspectors;

f. Section 5-145c, relating to hypertension or heart disease in chief inspectors or inspectors in the division of criminal justice;

g. Section 7-314a, relating to death, disability and injury benefits;

h. Section 7-314b, relating to collection of workers’ compensation benefits by volunteer firefighters and members of volunteer ambulance services;

i. Section 7-322a, relating to benefits for volunteers rendering service to another fire company;

j. Section 7-322b, relating to volunteers serving in municipality where employed;

k. Section 7-433c, relating to benefits for policemen or firemen due to hypertension or heart disease;

l. Section 28-14, relating to compensation for death, disability or injury;

m. Section 28-14a, relating to compensation of volunteers involved in homeland security drills;

n. Section 29-4a, relating to death or disability from hypertension or heart disease;

o. Section 31-40a, relating to reports of occupational diseases;

p. Section 31-40v, relating to the establishment of safety and health committees;

q. Section 31-283a, relating to rehabilitation programs.

3. **Remote Notarization.** Effective immediately and through June 23, 2020, unless modified, extended or terminated by me, all relevant state laws and regulations are hereby modified to permit any notarial act that is required under Connecticut law to be performed using an electronic device or process that allows a notary public commissioned by the Connecticut Secretary of the State pursuant to section 3-94b of the Connecticut General Statutes (“Notary Public”) or a Commissioner of the Superior Court as defined by section 51-85 of the Connecticut General Statutes (“Commissioner”) and a remotely located individual to communicate with each other simultaneously by sight and sound (“Communication Technology”), provided that the following conditions are met:

a. The person seeking the notarial act (“Signatory”) from a Notary Public or Commissioner, if not personally known to the Notary Public or Commissioner, shall present satisfactory evidence of identity, as defined by subsection 10 of section 3-94a of the General Statutes, while connected to the Communication Technology, not merely transmit it prior to or after the transaction;

b. The Communication Technology must be capable of recording the complete notarial act and such recording shall be made and retained by the Notary Public or Commissioner for a period of not less than ten (10) years;

c. The Signatory must affirmatively represent via the Communication Technology that he or she is physically situated in the State of Connecticut;

d. The Signatory must transmit by fax or electronic means a legible copy of the signed document directly to the Notary Public or Commissioner on the same date it was executed;
e. The Notary Public or Commissioner may notarize the transmitted copy of the
document and transmit the same back to the Signatory by fax or electronic
means;

f. The Notary Public or Commissioner may repeat the notarization of the original
signed document as of the date of execution provided the Notary Public or
Commissioner receives such original signed document, together with the
electronically notarized copy, within thirty days after the date of execution;

g. Notwithstanding the foregoing, only an attorney admitted to practice law in the
State of Connecticut and in good standing may remotely administer a self-
proving affidavit to a Last Will and Testament pursuant to section 45a-285 of
the General Statutes or conduct a real estate closing as required by Public Act 19-
88.

4. Suspension or Modification of Regulatory Requirements to Protect Public
Health and Safety. Notwithstanding Sections 4-168 to 4-174, inclusive, of the
Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Public Health may temporarily
waive, modify or suspend any regulatory requirements adopted by the Commissioner
of Public Health or any Boards or Commissions under Chapters 368a, 368d, 368v,
369 to 381a, inclusive, 382a, 383 to 388, inclusive, 398 to 399, inclusive, 400a, 400c
and 474 of the Connecticut General Statutes as the Commissioner of Public Health
deems necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the public health.

5. Temporary Suspension of National Criminal History Records Checks for Long
Term Care Providers. Section 19a-491c(c)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes,
which requires long-term care facilities to submit background searches, including
checks of state and national criminal history records conducted in accordance with
section 29-17a, to the Department of Public Health prior to extending an offer of
employment to, or entering into a contract for, the provision of long-term care
services with any individual who will have direct access, or prior to allowing any
individual to begin volunteering at such long-term care facility when the long-term
care facility reasonably expects such volunteer will regularly perform duties that are
substantially similar to those of an employee with direct access, the requirement for
checks of state and national criminal history records conducted in accordance with
section 29-17a, is suspended. During this suspension period, all long-term care
facilities shall comply with the requirements contained in section 19a-491c(f)(2)(A)
to (D), inclusive, of the Connecticut General Statutes.

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 23rd day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 23rd day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020
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 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, 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 fifty people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, if COVID-19 is transmitted to an elderly person, there is a high risk of serious illness or mortality; and

WHEREAS, fishing is a healthy outdoor activity and an opportunity to enjoy Connecticut’s natural resources, provided that anglers practice social distancing by standing at least six feet apart, and not traveling in groups; and

WHEREAS, opening the fishing season early in inland waters will help to limit community spread of COVID-19 by eliminating the large crowds that often accompany the traditional Opening Day of fishing in April; and

WHEREAS, Section 7-438(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes restricts reemployment of participants in the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System (CMERS) to no more than 20 hours each week or 90 days each calendar year if they are to continue to receive pension benefits; and
WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has created staffing disruptions in municipalities and increased the need for services provided by municipalities such as police and public safety support, resulting in critical skills shortages in vital municipal operational areas; and

WHEREAS, people who have retired from municipal service already have the requisite knowledge, experience and/or licenses and are willing to return to work to help municipalities mitigate such staffing shortages by performing critical services; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut’s Medical Marijuana Program is used by approximately 41,000 patients who have been diagnosed with a debilitating condition and who rely on the program for the palliative treatment of their debilitating condition; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that increased demand on the healthcare system resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and heightened protocols to prevent the spread of the virus will create a shortage of medical personnel and limit the availability of in-person care, making it difficult, if not impossible, for patients to schedule timely appointments to be certified or recertified as medical marijuana patients or to receive follow-up care; and

WHEREAS, employees working in the medical marijuana industry may be adversely affected by COVID-19 and unable to work due to illness, exposure or potential exposure to COVID-19, or childcare and other familial obligations, causing staffing shortages in the industry; and

WHEREAS, there exists a present need to encourage, facilitate and expedite patient transfers from nursing homes that are subject to closure under the provisions of Section 19a-533(h) of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, due to the closure of some local offices of the registrars of vital statistics throughout the state, which offices, in accordance with section 7-42 of the Connecticut General Statutes, are responsible, inter alia, for ascertaining as accurately as each such registrar can, all marriages, deaths and fetal deaths, and all births in such registrar’s town and recording the same in such form and with such particulars as are prescribed by the Department of Public Health; and

WHEREAS, members of the public, genealogical societies and others desire copies of and access to such vital records; and

WHEREAS, marriage licenses must be readily obtainable and valid for a longer period; 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. Continued Cancellation of School Classes. To promote and secure the safety and protection of children in schools related to the risks of COVID-19, Section 1 of my Executive Order 7C, canceling all public-school classes, is continued through April 20, 2020, unless earlier extended, modified, or terminated by me. Private schools and other non-public schools are encouraged to follow the same schedule. Connecticut Unified School District 1, established pursuant to Section 18-99a of the Connecticut General Statutes, Unified School District 2, established pursuant to Section 17 a-37, and Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services inpatient facilities providing school classes or programs are exempt from this section.
2. **Early Opening of Fishing Season.** Notwithstanding Section 26-112 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any associated regulations, effective immediately and through the remainder of the 2020 fishing season, unless earlier modified or terminated by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, there is no closed season for fishing in the inland waters of Connecticut. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may extend or modify the open seasons for inland waters fishing without notice and public hearing and issue any implementing orders she deems necessary consistent with this order. All other regulations for fishing, including, but not limited to, licensing, stamps, methods, catch-and-release areas, creel limits and length limits shall remain in effect. Anglers shall practice social distancing measures, such as remaining six feet apart.

3. **Suspension of Restrictions on Reemployment of Municipal Retirees.** In order to enable municipalities to meet critical staffing needs caused by COVID-19 with skilled and experienced employees who require little to no additional training, the restrictions set forth in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 7-438(b) are suspended for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless such suspension is modified or terminated by me, to allow any retired member who is participating in the municipal retirement system, except those who are receiving a disability retirement pursuant to this chapter, to work without any hourly or durational limitation while also continuing to receive retirement allowances while so employed.

4. **Flexibility to Maintain Adequate Medical Marijuana Access for Patients.** The provisions of Sections 21a-408c and 21a408d of the Connecticut General Statutes, 21a-408-2, 21a-408-18, 21a-408-24, 21a-408-29(2), 21a-408-42 and 21a-408-43 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and any associated statutes, regulations, rules and policies regarding the certification of medical marijuana patients, the expiration of medical marijuana patient certifications or registrations, and staffing requirements at dispensary facilities are hereby modified to: (1) permit a physician or APRN to certify a patient and provide any follow-up care using telehealth services so long as all other requirements for the patient certification and all recordkeeping requirements are met; (2) extend the expiration date for any patient or caregiver certification or registration that expires before June 1, 2020 by ninety (90) day, unless such expiration date is earlier modified, extended or terminated by the Commissioner, (3) permit dispensary facility employees and laboratory employees to switch locations of employment between entities during the state of emergency, provided the Department shall be notified of any permanent changes of employment within five days after the state of emergency concludes, (4) permit the Department of Consumer Protection to provide a replacement registration certificate for a patient or caregiver who has had their registration certificate lost, stolen or destroyed without charging a replacement fee, (5) permit a dispensary facility manager to work a reduced number of hours if approved by the Commissioner, (6) permit a single dispensary facility manager to manage more than one dispensary facility under common ownership in the event that the dispensary facility manager at the other location(s) are unable to work as result of the effects of COVID-19, and (7) permit a dispensary facility to increase the ratio of one dispensary technician on duty upon notice and approval by the Commissioner. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders and guidance that she deems necessary to implement this order.

5. **Extension of Time Period for Nursing Home Transfers.** Subsection (h) of Section 19a-533 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to extend the time frame for an applicant to transfer nursing homes in accordance with the provisions of said subsection from sixty days to “not later than one year following the date that such
applicant was transferred from the nursing home where he or she previously resided.”

6. Modification of the Duties of Registrars of Vital Records. Section 7-42 of the Connecticut General Statutes is hereby modified to authorize the Commissioner of Public Health or her designee to conduct birth, death and marriage registration, in order to assist local registrars of vital statistics in carrying out their duties as may be required, and to issue any implementing orders she deems necessary.

7. Modification of In-Person Purchase of and Access to Copies of Vital Records. Section 7-51a(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes requiring availability of in-person purchase of or access to copies of vital records, is hereby modified to suspend such in-person purchases or access at the Department of Public Health (DPH). The purchase of copies of vital records from DPH during the pendency of this order shall be limited to mail or on-line requests.

8. Modification of the requirement that marriage licenses be obtained in the town where the marriage will be celebrated; extension of marriage license validity. Section 46b-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to allow any couple planning to marry in a town in which the office of the registrar of vital statistics is closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic to obtain their marriage license from any available registrar of vital statistics from any town within the State; and to extend the sixty-five (65) day period of validity for marriage licenses for an additional sixty (60) days for any marriage license that is obtained or that will expire during the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency.

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 24th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 24th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7M

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - EXTENSION OF AGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE DEADLINES

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 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, 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 fifty people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, if COVID-19 is transmitted to an elderly person, there is a high risk of serious illness or mortality; and

WHEREAS, the reduction in state personnel working at state agency offices, including those of the Department of Transportation, and the difficulty in receiving and reviewing plans and documents related to encroachment permits, have reduced the ability to review and decide on applications for such encroachments within the statutorily mandated 90-day deadline; and

WHEREAS, in order to further prevent the potential public threat and spread of COVID-19 to any person who might participate in the process of submitting, reviewing, hearing, discussing, deciding, or appealing an agency, board or commission decision, action, or related activity, and to allow for delays and unavailability caused by disruptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, state agencies, boards, and commissions of this State require discretion to manage deadlines associated with Chapter 54 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act, and other statutory and regulatory deadlines relevant to conducting the business of this State; and

WHEREAS, there is a significant public interest in ensuring that citizens retain their rights under the Freedom of Information Act during this public health and civil preparedness emergency, despite the delays and administrative difficulties that the COVID-19; 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. Tolling of Time Periods for Department of Transportation (DOT) Final Determinations on Permits. Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes or any associated regulation, I hereby modify Section 13b-31f(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes to authorize the Commissioner of Transportation to toll any deadlines for review and final determination on any of the permit applications in such section, and issue any implementing orders he deems necessary, provided such tolling period shall cease on the date of termination of the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared on March 10, 2020.

2. Suspension of Mandatory Statutory Filing Requirements for Freedom of Information Act Appeals and Decisions by the Freedom of Information Commission. Notwithstanding the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 1-206(b)(1), I hereby suspend, for the duration of this public health and civil preparedness emergency: (1) the time requirements for filing an appeal with the Freedom of Information Commission, which shall be applicable to any appeal filed on or after the issuance date of this order; and (2) the requirement that the Freedom of Information Commission must hear and decide an appeal within one year after the filing of such appeal, which shall be applicable to any appeal pending before such Commission and any appeal filed on or after the issuance date of this order.

3. Authority to Extend Statutory and Regulatory Administrative Deadlines by 90 Days. Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, any regulation, or other provision of law, I hereby authorize each department head, commissioner, agency head, and board and commission of this State to extend, as they deem reasonably necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic or its effects, any statutory or regulatory time requirements, decision-making requirements, hearings, or other time limitations or deadlines, procedure or legal process pertaining to matters under their respective jurisdiction, functions or powers for a period not to exceed 90 days. Department heads, commissioners, agency heads, and board and commission of this State may issue any orders necessary to implement and effectuate the purposes of this order and shall publicly post and maintain such orders on their respective websites.

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 25th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 25th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020
NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
DONALD S. SUNunu
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19
OUTBREAK - 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
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

Filed this 26th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 70

**PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - FLEXIBILITY IN DPH LICENSING RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS AND PROVIDER ASSIGNMENT, EXPANDED HAND SANITIZER PRODUCTION, WAIVER OF BIRTH-TO-THREE FEES**

**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 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 non-profits, 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, my Executive Order No. 7N, dated March 26, 2020, restricted social and recreational gatherings to no more than five (5) people, imposed additional distancing measures on restaurants, eating establishments, and retail operations, suspended the tax on single-use plastic checkout bags and allowed employees to decline to bag items in reusable bags, suspended the 21-month limit on Temporary Family Assistance, and suspended school testing assessments for the current school year; 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 the 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, the Department of Public Health is required by statute and regulations to license certain individuals and facilities and, in the interest of limiting person-to-person contact and continuing to provide adequate healthcare resources and ensure the continuity of other licensed work, it is necessary to suspend license renewal activities and certain inspections during the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

WHEREAS, the continued operation of health care facilities or institutions, as defined by Section 19a-905 of the Connecticut General Statutes, is critical to the response to the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut may experience a shortage of health care providers, as defined in such statute, because of the spread of COVID-19; and
WHEREAS, the maintenance of staffing levels at such facilities or institutions may require certain health care providers to work at multiple health care facilities or institutions during the response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the issuance and maintenance by such health care facilities or institutions of identification badges, in complete conformance with Section 19a-905 of the Connecticut General Statutes, for health care providers who provide direct patient care at such facility or institution, may hinder flexible and responsive deployment of healthcare resources during the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the state has experienced widespread shortages of hand sanitizer which is critical for the prevention of COVID-19 related transmission when access to hand washing is not available, and certain manufacturers of other products, including liquor, are able and willing to produce it; and

WHEREAS, there is a critical lack of supply for certain medical devices, including personal protective equipment, which is needed to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and to keep healthcare workers safe in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Early Childhood wishes to ensure continuity of care for infants and toddlers with disabilities, and required family cost participation fees for early intervention services pose a barrier to participation for families experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, upon a proclamation that a public health or 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. **Suspension of Requirements for License Renewal and Inspections by the Department of Public Health.** Pursuant to Section 19a-131j(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes and my emergency powers under Sections 19a-131j and 28-9, any statute, regulation or requirement or part thereof relating to license renewals and inspections by the Department of Public Health is hereby modified to authorize the Commissioner of Public Health to waive licensing, renewal, and inspection requirements pursuant to Sections 19a-131j(b), (c) and (d), and as she otherwise deems necessary to ensure the provision of adequate healthcare during, and mitigate the effects of, this public health and civil preparedness emergency, and to issue any implementing orders she deems necessary.

2. **Modification of Health Care Provider Identification Badge Requirements.** Section 19a-905 of the Connecticut General Statutes is hereby modified to allow healthcare providers to provide direct patient care at a healthcare facility or institution, with the permission of such facility or institution, with an identification badge displaying the name of a different healthcare facility or institution, provided all other information on such identification badge conforms to the requirements of such section. This section is further modified to authorize the Commissioner of Public Health to establish policies and procedures regarding the badging of COVID-19 response personnel should she or her designee deem it necessary to rapidly move staff due to the need for mass care in a circumstance of limited resources, and to issue any related orders she deems necessary.
3. **Allowing Non-traditional Manufacturers to Make Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers and Medical Devices.** Section 21a-70 (b) of the Connecticut General Statutes as it pertains to the compounding of alcohol-based hand sanitizer production and the production of medical devices, including personal protective equipment used to assist in the treatment of COVID-19 is modified to permit such activities without registering as a manufacturer. The manufacturing of alcohol-based hand sanitizer shall follow Food and Drug Administration (FDA) guidance issued by the FDA and which is available on its website. All manufacturers of medical devices, including personal protective equipment, shall follow the requirements issued by the FDA and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which guidance is available on those agencies’ websites, comply with the requirements of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), and comply with any registration requirements imposed by those agencies, including any modifications to such requirements issued by such agencies in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders or guidance that she deems necessary to effectuate the intent of this order.

4. **Waiver of Birth-to-Three Family Cost Participation Fees.** Section 17a-248g (e) of the Connecticut General Statutes, and Section 17a-248-13 (g) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Early Childhood to waive the fees required to be paid by the parents or legal guardians of children eligible for remote early intervention services, waive any resulting suspension of services due to non-payment of such fees, and issue any implementing orders she deems necessary.

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 27th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 27th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7P

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - SAFE HOUSING FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, FIRST RESPONDERS, AND HEALTHCARE WORKERS

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued sixteen executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 the 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, the continued operation of health care facilities or institutions, as defined by Section 19a-905 of the Connecticut General Statutes, is critical to the response to the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

WHEREAS, first responders and healthcare workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic face increased risk of exposure and infection, and if exposed or infected, may need alternative housing to avoid transmitting the disease to coworkers or family members, and municipalities and agencies who arrange such housing may require federal reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control has recommended that states, especially those with higher rates of growth in the number of infected people, take measures to reduce density within homeless shelters and other congregate housing situations, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency is making funding available to reimburse states for certain related expenditures; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health and other members of my leadership team, I have determined that reducing density in congregate housing and providing alternate housing for people experiencing homelessness is necessary to protect public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut may experience a shortage of health care providers, as defined in such statute, because of the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the issuance and maintenance by such health care facilities or institutions of identification badges, in complete conformance with Section 19a-905 of the Connecticut General Statutes, for health care providers who provide direct patient care at such facility or institution, may hinder flexible and responsive deployment of healthcare resources during the emergency; and

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. **Authorization to Provide for Non-Congregant Housing for Persons at Risk.** The Commissioner of Public Health, Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, and commissioners of Emergency Services and Public Protection and Housing are authorized to issue such orders as they deem necessary to provide or arrange non-congregant housing with sufficient physical distancing capacity for people who, from the nature of their existing housing or working environments, are at increased risk of exposure to, infection with, or transmission of COVID-19, and to seek reimbursement for any resulting expenditures from appropriate federal agencies or other sources.

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 28th day of March, 2020.

**NED LAMONT**
Governor

Filed this 28th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**
**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**
**NED LAMONT**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7Q**

**PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - CHILDCARE SAFETY, REMOTE NOTARIZATION UPDATE**

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued seventeen (17) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 the 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, ongoing childcare operations are necessary to support the essential workforce, and it
is vital to protect the health and safety of children and staff in childcare facilities and limit the
spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, current regulations allow group sizes of as many as 20 children in childcare
facilities, increasing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among staff, children, and their
families, and reducing such group sizes is necessary to reduce such risk; and

WHEREAS, certain documents require the in-person services of a Notary Public or
Commissioner of the Superior Court and such interactions should be avoided to the maximum
extent possible in order to promote social distancing and the mitigation of the spread of the
COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, certain documents, in addition to notarization or acknowledgement, require the
presence of in-person witnesses to their signature, which could increase the risk of transmission of
COVID-19; and

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. **Limited Group Sizes in Childcare.** To limit the spread of COVID-19 and protect
   the health and safety of children and staff in all child care facilities that are
   continuing to operate during this civil preparedness and public health emergency,
   Section 19a-79 and any related regulations, rules, or policies, are modified to require
   that all child care facilities shall limit group sizes to no more than ten children in one
   space, and to authorize the Commissioner of Early Childhood to issue any
   implementing orders she deems necessary. Any childcare operation seeking to caring
   for more than thirty children in one facility shall seek approval to do so from the
   Commissioner and demonstrate sufficient separation of groups within the facility.
   This order applies to all childcare operations, including but not limited to childcare
   centers, group childcare homes, family childcare homes, youth camps, and childcare
   facilities that are exempt from licensing requirements pursuant to Section 19a-77 of
   the Connecticut General Statutes.

2. **Enhanced Health Procedures for All Operating Child Care Programs.** All
   children and childcare workers shall be screened before entrance to any childcare
   operation, as described herein, for any observable illness, including cough or
   respiratory distress, and to confirm body temperature below one hundred degrees
   Fahrenheit. All staff shall practice enhanced handwashing and health practices,
   including covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the corner of the elbow and
   assisting children with such increased handwashing and health practices. Enhanced
   cleaning and disinfection practices shall be implemented in all facilities to prevent
   the spread of COVID-19. This order applies to all childcare operations including but
   not limited to childcare centers, group childcare homes, family childcare homes,
   youth camps, and childcare facilities that are exempt from licensing requirements
   pursuant to Section 19a-77 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Commissioner of
   Early Childhood may issue any implementing orders she deems necessary consistent
   with this order.

3. **Remote Notarization - Amended Procedures.** Effective immediately and through
   June 23, 2020, unless modified, extended or terminated by me, Section 3 of my prior
Executive Order 7K concerning remote notarizations is hereby superseded and replaced in its entirety by this Executive Order. All relevant state laws and regulations are hereby modified to permit any notarial act that is required under Connecticut law to be performed using an electronic device or process that allows a notary public commissioned by the Connecticut Secretary of the State pursuant to section 3-94b of the Connecticut General Statutes ("Notary Public") or a Commissioner of the Superior Court as defined by section 51-85 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("Commissioner") and a remotely located individual to communicate with each other simultaneously by sight and sound ("Communication Technology"), provided that the following conditions are met:

a. The person seeking the notarial act ("Signatory") from a Notary Public or Commissioner, if not personally known to the Notary Public or Commissioner, shall present satisfactory evidence of identity, as defined by subsection 10 of section 3-94a of the General Statutes, while connected to the Communication Technology, not merely transmit it prior to or after the transaction;

b. The Communication Technology must be capable of recording the complete notarial act and such recording shall be made and retained by the Notary Public for a period of not less than ten (10) years;

c. The Signatory must affirmatively represent via the Communication Technology that he or she is physically situated in the State of Connecticut;

d. The Signatory must transmit by fax or electronic means a legible copy of the signed document directly to the Notary Public or Commissioner on the same date it was executed;

e. The Notary Public or Commissioner may notarize the transmitted copy of the document and transmit the same back to the Signatory by fax or electronic means;

f. The Notary Public or Commissioner may repeat the notarization of the original signed document as of the date of execution, provided the Notary Public or Commissioner receives such original signed document, together with the electronically notarized copy, within thirty days after the date of execution;

g. Notwithstanding the foregoing, only an attorney admitted to practice law in the State of Connecticut and in good standing may remotely administer a self-proving affidavit to a Last Will and Testament pursuant to section 45a-285 of the General Statutes or conduct a real estate closing as required by Public Act 19-88. Any witnessing requirement for a Last Will and Testament may be satisfied remotely through the use of Communication Technology if it is completed under the supervision of a Commissioner. The supervising Commissioner shall certify that he or she supervised the remote witnessing of the Last Will and Testament;

h. All witness requirements on any document, other than a Last Will and Testament, requiring a notarial act are hereby suspended for the duration of this Executive Order.

i. All Remotely Notarized documents pertaining to real property shall be accepted for recording on the land records by all Connecticut Town or City Clerks. A one-page certification confirming the use of Remote Notarization
procedures shall be attached to each remotely notarized document submitted for recording on the land records in Connecticut.

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 30th day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 30th day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7R

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - EDUCATION WORKFORCE SUSTAINABILITY, STATE PARKS CAPACITY CONTROL, AND CURBSIDE LIQUOR PICKUP

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued seventeen (17) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 the 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, Sec. 18006 of H.R. 748, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, provides, in relevant part: "A local educational agency, State, institution of higher education, or other entity that receives funds under the 'Education Stabilization Fund', shall to the
greatest extent practicable, continue to pay its employees and contractors during the period of any
disruptions or closures related to coronavirus”; and

WHEREAS, local and regional boards of education have existing approved budgets for the
duration of the 2019-2020 school year that are supported by state and municipal funding, and
these school communities are instrumental to furthering the educational interests of our state; and

WHEREAS, the budgets of local and regional boards of education did not anticipate costs
associated with their response to the COVID-19 pandemic and are further strained by lost revenue
from cafeteria and other operations due to the cancellation of all public school classes; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, school districts and many school staff continue to
be essential resources for students’ needs, and both public schools and providers of special
education and student transportation will need to promptly and with short notice resume services
and classes when public health and safety restrictions allow it; and

WHEREAS, during this public health emergency, state parks and state forest recreation areas can
provide opportunities for solitary recreation for individuals or members of the same household to
enjoy together and experience both mental and physical health benefits, so long as the number of
visitors is within an acceptable level that can enable social distancing, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is closely
monitoring park visitorship and closing parks when parking lots are full, or where necessary,
at lower parking thresholds in order to maintain social distancing among park visitors, and DEEP has
observed additional visitors in some locations parking outside the entrances to parks that have
closed at capacity and walking in, which increases the numbers of visitors beyond a level that can
ensure safe social distancing; and

WHEREAS, limiting the spread of COVID-19 requires effective distancing measures even
among people enjoying the outdoors, including measures to ensure that state parks and other lands
under the Commissioner’s control do not become, even briefly, over capacity; and

WHEREAS, social distancing goals can be more readily achieved if retail businesses can bring
products to consumers at the curbside rather than requiring consumers to enter the store;

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. **Continued Funding for Boards of Education.** The State Department of Education
shall continue to process appropriated state grant funds intended to support boards of
education through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, including, but not limited to,
etitlement grants such as the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant pursuant to
Section 10-262f, payments for special education excess costs pursuant to Sections
10-76d and 10-76g, and Choice programming pursuant to Sections 10-264i, 10-264l,
10-264o, and 10-266aa. Municipalities shall continue to provide funding to local
boards of education as set forth in the approved annual school budgets for the fiscal
year ending June 30, 2020.

2. **Continued Payment of Public School Staff.** In recognition of the fact that schools
are required to provide a broad and constantly changing spectrum of services to
students and families and will need to reengage students as quickly as possible upon
resuming classes, school districts shall continue to employ or restore to employment
if already laid off, and pay school staff who are directly employed by the local or
regional board of education, including but not limited to teachers, paraprofessionals
and other support staff, cafeteria staff, clerical staff, and custodial workers, to the
greatest extent practicable. Local and regional boards of education may require
school staff to provide services during the period of closure to the extent consistent
with state and federal laws, including any applicable Executive Orders, guidance, or
public health recommendations, and shall not be required to continue such
employment if the staff member secures other employment, or if the staff member
would have been separated for reasons other than circumstances related to the
COVID-19 pandemic. Nothing in this order shall affect the ability of the local or
regional board of education to reduce the number of staff members prior to the start
of the 2020-2021 school year due to budget reductions or as otherwise necessary
outside of the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, in compliance with current
legal requirements.

3. Preservation of Student Transportation Services and Special Education
Providers. To the extent that a board of education, or in cases where the
municipality holds the contract, the municipality with agreement from the board of
education, determines that a contract related to student transportation or the
provision of special education services by a public special education provider or an
approved private special education provider requires amendment to more accurately
reflect the actual costs incurred during the duration of the public health and civil
preparedness emergencies, all parties shall promptly negotiate amendments to such
contracts with student transportation providers and/or special education providers
with terms that are consistent with the goals of: (1) sustaining continuity of service
when school resumes; (2) continuing (a) to make tuition payments to special
education providers so that they may compensate their active employees and provide
them health insurance and (b) to make payments to transportation providers so that
they may compensate their active employees and provide them health insurance; and
(3) requiring the contracted company to attest and provide reasonable documentation
of the fact that it is charging only the actual and reasonable cost of sustaining wage
and health insurance payments for active employees and/or fleet while also engaging
best efforts to avoid unnecessary costs. Such continued compensation and health
insurance for staff or others providing special education and transportation services
and employees shall be continued to the greatest extent practicable – whether full-
time or part-time – at rates commensurate to those paid and provided immediately
prior to the declaration of these public health and civil preparedness emergencies,
whether or not services are actually or immediately rendered. Nothing in this
provision shall allow for contracted companies to be enriched beyond the actual and
reasonable costs incurred for the purposes set forth above.

4. Restrictions on Entrance to State Parks, Forests, and Other Lands.
Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 23-4 of the Connecticut General Statutes
or any related regulations, rules, policies or procedures, in order to limit close
person-to-person contact and the formation of crowds, and thereby reduce the risk of
transmission of COVID-19, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental
Protection may issue any orders she deems necessary to restrict or prohibit entrance
into state parks and other lands under her control, and may prohibit for the duration
of this public health and civil preparedness emergency the entrance to such parks or
lands by anyone who violates any such an order.

5. Curbside Pickup of Alcoholic Beverages Permitted. Sections 30-20 and 30-74(c)
of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 30-6-B55(b) of the Regulations of
Connecticut State Agencies are modified to allow the holders of package store liquor
permits and grocery store beer permits to extend their permit premises to provide for
sale for curbside pickup of all alcoholic beverages allowed by their permit type in
any space adjacent to their permit premise. Such curbside sales are permitted during
the days and hours allowed for legal sale pursuant to Section 30-91(d), unless a more
restrictive municipal ordinance limits the hours of alcoholic beverage sales. The
Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders and guidance that she deems necessary to implement this order. Nothing in this order shall relieve any permit holder from the responsibility to comply with existing law requiring verification of identification.

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 31st day of March, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 31st day of March, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7S

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - SAFE STORES, RELIEF FOR POLICYHOLDERS, TAXPAYERS, AND TENANTS

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued seventeen (17) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 the 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, my Executive Order No. 7N imposed certain safety restrictions and mandates on retail establishments in order to limit the spread of COVID-19 among customers, employees, and others entering such establishments; and

WHEREAS, there exists a compelling state interest in a consistent and easily understandable statewide approach to reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among customers, staff, and other persons entering retail establishments, to limit community transmission of COVID-19 statewide, and to ensure the continuity of essential retail services and safe conduct of permitted non-essential retail services; and

WHEREAS, widespread financial hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and necessary responses to it may prevent policyholders from timely payment of insurance premiums, and any resulting penalties, including cancellation or non-renewal of policies, create additional hardship, cause further damage to the economy, and endanger property and public health; and

WHEREAS, to encourage social distancing and protect public health and safety, my Executive Order 7D, dated March 16, 2020 and Executive Order 7G, dated March 19, 2020, closed bars and restaurants to all on-premise service of food and beverages; and

WHEREAS, many businesses may be experiencing lost revenue from the prohibition of on-premise food and beverage sales, which will hinder their ability to make timely payments to their creditors; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut serve many elders and disabled individuals through multiple home and community based services waivers and Medicaid state plan benefits under the Medicaid program, including clients of the Department of Social Services, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Department of Developmental Services, who rely upon these home-based services to remain in their homes, avoid institutionalization and achieve maximum independence and functioning, and certain adjustments to the provision of services under these various waivers are necessary to ensure continuity of services and provide greater flexibility during COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has advised the Department of Social Services that it may, on an expedited basis, and without providing a notice and comment period, take advantage of opportunities included in Appendix K to the Home and Community Based Waivers under Section 1915(c), as well as Sections 1115 (a) and 1135, of the Social Security Act, and also including, as applicable, amendments to Medicaid state plan provisions under other relevant provisions, such as sections 1915(i), 1915(k) and 1945 of the Social Security Act, in order to act quickly to address critical health needs of Medicaid beneficiaries and others in Connecticut in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 204 of the Connecticut General Statutes sets forth tax collection deadlines that will be difficult for residential and commercial property owners to meet in light of the significant job and economic losses experienced by Connecticut residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, municipalities have sought relief on behalf of taxpayers who are struggling due to business operations being suspended or ceased, layoffs and other complications due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, certain municipal charters, ordinances or resolutions require critical town fiscal and budgetary decisions to be voted on by referendum or town meeting that create a risk to public health; and

WHEREAS, Sections 12-170aa(e) and (f) and Sections 12-129b and 12-129c of the Connecticut General Statutes require municipalities to conduct specific duties, including but not limited to
processing tax relief claims that require in-person meetings and application filing requirements for taxpayers who have attained age sixty-five or over or are totally disabled; and

WHEREAS, Section 12-62 of the Connecticut General Statutes requires municipalities to conduct in-person inspections which will create increased risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Section 12-63c of the Connecticut General Statutes requires taxpayer filings based on information in Income and Expense Statements by Assessors, which were previously extended under Executive Order 7I, Section 15; and

WHEREAS, it will promote the public health and safety of all Connecticut residents to prohibit evictions during the public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Judicial Branch has suspended all evictions and ejectment proceedings and Executive Order No. 7G suspended non-critical court operations;

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. Safe Stores Mandatory Statewide Rules, Amending Executive Order No. 7N, Sec. 3. Effective upon the opening of each retail establishment for the first time on April 3, 2020, every retail establishment in the State of Connecticut shall take additional protective measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 between and among customers, employees, and other persons such as delivery drivers or maintenance people. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, shall issue mandatory statewide rules prescribing such additional protective measures no later than 11:59 p.m. on April 1, 2020. Such rules shall be mandatory throughout the state and shall supersede and preempt any current or future municipal order and shall supersede the requirements of Executive Order No. 7N, Sec. 3, providing that nothing in this order shall eliminate or reduce the requirements of Executive Order No. 7N, Sec. 3 regarding firearms transactions.

2. 60-Day Grace Period for Premium Payments, Policy Cancellations and Non-Renewals of Insurance Policies. Beginning on April 1, 2020, for a period of sixty (60) calendar days ending on June 1, 2020, no insurer may, without a court order, lapse, terminate or cause to be forfeited a covered insurance policy because a covered policyholder does not pay a premium or interest or indebtedness on a premium under the policy that is due except as provided hereunder. This grace period shall apply to entities licensed or regulated by the Insurance Department including admitted and non-admitted insurance companies that provide any insurance coverage in Connecticut including, life, health, auto, property, casualty and other types of insurance as follows:

   a. Insurers shall provide such 60-day grace period to individuals that have individual insurance policies who, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, were laid off, furloughed, or fired from employment or otherwise sustained a significant loss in revenue. Such individuals may be required to provide an affidavit or other statement acceptable to their insurance carrier, explaining that as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic they were laid off, furloughed, or fired from employment or otherwise sustained a significant loss in revenue.

   b. Insurers shall provide such 60-day grace period to businesses that are group policyholders, have group insurance and/or have property/casualty
insurance that were required to close or significantly reduce operations or suffered significant revenue loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Such businesses may be required to provide an affidavit or other statement acceptable to their insurance carriers, explaining that as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, they were required to close or significantly reduce their business operations or suffered a significant revenue loss.

c. This 60-day grace period is not automatic. To be eligible, affected policyholders must provide the information outlined above in an affidavit or other statement acceptable to their insurance carriers. Carriers shall provide instructions on how policyholders are to provide such information.

d. Policyholders are advised that this grace period is not a waiver or forgiveness of the premium; it is only an extension of time in which to pay premiums. Policyholders are advised that they may be subject to restrictions if they are in receipt of state or federal stimulus funding relating to COVID-19.

e. Individuals or businesses that do not meet the criteria for the 60-day grace period set forth above, will need to contact their insurance carrier should they wish to discuss a premium deferral.

f. This order does not apply to self-funded health plans.

g. If a carrier has already provided a policyholder with a 60-day grace period for March and April 2020 premiums, or offers to provide a 60-day grace period for that time frame and it is accepted, the carrier will be deemed to have satisfied the requirements of this Executive Order with respect to that policyholder.

h. This 60-day grace period shall only apply to policyholders that were in good standing with their insurance carrier on March 12, 2020, and shall only apply to premiums due after the initial premium has been made to secure coverage.

i. This 60-day grace period applies only to cancellation or non-renewals attributed to a failure to pay premiums during the applicable 60-day grace period. If a policy is to be cancelled or non-renewed for any other allowable reason, the cancellation or non-renewal may be made pursuant to statutory notice requirements and for legally recognized reasons.

3. **Extension of 30-Day Period of Credit for Liquor Permittees.** Section 30-48(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes and Sections 30-6-A36 and 30-6-A37a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, which permit no more than a thirty-day period of credit, from manufacturers, wholesalers, or others specified in such statute and regulations, is modified so that the maximum period of credit shall be ninety days after the date of delivery for all permittees prohibited from engaging in on-premise sales per Executive Order No. 7D, as amended by Executive Order No. 7H. The extension of credit shall not apply to permits that were delinquent at the time Executive Order No. 7D became effective on March 16, 2020. The period of delinquency shall begin on the ninety-first day after the date of delivery. All other requirements under the above-referenced statute and regulations shall apply, except as modified to reflect the increased period of credit, and the standard thirty-day period of credit shall continue to apply to all permittees whose businesses who were not engaging in on-premise sales at the time Executive Order No. 7D became effective. The credit extension shall remain in effect for any delivery made prior to
the time Executive Order No. 7D expires or is terminated, or if extended or renewed, through any period of extension or renewal.

4. **Daily Payment of Certain Taxes Changed to Weekly.** Section 12-575 (h) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified so that the licensee authorized to operate off-track betting in Connecticut shall file with the Department of Consumer Protection: a daily electronic report of the amount of wagers collected; and, no later than 12:00 PM every Tuesday, the tax filing and payment for the week preceding.

5. **Flexibility to Amend Medicaid Waivers and State Plan.** Section 17b-8 of the Connecticut General Statutes, to the extent that it requires: the submission of proposed applications to submit waivers or make certain amendments to Medicaid waivers or the Medicaid state plan (for such amendments that would have required a waiver but for the Affordable Care Act) to the joint standing committees having cognizance of matters relating to human services and appropriations; a 30-day public notice and comment period prior to submission of the proposed amendments to said committees; the holding of a public hearing by said committees; and the approval of the applications for amendment by said committees, is modified retroactive to the declaration of public health and civil preparedness emergency on March 10, 2020, to authorize the Commissioner of Social Services, on an expedited basis, to exercise the waiver flexibilities provided in response to COVID-19 and afforded by Appendix K to the Home and Community Based Waivers under Section 1915(c), as well as Sections 1115 (a) and 1135, of the Social Security Act and also including, as applicable and in response to COVID-19, amendments to Medicaid state plan provisions under other relevant provisions, such as sections 1915(i), 1915(k) and 1945 of the Social Security Act. The suspension of the aforesaid requirements is limited solely to emergency waivers related to the COVID-19 declared public health and civil preparedness emergencies.

6. **Suspension and Modification of Tax Deadlines and Collection Efforts.** Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of Chapter 204 of the Connecticut General Statutes or of any special act, charter, home-rule ordinance, local ordinance or other local law, there shall be established two programs to offer support to eligible taxpayers, businesses, nonprofits, and residents who have been economically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Such programs shall be known as the “Deferment Program” and the “Low Interest Rate Program.” Each municipality, as defined in section 7-148 of the general statutes, by determination of its local legislative body, or, in any town in which the legislative body is a town meeting, by a vote of the board of selectmen, shall participate in one or both programs and shall notify the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management no later than April 25, 2020, about which program or programs it is electing to participate in.

   a. **Deferment Program.** During the period of March 10, 2020, the date that I declared the public health and civil preparedness emergency, through and including July 1, 2020, municipalities participating in the Deferment Program shall offer to eligible taxpayers, businesses, nonprofits, and residents a deferment by ninety (90) days of any taxes on real property, personal property or motor vehicles, or municipal water, sewer and electric rates, charges or assessments for such tax, rate, charge, or assessment from the time that it became due and payable. Eligible taxpayers, businesses, nonprofits, and residents are those that attest to or document significant economic impact by COVID-19, and/or those that document they are providing relief to those significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall issue guidance as to which taxpayers, businesses, nonprofits, and residents shall be considered eligible for the Deferment Program, but participating municipalities may, upon approval of its
local legislative body, or, in any town in which the legislative body is a town meeting, by a vote of the board of selectmen, extend eligibility for the deferment program to other categories of taxpayers, businesses, nonprofits, and residents.

b. **Low Interest Rate Program.** For municipalities participating in the Low Interest Rate Program, notwithstanding Section 12-146 of the General Statutes, (i) the delinquent portion of the principal of any taxes on real property, personal property or motor vehicles, or municipal water, sewer and electric charges or assessments or part thereof shall be subject to interest at the rate of three (3) per cent per annum for ninety days from the time when it became due and payable until the same is paid, for any such tax, rate, charge, or assessment due and payable from March 10 through and including July 1, 2020, unless such delinquent portion is subject to interest and penalties at less than three (3) per cent per annum. Following the ninety days, the portion that remains delinquent shall be subject to interest and penalties as previously established; and (ii) any portion of the principal of any taxes on real property, personal property or motor vehicles, or municipal water, sewer and electric rates, charges or assessments or part thereof that had been delinquent on or prior to March 10, shall be subject to interest at the rate of three (3) per cent per annum for ninety days from this Order, unless such delinquent portion is subject to interest and penalties at less than three (3) per cent per annum. Following the ninety (90) days, the portion that remains delinquent shall be subject to interest and penalties as previously established.

c. **Eligibility of Landlords.** In order for a landlord, or any taxpayer that rents or leases to any commercial, residential, or institutional tenant or lessee, to be eligible for the Deferment Program, said landlord must provide documentation to the municipality that the parcel has or will suffer a significant income decline or that commensurate forbearance was offered to their tenants or lessees. Any taxpayer that rents or leases to any commercial, residential, or institutional tenant or lessee shall only be eligible for the Low Interest Rate Program if said landlord offers commensurate forbearance to tenants or lessees, upon their request.

d. **Escrow Payments.** Financial institutions and mortgage servicers that hold property tax payments in escrow on behalf of a borrower shall continue to remit property taxes to the municipality, so long as the borrower remains current on their mortgage or is in a forbearance or deferment program, irrespective of the borrower's eligibility for or participation in the Deferment Program or the Low Interest Rate Program.

e. **Liens Remain Valid.** Nothing in this order affects any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes relating to continuing, recording and releasing property tax liens and the precedence and enforcement of taxes, rates, charges and assessments shall remain applicable to any deferred tax, rate, charge or assessment or installment or portion thereof.

7. **Allowance of Suspension of In-Person Voting Requirements for Critical and Time Sensitive Municipal Fiscal Deadlines.** Notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, including Title 7, or any special act, municipal charter, ordinance or resolution that conflicts with this order, the legislative body of a municipality, or in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting other than a representative town meeting, the board of selectmen, and the budget-making authority of said municipality if different from the legislative body or board of selectmen, by majority vote of each such body, as applicable, may authorize (i) any supplemental, additional or special appropriations under Section 7-
8. **Suspension of Reapplication Filing Requirement for the Homeowners’ Elderly/Disabled Circuit Breaker Tax Relief Program and for the Homeowners’ Elderly/Disabled Freeze Tax Relief Program.** The biennial filing requirements under Sections 12-170aa(e) and (f) and Sections 12-129b and 12-129c of the Connecticut General Statutes for any taxpayers who were granted the benefit for the Grand List year 2017 and who is required to recertify for the Grand List year 2019, are suspended and such taxpayers shall automatically maintain their benefits for the next biennial cycle ending in Grand List year 2021.

9. **Substitution of Full Inspection Requirements Pertaining to October 1, 2020 Grand List Revaluations.** The requirement set forth under Section 12-62 of the Connecticut General Statutes pertaining to October 1, 2020 Grand List revaluations that require a full interior inspection of property, for which such interior inspection that has not yet been completed, is suspended and replaced with the alternative requirement to send a questionnaire to the owner as outlined in Section 12-62(b)(4).


11. **Suspension of Non-Judicial Tax Sales.** Notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, including but not limited to Section 12-157 or Section 7-258, or any special act, municipal charter or ordinance that conflicts with this order, (1) no municipality nor water pollution control authority may conduct any
sale pursuant to General Statutes Section 12-157 or Section 7-258, until thirty days after the end of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, including any period of renewal or extension of such emergency. Any sale for which notice had been filed prior to March 10, 2020 shall be adjourned by operation of law to a date to be determined by the tax collector. Such adjourned date shall be no earlier than thirty days after the end of the public health and civil preparedness emergency; and (2) For any sales held under Section 12-157 or Section 7-258 that were conducted prior to March 10, 2020, any six-month redemption period in General Statutes Section 12-157 shall be extended for the number of calendar days the public health and civil preparedness emergency remains in effect. The time period from March 10, 2020 to the end of the emergency shall be considered a “holding period.” Redemption interest during said holding period shall be charged at a monthly rate equivalent to three per cent per annum.

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 1st day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 1st day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7T

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - SAFE LODGING, LIQUOR DELIVERY, ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, OTHER MEASURES

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued seventeen (17) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 the 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, it is imperative to take aggressive mitigation measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 within our State and region and one such measure, as reflected in my prior Executive Order Nos. 7H and 7J, restricting the operations of non-essential businesses, and the Domestic Travel Advisory recently issued by the Centers for Disease Control, is to ensure that people stay home and avoid unnecessary travel or temporary lodging for vacation or leisure purposes; and

WHEREAS, to encourage social distancing and protect public health and safety, my Executive Order Nos. 7D and 7G, closed bars and restaurants to all on-premise service of food and beverages; and

WHEREAS, home delivery of products by additional liquor permittees can reduce the need for customers to leave their homes and thereby increase the effectiveness of efforts to limit transmission of COVID-19, while allowing safe conduct of certain economic activity; and

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Recovery Bridge Loan Program is meant to provide timely financial assistance to small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic through a streamlined and easily understandable application process that can be submitted with minimal delay; and

WHEREAS, the existing requirement for a notarized affidavit to certify compliance with certain nondiscrimination provisions of state law may introduce unnecessary delay to the application process and increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19 if an applicant is unable to complete the certification through remote notarization; and

WHEREAS, ongoing child care operations are necessary to support the essential workforce, and child care providers must be stabilized through the duration of the emergency to ensure the maintenance of an adequate child care infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Social Services seeks to increase rates paid to various providers, including nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities for the intellectually disabled and residential care homes, over the current rate in effect, by 10% in recognition of the extraordinary costs related to the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, permitting such facilities and homes to obtain a rate rehearing and contest the increased rate would create a significant administrative burden on the Department of Social Services during a time where prioritization of time and resources is critical to protecting public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, in order to reduce administrative burdens and protect the state from increased costs beyond those necessary to pay the temporary rate increase, it is necessary to suspend providers’ rights to appeal the overall magnitude and methodology temporary rate increases that are paid in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, certain documents require the in-person services of a Notary Public or Commissioner of the Superior Court and such interactions should be avoided to the maximum extent possible in order to promote social distancing and the mitigation of the spread of the COVID-19; and
WHEREAS, attendance at public proceedings is likely to increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the Chief Court Administrator on behalf of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Judicial Branch, I have determined that there exists a compelling state interest that courts conduct only essential business in order to minimize the spread of COVID-19;

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. **Provision of Non-Essential Lodging Prohibited.** Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes or of any regulation, rule, policy, procedure, charter, or ordinance, the following restrictions shall apply to all hotels, motels, inns, bed and breakfasts, and short-term residential rentals including those arranged through on-line hosting platforms such as Airbnb or VRBO (collectively, as defined below, “lodgings”). Pursuant to my authority under Section 28-9 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and in accordance with the terms of Executive Order No. 7H, and notwithstanding the provisions of Section 28-8(a), this order shall supersede and preempt any local order, rule, or emergency order.

   a. **Lodging Definition.** For the purposes of this order, “lodging” shall mean the provision of overnight accommodations by commercial transaction in any of the following categories:

      i. Bed and breakfast establishments
      ii. Bed and breakfast homes
      iii. Hotels
      iv. Motels
      v. Lodging houses rented for a period of 31 days or fewer
      vi. Professionally managed units rented for a period of 31 days or fewer
      vii. Short-term rentals (including Airbnb, VRBO and similar rental properties) rented for a period of 31 days or fewer
      viii. Resorts
      ix. Inns
      x. Timeshares

   b. **Permissible Lodging.** The provision of lodging shall be permitted only when offered and employed for the following uses:

      i. Housing and accommodation for health care workers, first responders, and other workers who work for an Essential Business pursuant to Executive Order No. 7H and implementing guidance issued by the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).
      
      ii. To the extent not already included in (a), housing and accommodation for out-of-state workers engaged in transportation of materials, logistics, and construction associated with the delivery of health-related services, such as the development of COVID-19 alternative care sites, testing facilities, or research.
      
      iii. Housing and accommodation for members of vulnerable populations, including but not limited to emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness and victims of domestic violence, and persons returning from incarceration.
iv. Housing and accommodation for Connecticut residents (i) who are self-isolating or are subject to a quarantine order; and (ii) families or roommates of such individuals who are self-isolating or are subject to a quarantine order; but (iii) in each case, for no longer than the period required to complete the necessary period of self-isolation or quarantine.

v. Housing and accommodation for individuals receiving long-term, specialized medical care from a physician licensed or located in Connecticut and for accompanying family members.

vi. Housing, accommodation, and shelter when required by extenuating circumstances such as fire or casualty to ensure the care and safety of Connecticut residents and to accommodate other persons unable to return to their own homes due to flight cancellations, border closures, or other direct and material constraints on travel.

vii. Housing and accommodation to the extent necessary for workers engaged in providing or servicing or maintaining lodging for any of the purposes described above.

c. Other Purposes and Uses for Lodging Prohibited During State of Emergency. Lodging offered, operated, or employed for purposes other than those listed in subsection (b) above shall not be permitted. Accordingly, the provision and occupancy of lodging for leisure, vacation, and other purposes may not continue. Operators of lodging may, however, continue to provide other, lodging-related services through remote means that do not require workers, customers, or the public to enter or appear at any brick-and-mortar lodging premises.

d. Existing Lodging Guests. Persons occupying lodging as of April 2, 2020 may be permitted to remain in their current lodgings through the end of their originally scheduled stay. Lodging may not be extended except for one of the purposes listed in subsection (b) above or if the lodging in question is permissible under this order because it is for a period that exceeds 31 days.

e. Future Booked Lodging. For the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless earlier modified or terminated by me:
   i. persons with future reservations or bookings or agreements to occupy lodgings may not exercise those agreements and may not occupy those lodgings; and
   ii. operators of lodgings may not provide lodging to persons with future reservations or bookings or agreements to occupy lodgings, unless in each case the lodgings are provided and occupied for one of the purposes listed in section 1 above or if the lodging in question is permissible under this order because it is for a period that exceeds 31 days.
   iii. operators of lodgings shall make reasonable efforts to refund any deposits or other payments to persons who cannot exercise bookings or agreements as a result of this order.

2. Further Clarification of Limits on Restaurants, Bars and Private Clubs. Effective immediately, Executive Order No. 7G, which addressed sales of alcoholic beverages by certain licensees, is modified to additionally permit holders of the following alcoholic liquor permits to deliver directly to consumers any sealed alcoholic liquor under the same conditions as Executive Order No. 7G permitted for pick-up and off-premise consumption sales: Restaurant, Café, Tavern, Manufacturer Permit, Manufacturer Permit for Beer, Manufacturer Permit for Farm Winery,
Manufacturer Permit for Farm Brewery, Manufacturer Permit for a Brew Pub, Manufacturer Permit for Beer and Brew Pub, Manufacturer Permit for a Farm Distillery. In addition, the holder of a Manufacturer Permit for Cider and a Manufacturer Permit for Apple Brandy and Eau-de-vie may be open for the sale of pick-up or delivery of alcoholic liquors as allowed under their permit types and consistent with the requirements set forth in Executive Order No. 7G for off-premise consumption sales by other manufacturers. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders and guidance that she deems necessary to implement this order.

3. **Suspension of Notarization Requirement Related to Connecticut Recovery Bridge Loan Program.** Section 4a-60(c)(2)(C) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to authorize the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to accept, in place of a notarized affidavit certifying compliance with nondiscrimination laws, a Nondiscrimination Certification in a form prescribed by the Commissioner and signed under penalty of false statement, for the sole purpose of applications to the Connecticut Recovery Bridge Loan program for small businesses. Such modification shall apply only to the Connecticut Recovery Bridge Loan program.

4. **Flexibility to Maintain Adequate Child Care Infrastructure.** The provisions of General Statutes Sections 10-16n through 10-16u, 10-266p, 10-266q, 10-262u, 10-505, 10-506, 10-509, 17b-749, 17b-749a, 17b-749c, 17b-749i, and 17b-749j; and Sections 17b-749-01 through 17b-749-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding child care funding, are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Early Childhood to temporarily waive any requirements contained therein as she deems necessary to maintain a sufficient capacity of child care services or stabilize child care providers during this public health and civil preparedness emergency. The Commissioner may issue any order that she deems necessary to implement this order.

5. **Suspension of Rehearing Rights for Temporary Rate Increases for Certain Healthcare Providers.** Section 17b-238(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, to the extent that it authorizes specified institutions or agencies to request a rehearing on all items of aggrievement, is modified to suspend the right to rehearing only regarding the overall magnitude and methodology of temporary rate increases paid to facilities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In all other respects, Section 17b-238(b) shall remain in full force and effect.

6. **Alternative to Affidavits Related to Orders of Protection and Relief.** The requirement in Sections 46b-15 and 46b-16a of the Connecticut General Statutes that an application for an order of protection and relief be accompanied by an affidavit made under oath that includes a statement of the specific facts that form the basis for relief is hereby modified to allow such statement of facts to be made under penalty of false statement pursuant to Section 53a-157b of the Connecticut General Statutes, in lieu of being made under oath, at the option of the applicant. In addition, any other provision of the Connecticut General Statutes that requires an application, affidavit or any other document or paper related to an order of protection and relief be made under oath are hereby modified to allow such application, affidavit, document or paper to be filed under the penalty of false statement pursuant to Section 53a-157b of the Connecticut General Statutes, in lieu of being made under oath, at the option of the applicant.

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 2nd day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 2nd day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7U

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19
PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - PROTECTIONS FROM CIVIL LIABILITY FOR
HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND BILLING PROTECTIONS FOR PATIENTS

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued twenty-one (21) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 the 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, Section 38a-477aa of the Connecticut General Statutes addresses health care provider reimbursements for emergency services and surprise bills; and

WHEREAS, Sections 19a-508c(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes addresses hospital reimbursements for facility fees; and

WHEREAS, Section 19a-673 of the Connecticut General Statutes addresses maximum hospital charge amounts for uninsured patients; and
WHEREAS, in order to respond adequately to the public health emergency posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been necessary to supplement Connecticut’s health care workforce and the capacity of health care facilities to deliver life-saving care by requesting the assistances of health care professionals who have not previously maintained liability coverage; facilitating the deployment of volunteer and out-of-state healthcare professionals; and calling upon healthcare professionals to perform acts that they would not perform in the ordinary course of business; and

WHEREAS, in order to encourage maximum participation in efforts to expeditiously expand Connecticut’s health care workforce and facilities capacity, there exists a compelling state interest in affording such professionals and facilities protection against liability for good faith actions taken in the course of their significant efforts to assist in the state’s response to the current public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

WHEREAS, no Connecticut resident should have to choose between health and their financial security; and

WHEREAS, health insurance carriers anticipate future health expenditures in their plan design, including premium and cost-sharing allocations, but the current public health emergency will result in significant unexpected health care costs to consumers and health carriers; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to mitigate the adverse impact on consumers’ financial security that may result from treatment for COVID-19, as well as to limit the likely premium increases facing consumers in 2021 as a result of the COVID-19 response;

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. **Protection from Civil Liability for Actions or Omissions in Support of the State’s COVID-19 Response.** Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, or any associated regulations, rules, policies, or procedures, any health care professional or health care facility shall be immune from suit for civil liability for any injury or death alleged to have been sustained because of the individual’s or health care facility’s acts or omissions undertaken in good faith while providing health care services in support of the State’s COVID-19 response, including but not limited to acts or omissions undertaken because of a lack of resources, attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic, that renders the health care professional or health care facility unable to provide the level or manner of care that otherwise would have been required in the absence of the COVID-19 pandemic and which resulted in the damages at issue, provided that nothing in this order shall remove or limit any immunity conferred by any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes or other law. Such immunity shall not extend to acts or omissions that constitute a crime, fraud, malice, gross negligence, willful misconduct, or would otherwise constitute a false claim or prohibited act pursuant to Section 4-275 et seq. of the Connecticut General Statutes or 31 U.S.C. §§3729 et seq. The term “health care professional” means an individual who is licensed, registered, permitted, or certified in any state in the United States to provide health care services and any retired professional, professional with an inactive license, or volunteer approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health or her designee. The term “health care facility” means a licensed or state approved hospital, clinic, nursing home, field hospital or other facility designated by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health for temporary use for the purposes of providing essential services in support of the State’s COVID-19 response. The immunity conferred by this order applies to acts or omissions subject to this order occurring at any time during the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared on March 10, 2020, including any period of extension or renewal, including acts or
omissions occurring prior to the issuance of this order attributable to the COVID-19 response effort.

2. Financial Protections for the Uninsured and People Covered by Insurance Who Receive Out-of-Network Health Care Services During the Public Health Emergency. Effective immediately and for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared on March 10, 2020, including any period of extension or renewal:

a. Section 38a-477aa(b)(3)(A) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide: “If emergency services were rendered to an insured by an out-of-network health care provider, such health care provider may bill the health carrier directly and the health carrier shall reimburse such health care provider the amount the insured’s health care plan would pay for such services if rendered by an in-network health care provider as payment in full.”

b. Section 38a-477aa(b)(3)(B) of the Connecticut General Statutes is suspended.

c. Section 19a-673(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide: “No hospital that has provided health care services to an uninsured patient may collect from the uninsured patient more than the cost of providing services, except that, for uninsured patients receiving services for the treatment and management of COVID-19, no hospital may collect from the uninsured patient or such patient’s estate more than the Medicare rate for said services as payment in full.”

d. Section 19a-508c(l) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to additionally provide: “Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, no hospital, health system or hospital-based facility shall collect a facility fee for services received by a patient for the treatment and management of COVID-19 who is uninsured of more than the Medicare rate.”

e. No hospital shall bill any individual not otherwise covered by any public or private health plan for services received for treatment and management of COVID-19, unless and until clarified by further executive order regarding distribution of any federal funding that may be made available to cover such services.

f. Each hospital, health system or hospital-based facility shall maintain fiscal records to identify services provided to uninsured patients for treatment and management of COVID-19 and make such records available for claiming federal reimbursement, as applicable.

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 5th day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 5th day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020
WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued twenty-two (22) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 the 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, the critical need to limit the spread of COVID-19 requires the enforcement of distancing and other protective measures in all workplaces; and

WHEREAS, numerous medical professionals, after having completed the educational requirements for their profession, are permitted to temporarily practice their profession under the supervision of a licensed practitioner prior to being licensed; and

WHEREAS, such professionals' ability to temporarily practice their profession may expire prior to the end of the public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

WHEREAS, necessary public health protective measures enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic may prevent such professionals from completing their licensing requirements during the public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

WHEREAS, to maintain and expand the healthcare workforce capacity for COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts, it is necessary to allow such professionals to continue to work in such temporary, supervised status for the duration of the declared civil preparedness and public health emergency; 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 the 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, the critical need to limit the spread of COVID-19 requires the enforcement of distancing and other protective measures in all workplaces; and

WHEREAS, numerous medical professionals, after having completed the educational requirements for their profession, are permitted to temporarily practice their profession under the supervision of a licensed practitioner prior to being licensed; and

WHEREAS, such professionals' ability to temporarily practice their profession may expire prior to the end of the public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

WHEREAS, necessary public health protective measures enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic may prevent such professionals from completing their licensing requirements during the public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

WHEREAS, to maintain and expand the healthcare workforce capacity for COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts, it is necessary to allow such professionals to continue to work in such temporary, supervised status for the duration of the declared civil preparedness and public health emergency; and
WHEREAS, as a result of the dire economic effects of the necessary public health protective measures enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, an unprecedented number of Connecticut residents have filed for unemployment benefits; and

WHEREAS, to reduce burdens on contributing employers whose employees have had to file unemployment claims as a result of COVID-19, it is necessary to relieve those employers of the amount of benefit payments charged to an employer’s experience account; and

WHEREAS, there exists a compelling state interest in rapidly expanding the capacity of health care professionals and facilities to provide care during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, providing relief from liability for such health care professionals for good faith efforts to provide care during the COVID-19 pandemic will greatly increase the state’s ability to achieve such an expansion;

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. **Safe Workplaces in Essential Businesses.** Every workplace in the State of Connecticut shall take additional protective measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 between and among employees, customers, and other persons such as delivery drivers, maintenance people or others who may enter the workplace. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, shall issue legally binding statewide rules prescribing such additional protective measures no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 7, 2020. Such rules shall be mandatory throughout the state, for essential businesses and nonprofits and any other business or nonprofit permitted to operate, and shall supersede and preempt any current or future municipal order. Nothing in such rules or this order shall supersede Executive Order No. 7S, Section 1, or the “Safe Stores” rules promulgated thereunder.

2. **Temporary Permits for Certain Health Care Providers Extended and Fees Waived.** Sections 20-65k, 20-12b(b), 20-74d, 20-162o(c) and 20-195t of the Connecticut General Statutes are modified to waive any application fees for temporary permits and to extend the duration of the temporary permits for the health care professions governed thereunder (Athletic Trainer, Respiratory Care Practitioner, Physician Assistant, Occupational Therapist/Assistants, Master Social Worker), for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless earlier modified or terminated. The Commissioner may issue any implementing order she deems necessary to effectuate this order.

3. **Practice Before Licensure for Certain Health Care Profession Applicants and Graduates.** The provisions in Sections 20-70(b)(1), 20-70(b)(2), 20-74bb(f), and 20-101 of the Connecticut General Statutes that permit practice prior to licensure by applicants and graduates for the health care professions governed thereunder (Physical Therapist, Physical Therapy Assistant, Radiographer, Registered Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Nurse Anesthetist), are modified to permit such practice for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless earlier modified or terminated. The Commissioner of Public Health may issue any implementing orders she deems necessary to effectuate this order.

4. **Practice Before Licensure for Marital and Family Therapy Associates.** Section 20-195f of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide that, for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless earlier modified or terminated, no license shall be required to practice as a marital and
family therapy associate, as defined in Section 20-195a(4), for a person who has completed a graduate degree program specializing in marital and family therapy offered by a regionally accredited institution of higher education or a postgraduate clinical training program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education and offered by a regionally accredited institution of higher education. The Commissioner may issue any implementing orders she deems necessary to effectuate this order.

5. **Practice Before Licensure for Professional Counselor Associates.** Section 20-195bb(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to permit a person who has completed the requirements in Section 20-195dd(b) to practice as a professional counselor associate without obtaining a license for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless earlier modified or terminated. The Commissioner may issue any implementing orders she deems necessary to effectuate this order.

6. **Executive Order No. 7U, Section 1, Superseded - Protection from Civil Liability for Actions or Omissions in Support of the State's COVID-19 Response.** Section 1 of my prior Executive Order No. 7U concerning protection from civil liability for actions or omissions in support of the State’s COVID-19 response is hereby superseded and replaced in its entirety by the following:

Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other state law, including the common law, or any associated regulations, rules, policies, or procedures, any health care professional or health care facility shall be immune from suit for civil liability for any injury or death alleged to have been sustained because of the individual's or health care facility's acts or omissions undertaken in good faith while providing health care services in support of the State's COVID-19 response, including but not limited to acts or omissions undertaken because of a lack of resources, attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic, that renders the health care professional or health care facility unable to provide the level or manner of care that otherwise would have been required in the absence of the COVID-19 pandemic and which resulted in the damages at issue, provided that nothing in this order shall remove or limit any immunity conferred by any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes or other law. Such immunity shall not extend to acts or omissions that constitute a crime, fraud, malice, gross negligence, willful misconduct, or would otherwise constitute a false claim or prohibited act pursuant to Section 4-275 et seq. of the Connecticut General Statutes or 31 U.S.C. §§3729 et seq. The term "health care professional" means an individual who is licensed, registered, permitted, or certified in any state in the United States to provide health care services and any retired professional, professional with an inactive license, or volunteer approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health or her designee. The term "health care facility" means a licensed or state approved hospital, clinic, nursing home, field hospital or other facility designated by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health for temporary use for the purposes of providing essential services in support of the State’s COVID-19 response. The immunity conferred by this order applies to acts or omissions subject to this order occurring at any time during the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared on March 10, 2020, including any period of extension or renewal, including acts or omissions occurring prior to the issuance of this order attributable to the COVID-19 response effort.

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 7th day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7W

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - MUNICIPAL TAX RELIEF CLARIFICATIONS, UNEMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE RATINGS, ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR LIQUOR PERMITTEES

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued twenty-three (23) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 the 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, quasi-municipal entities, including special taxing districts and participants in the Connecticut Green Bank C-Pace program have sought relief on behalf of taxpayers affected by the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the dire economic effects of the necessary public health protective measures enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, an unprecedented number of Connecticut residents have filed for unemployment benefits; and

WHEREAS, to avoid imposing an undue burden on contributing employers whose employees have had to file unemployment claims as a result of the extraordinary effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is necessary to relieve those employers of charges to their experience accounts; and
WHEREAS, provisional permits must be approved by the Liquor Control Commissioner, which is not holding meetings during this state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 7D provided that any location licensed for on-premise consumption of alcoholic liquor “shall only serve food or non-alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption,” thereby preventing on-premise liquor permittees from enjoying the full benefit of their liquor permit; and

WHEREAS, certain statutory and regulatory provisions regarding the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages may make required distancing and other safety measures difficult or impossible while local and state government offices have limited accessibility, or may create undue hardship to businesses during the period when they are not selling alcoholic liquor for on-premise consumption;

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:

   a. Application to Quasi-Municipal Corporations. The provisions of Executive Order No. 7S, Section 6 regarding tax deferral and interest-rate reduction programs to offer support to eligible taxpayers, businesses, nonprofits and residents who have been economically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic shall apply to all taxes and water, sewer, or electric charges for which a municipality, as defined in section 7-148 of the general statutes, collects for all other quasi-municipal corporations, whether created by statute, ordinance, charter, or special act, including but not limited to any town, city or borough, whether consolidated or unconsolidated, any village, school, sewer, fire, lighting, special services or special taxing districts, beach or improvement association, any regional water or resource recovery authority or any other political subdivision of the state or of any municipality having the power to make appropriations or to levy assessments or taxes (“quasi-municipal corporations”). Every quasi-municipal corporation which collects its own taxes or water, sewer, or electric charges and is located wholly within a municipality shall offer the same program or programs that the municipality offers, must accept the status of the taxpayer as determined by the municipality, and shall not be subject to the notification requirement to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management under Executive Order No. 7S Section 6. Every quasi-municipal corporation which collects any taxes or water, sewer, or electric charges and is located in multiple municipalities shall make its own determination as to which program or programs it shall elect, which may be either uniform for the whole quasi-municipality or be the same as those chosen by the respective forum municipalities, and shall provide the notice to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management as required for municipalities under Executive Order No. 7S Section 6. The provisions of Executive Order No. 7S, Section 6 regarding tax deferral and interest-rate reduction programs to offer support to eligible taxpayers, businesses, nonprofits and residents who have been economically affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic shall apply to benefit assessments under Connecticut General Statute Section 16a-40g.
   b. Clarification of Time Periods. Because interest on past due taxes and water, sewer, or electric charges are calculated by the month, not by the
day, and principal is typically due on the first of the month, not the tenth. The ninety (90) day periods referred to in Executive Order No. 7S, Section 6 are amended to three (3) months, and the references to due dates and delinquency dates on or prior to March 10 are amended to April 1.

2. **No Increased Experience Rating Based on COVID-19 Unemployment Claims.** Section 31-225a(c)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to additionally provide, “(L) No base period contributing employer’s account shall be charged with respect to benefits paid to a claimant due to partial or total unemployment that the Commissioner of Labor or his designee determines are attributable to COVID-19, including but not limited to benefits paid to a claimant who, through no fault of his or her own, becomes either partially or fully unemployed during the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared on March 10, 2020, and any period of extension or renewal.” The Commissioner of Labor may issue any implementing orders that he deems necessary to effectuate this order.

3. **Coil Cleaning Requirements Modified.** Section 30-6-A23(b) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is modified so that premises that normally are permitted to sell beer or wine for on-premises consumption need not clean beer or wine pipe lines on a weekly basis while the premise is closed pursuant to Executive Order No. 7D, unless growlers for off-premise consumption are sold pursuant to Executive Orders No. 7G or 7T. Any premise not cleaning lines on a weekly basis shall not begin serving draught beer or wine after Executive Order No. 7D is lifted until a coil and line cleaning occurs and is recorded on the premise’s cleaning card.

4. **Delivery Signature Requirement Suspended.** Sections 30-16(e)(3), 30-18(b), 30-18a(b), 30-19f(c), 30-37q, and 30-93a of the Connecticut General Statutes are modified so that a consumer need not sign upon receipt of alcoholic beverages for delivery or curbside pick-up, provided that the age of the consumer receiving the alcoholic beverages is verified to be age twenty-one or older and the consumer is not intoxicated. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders or guidance that she deems necessary to effectuate the purposes of this order.

5. **Return of Permit Not Necessary for Temporary Closures Pursuant to Executive Order No. 7D.** Section 30-6-A6 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is modified to waive the requirement that permittees must notify the Department of Consumer Protection of business closures for sixty days or less if said closure is a result of Executive Order No. 7D. Section 30-6-A6 is further modified to waive the requirement that a permittee return the permit to the Department of Consumer Protection if the business is closed for more than 60 days if said closure is a result of Executive Order No. 7D so long as the business intends to reopen following the termination of Executive Order No. 7D.

6. **Ninety-day Provisional Permits.** Section 30-35b of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to authorize the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or her designee, to review and approve the issuance of provisional permits, the renewal of such permits and any follow-up review, which would otherwise have been reviewed and approved by the Liquor Control Commission. Any such decisions shall be made public by posting them on the Commission’s web site and including them on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Liquor Control Commission. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders and guidance that she deems necessary to implement this order.

7. **Renewal Date of On-Premise Liquor Permits to Be Extended.** Section 30-14(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 30-6-A3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are modified to provide that all on-premise liquor
permits in active status when Executive Order No. 7D went into effect on March 16, 2020 shall be extended by four months, including any business whose permit expired between March 16 and the effective date of this Order. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders and guidance that she deems necessary to implement this order.

8. **Permit Need Not Be Recorded with Town Clerk.** Section 30-53 of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 30-6-A7 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are suspended in all towns where the town clerk’s office is closed or so reduced in hours that it makes it unreasonable to have the permit recorded. Permits shall be recorded as soon as the relevant town clerk’s office is reopened and staffed for routine business.

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 9th day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 9th day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7X

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - RENTER PROTECTIONS, EXTENDED CLASS CANCELLATION AND OTHER SAFETY MEASURES, EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION, FOOD TRUCKS FOR TRUCKERS

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued twenty-four (24) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 the 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, many residents of Connecticut are experiencing or will experience a significant loss of income as a result of business closures, reduced work hours or wages, or layoffs related to COVID-19, all of which affect their ability to pay their rent, and thus leave them vulnerable to eviction and increased amounts owed in the form of penalties, interest, and late fees, all of which cause potential risks to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, significant federal financial assistance will become, but is not yet available to Connecticut residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act provides a temporary moratorium on eviction filings, a temporary foreclosure moratorium, and up to 360 days of loan payment forbearance for properties with a federally backed mortgage loan; and

WHEREAS, my Executive Order No. 7S made available deferment of certain municipal tax payments or reduced interest on unpaid amounts of such taxes, provided that landlords offer commensurate forbearance to their tenants; and

WHEREAS, minimizing evictions during this public health period is critical to controlling and reducing the spread of COVID-19 by allowing all residents to stay home or at their place of residence; and

WHEREAS, measures to limit in-person interaction, including the cancellation of school classes in Executive Order Nos. 7C and 7L, will be necessary for at least several weeks past April 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, because in-person interactions in social, recreational, athletic, business and entertainment settings also continue to pose a risk of transmission of COVID-19, measures to limit such interactions must also be extended for several weeks; and

WHEREAS, candidates for Connecticut initial educator certificates currently enrolled in educator preparation programs must take state competency examinations to become certified but, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, national testing companies have closed, eliminating access to these educator licensure assessments; and

WHEREAS, commercial truckers are making a critical contribution to transporting food and essential supplies during this public health and civil preparedness emergency, and their access to prepared meals has been reduced along portions of Connecticut’s interstate; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2020, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued Notice FHWA 05-20, suspending enforcement of its restrictions on sales within highway rights of way to allow the operation of commercial food trucks during the period of the Presidentially-declared COVID-19 emergency; and

WHEREAS, there is a compelling state interest to permit commercial food trucks meeting certain requirements approved by the Department of Transportation to operate in the State’s highway right of way and to suspend certain restrictions that would otherwise prohibit such operations;
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. **Protections for Residential Renters Impacted by COVID-19.** Effective immediately and for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared on March 10, 2020 including any period of extension or renewal:
   
   a. **No Notice to Quit or Service of Summary Process Before July 1.** Section 47a-23 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to additionally provide, “(f) No landlord of a dwelling unit, and no such landlord’s legal representative, attorney-at-law, or attorney-in-fact, shall, before July 1, 2020, deliver or cause to be delivered a notice to quit or serve or return a summary process action, for any reason set forth in this chapter or in sections 21-80 et seq. of the Connecticut General Statutes, except for serious nuisance as defined in section 47a-15 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

   b. **Automatic 60-Day Grace Period for April Rent.** Section 47a-15a of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to additionally provide, “Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, if rent due in April 2020 is unpaid when due and paid within sixty days thereafter, the tenant of a dwelling unit shall not be in default or violation of the rental agreement and the landlord of such unit may not deliver or cause to be delivered a notice to quit or serve or file a summary process action for nonpayment of rent; impose late fees, interest, or penalties; report such rent as late to any credit bureau or tenant screening service; or otherwise retaliate against the tenant. As used in this section, ‘tenant’ includes a resident of a mobile manufactured home park, as defined in section 21-64, including a resident who owns his own home, and ‘landlord’ includes a ‘licensee’ and an ‘owner’ of a mobile manufactured home park, as defined in section 21-64.”

   c. **60-Day Grace Period for May Rent, Upon Request.** Section 47a-15a of the Connecticut General Statutes is further modified to additionally provide, “Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, if rent due in May 2020 is unpaid when due and paid within sixty days thereafter by a tenant who, on or before the 9th day after such rent is due, notifies the landlord or landlord’s representative in writing, including but not limited to in written electronic communication, that the tenant needs to delay all or some payment of rent because he or she has become fully or partially unemployed or otherwise sustained a significant loss in revenue or increase in expenses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the tenant of a dwelling unit shall not be in default or violation of the rental agreement and the landlord of such unit may not deliver or cause to be delivered a notice to quit or serve or file a summary process action for nonpayment of such rent; impose late fees, interest, or penalties; report such rent as late to any credit bureau or tenant screening service; or otherwise retaliate against the tenant.”

   d. **Application of Additional Security Deposit to Rent, Upon Request.** Section 47a-21 is modified to additionally provide, “(m) Upon the written request of a tenant of a dwelling unit who is not enrolled in the security deposit guarantee program established by the Commissioner of Housing pursuant to Section 8-339 of the Connecticut General Statutes, who has paid a security deposit in an amount that exceeds one month’s rent, and who provides written notice, including but not limited to in written electronic

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communication, that he or she has become fully or partially unemployed or otherwise sustained a significant loss in revenue or increase in expenses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, a landlord of such unit shall withdraw an amount of said deposit equal to the amount in excess of one month’s rent from an escrow account and apply it toward the rent due in April, May, or June 2020. Notwithstanding subsection (h) of this section, an escrow agent may withdraw funds from an escrow account to comply with such a request. The amount withdrawn by the escrow agent and applied toward the rent due shall no longer be considered an amount of the security deposit for any purpose, including but not limited to the calculation of interest, assignment to successor, and the payment of security deposit and interest at the termination of a tenancy. Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, no landlord who has complied with such a request may demand the security deposit be restored to an amount that exceeds one month’s rent earlier than the later of the end of the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared on March 10, 2020, including any period of extension or renewal of such emergency, or the date the rental agreement is extended or renewed.

Except as expressly provided herein, nothing in this order shall relieve a tenant of liability for unpaid rent or of the obligation to comply with other terms of a rental agreement or statutory obligations pursuant to Connecticut law. Except as expressly provided herein, nothing in this order shall relieve a landlord of the obligation to comply with a rental agreement or statutory obligations pursuant to Connecticut law.

2. **Continued Cancellation of School Classes Through May 20, 2020.** To promote and secure the safety and protection of children in schools related to the risks of COVID-19, cancellation of public-school classes as ordered in Section 1 of Executive Order No. 7C, and as modified by Section 1 of my Executive Order No. 7L, is continued through May 20, 2020, unless earlier extended, modified, or terminated by me. Private schools and other non-public schools are encouraged to follow the same schedule. Connecticut Unified School District 1, established pursuant to Section 18-99a of the Connecticut General Statutes, Unified School District 2, established pursuant to Section 17a-37, and Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services inpatient facilities providing school classes or programs are exempt from this section, but shall take such measures as are necessary to protect the health and safety of students and staff.

3. **Extension of Closures, Distancing, and Safety Measures Through May 20, 2020.** The orders to prevent transmission of COVID-19 through appropriate distancing and other safety measures listed below are extended through May 20, 2020:

   a. Executive Order No. 7D, Section 2, imposing limits on restaurant, bar, and private club operations.
   b. Executive Order No. 7D, Section 3, closing on-site operations at off-track betting facilities.
   c. Executive Order No. 7D, Section 4, closing operations at gyms, sports, fitness, and recreation facilities and movie theaters.
   d. Executive Order No. 7F, Section 1, closing large shopping malls.
   e. Executive Order No. 7F, Section 2, closing places of public amusement.
   f. Executive Order No. 7H, Section 1, imposing safety and distancing measures for workplaces and non-essential businesses.
   g. Executive Order No. 7N, Section 1, prohibiting social and recreational gatherings of more than five (5) people.
   h. Executive Order No. 7N, Section 3, restricting retail operations.
4. **Modification or Deferral of Educator Certification Testing.** Section 10-145f of the Connecticut General Statutes and any associated regulations, rules, and policies are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Education to modify or temporarily defer any requirements regarding certification testing contained therein as he deems necessary to address the impact of COVID-19 risks, and to issue any implementing order that he deems necessary.

5. **Permission to Operate Food Trucks at Rest Areas.** Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes or any regulation, local rule or other provision of law, the Commissioner of Transportation is authorized to allow commercial food trucks to operate in the state’s highway right of way until the termination of the FHWA Notice FHWA 05-20, dated 4/3/2020, or the termination of the public health and civil preparedness emergency in Connecticut, whichever is earlier. The Commissioner may issue any implementing orders he deems necessary to effectuate the purposes of this order.

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 10th day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 10th day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7Y

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - NURSING HOME SURGE PLAN

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued twenty-five (25) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the 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, there exists a critical need to house and care for residents of long-term care facilities who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 while reducing the risk of infection to residents who have not been exposed to or diagnosed with COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health ("DPH") is implementing a medical surge plan (the "Plan") to expand capacity and slow the spread of COVID-19 in Connecticut long-term care facilities; and

WHEREAS, in order to expand capacity and make more facilities available for such Plan, it is necessary to develop existing nursing homes dedicated to the care of residents diagnosed with COVID-19 (COVID Recovery Facilities), alternate care nursing homes dedicated to the care of residents who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 (Alternate COVID Recovery Facilities) and existing facilities which can dedicate specific units/areas within the nursing home that are separate from the rest of the facility, dedicated to the care of residents who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 (Existing Facilities); and

WHEREAS, any such COVID Recovery Facilities and Alternate COVID Recovery Facilities have been inspected and comply with all state and federal life safety code laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, there exists a need to provide appropriate care for people receiving support and services from the Department of Developmental Services and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in such COVID Recovery Facilities and Alternate COVID Recovery Facilities;

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. Requirement to Reserve Bed Suspended. Section 19a-537 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide that a nursing home shall not reserve the bed of a hospitalized self-pay resident or a hospitalized resident who is a recipient of medical assistance upon notification by the hospital that such resident will be placed post-hospitalization into a COVID Recovery Facility or an Alternate COVID Recovery Facility due to a COVID-19 infection. Any such nursing home shall only be required to permit the return of such resident, when a bed is available, after it has been determined by two separate laboratory tests at least 24 hours or more apart, that such resident has tested negative for COVID-19.

2. Designation of COVID Recovery Facilities. Section 19a-535(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to authorize Sharon SNF CT, LLC, d/b/a Sharon Health Care Center, in Sharon, Connecticut and Northbridge Healthcare Center, Inc. of Bridgeport, CT, d/b/a Northbridge Healthcare Center, in Bridgeport, Connecticut, or such other nursing facility designated by the Commissioner of Public Health as a COVID Recovery Facility to transfer residents not previously diagnosed with COVID-19 and who have been determined by a laboratory test to be COVID-19 negative, to another
nursing home facility where, upon arrival, such residents shall be quarantined for a period of 14 days.

3. **COVID-19 Transfer Defined and Included in Definition of Emergency.** For purposes of this order, the foregoing transfers are defined as COVID-19 Transfers. The definition of emergency in Section 19a-535(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to include COVID-19 Transfers. For the COVID-19 Transfers, the requirement in Section 19a-535(c) that a written notice of transfer be provided in advance of the transfer shall not apply. This notice must be provided as soon as practicable after transfer.

4. **Notice of Discharge and Discharge Plan Not Required for COVID-19 Recovered Discharges.** Section 19a-535 of the Connecticut General Statutes is further modified to not require a COVID Recovery Facility or an Alternate COVID Recovery Facility to provide a notice of discharge or discharge plan to a resident who is no longer infected with COVID-19 (COVID-19 Recovered) and who is being discharged to a non-institutional setting (hereinafter COVID-19 Recovered Discharge). The COVID Recovery Facility or Alternate COVID Recovery Facility shall comply with the discharge planning requirements in Section 19a-504c-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies for all COVID-19 Recovered Discharges. In addition, the stay provisions in subsection (h) of Section 19a-535 shall not apply to a COVID-19 Recovered Discharge. Except as provided herein, no other provision of Section 19a-535 is modified by this order.

5. **No Hearing or Court Order Required for Transfer to Recovery Facility of Patients Under Conservatorship.** Section 45a-656b of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide that (i) the transfer of a hospital patient to a COVID Recovery Facility or an Alternate COVID Recovery Facility, (ii) a COVID-19 transfer or (iii) a COVID-19 Recovered Discharge where such person is under conservatorship shall not require a hearing or an order by the Probate Court.

6. **Transfer Deadline Extensions Apply to COVID-19 Transfer Patients.** Section 19a-533(h) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as modified by Executive Order No. 7L, shall apply to an applicant who was subject to a COVID-19 transfer or was transferred to a COVID Recovery Facility and has been determined by testing to be COVID-19 negative.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 11th day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 11th day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7Z
WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued twenty-six (26) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the 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, it is critical to the protection of the public health and safety that state agencies be able to procure essential goods in high demand and in low supply as expeditiously as possible; and

WHEREAS, many potential vendors and donors of goods and services essential to the state’s COVID-19 response effort are outside the United States or have never done business with the state, and have little or no familiarity with Connecticut statutory requirements for state contracting; and

WHEREAS, familiarizing potential vendors and contractors with such requirements, negotiating, drafting, and, in some cases, translating contracts to contain such requirements, is not possible in the time frame that such essential goods and services are required to effectively and expeditiously respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in-person attendance at public meetings, including those of boards of assessment appeals, may increase the transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 7B provided procedures for conducting public meetings and providing public access to them remotely; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and the response to it have reduced the availability of licensed security officers throughout the state, such officers are needed by financial institutions and other businesses, and such officers may be available in nearby states;

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. **Modification of State Contracting Statutes to Facilitate the Emergency Procurement of Essential Goods.** In accordance with the provisions of Section 28-9(b)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes, for any contract entered into on or after March 10, 2020, the head of a state contracting agency may waive the provisions of the following statutes if he or she deems such waiver necessary to expedite the procurement of “essential goods,” defined as “all things which are movable at the time of contract, including, but not limited to supplies, materials, equipment, products or devices that are manufactured, used, designed, developed, modified, licensed, or procured to diagnose, mitigate, prevent, treat, cure or limit harm that COVID-19 pandemic may cause”:

   a. Sections 4-252 and 9-612(f)(2)(E) of the Connecticut General Statutes and Governor Malloy’s Executive Order 49, which require disclosure of certain gifts and campaign contributions by state contractors, prospective state contractors for state contracts over $50,000;

   b. Section 4-61dd(h) of the Connecticut General Statutes, which requires the inclusion of language regarding contractors’ civil liability for violations of the state’s whistleblower statute in state contracts;

   c. Section 4a-57 of the Connecticut General Statutes, which requires the competitive solicitation for all purchases and contracts for supplies, materials and equipment, including, pursuant to Section 4d-8, the purchasing, leasing and contracting for information system and telecommunication system facilities, equipment and services;

   d. Sections 4a-60 and 4a-60a of the Connecticut General Statutes, which requires the inclusion of certain anti-discrimination terms in State contracts and requires contractors to adopt anti-discrimination policies;

   e. Section 4e-29 and 4e-30 of the Connecticut General Statutes, which require state contractors to permit certain audit and inspection activities by the State at the contractors’ expense; and

   f. Section 4e-70(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, which requires state contractors to comply with certain confidentiality requirements.

2. **In-Person Attendance Requirement Suspended for Assessment Appeals.** Notwithstanding Section 12-113 of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other provision of law requiring in-person attendance by a property owner or such owner’s attorney or agent, a board of assessment appeals may hold such meetings and obtain necessary information remotely by conference call, videoconference, electronic communication, or other technology and may reduce the valuation or assessment of property on the grand list without the physical presence of the owner of such property or such owner’s attorney or agent, provided that such owner or such owner’s attorney or agent participates remotely, and the hearing is conducted in accordance with open meeting requirements, as amended by Executive Order No. 7B.

3. **Suspension of Requirements for Security Officer License.** Section 29-161q of the Connecticut General Statutes and any statute, regulation or requirement or part thereof relating to unarmed Security Officer licenses is hereby modified to authorize the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection to waive licensing requirements for the purpose of temporarily allowing security services or businesses to employ security officers who are not licensed in Connecticut but are licensed in another state. This suspension of requirements does not apply to security officers who are armed pursuant to Section 29-161z of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Commissioner of
Emergency Services and Public Protection may issue any orders he deems necessary to implement this order. Unless otherwise specified herein, this order shall take effect immediately and remain in effect for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless earlier modified, extended or terminated.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 14th day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 14th day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7AA

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - TEMPORARY ADDITIONAL NURSING HOME BEDS

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued twenty-six (26) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the 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, the Department of Public Health (“DPH”) is implementing a medical surge plan (“Plan”) to, in part, expand capacity and slow the spread of COVID-19 in Connecticut longterm care facilities, in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order No. 7Y, issued April 11, 2020; and
WHEREAS, additional nursing home beds are required to assist in the implementation of DPH’s Plan, and in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order No. 7Y, for the duration of the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

WHEREAS, Section 17b-354(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes prohibits the acceptance or approval of requests for additional nursing home beds except under certain conditions, and such prohibition will hinder the ability of DPH to implement its Plan, which is critical to providing adequate care for residents of longterm care facilities and limiting the spread of transmission of COVID-19;

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. Approval of Temporary Additional Nursing Home Beds for COVID-19 Recovery. Section 17b-354(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, to the extent that it places a moratorium on the approval of additional nursing home beds by the Commissioner of Social Services, is suspended effective April 13, 2020, but solely with respect to: (i) entities designated by the Department of Public Health (DPH) to serve as Alternate COVID Recovery Facilities, as said term is established and defined pursuant to Executive Order No. 7Y; and (ii) additional nursing home beds as may be required at an existing skilled nursing facility to receive COVID-19 transfers from entities designated by DPH to serve as COVID Recovery Facilities, as said terms are established and defined pursuant to Executive Order No. 7Y. The Department of Social Services shall temporarily certify these nursing home beds in response to COVID-19 and decertify these additional nursing home beds at the end of the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency. In all other respects, section 17b-354(a) remains in full force and effect.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 15th day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 15th day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7BB

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - USE OF FACEMASKS OR CLOTH FACE COVERINGS, RESCHEDULING OF PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY TO AUGUST 11
WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued twenty-eight (28) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the 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, public health experts have determined that it is possible to transmit COVID-19 even before a person shows symptoms and through aerosol transmission; and

WHEREAS, public health experts have determined that wearing a cloth face covering may prevent transmission by an infected person; and

WHEREAS, there exists a compelling interest, in order to limit the transmission of COVID-19, in requiring the use of appropriate personal protective equipment in public places when and where the risk of transmission is higher; and

WHEREAS, there exists a compelling interest in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among voters, poll workers, and residents, which risk would be heightened in the settings of indoor polling places and potential lines for voting, especially in polling places such as senior centers, schools, community centers, and other public facilities; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 7G, Section 1 rescheduled Connecticut’s presidential preference primary from April 28, 2020 to June 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is likely that on June 2, 2020, the currently scheduled date of Connecticut’s presidential preference primary, such heightened risk will remain; and

WHEREAS, on August 11, 2020 Connecticut is scheduled to conduct primary elections for other offices pursuant to Section 9-415 of the Connecticut General Statutes;

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. Cloth Face Coverings or Higher Level of Protection Required in Public Wherever Close Contact is Unavoidable. Effective at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2020, any person in a public place in Connecticut who is unable to or does not maintain a safe social distance of approximately six feet from every other person shall cover their mouth
and nose with a mask or cloth face covering when using the services of any taxi, car, livery, ride-sharing or similar service or means of mass public transit, or while within any semi-enclosed transit stop or waiting area. The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall issue updated versions to the Safe Workplace rules issued pursuant to Executive Order No. 7V, Section 1 and the Safe Stores rules issued pursuant to Executive Order No. 7S, Section 1, which updated versions shall set forth additional requirements for face coverings within those settings. Nothing in this order shall require the use of a mask or cloth face covering by anyone for whom doing so would be contrary to his or her health or safety because of a medical condition, a child in a child care setting, anyone under the age of 2 years, or an older child if the parent, guardian or person responsible for the child is unable to place the mask safely on the child’s face. If a person declines to wear a mask or face covering because of a medical condition as described above, such person shall not be required to produce medical documentation verifying the stated condition. This order shall supersede and preempt any current or future municipal order.

2. Further Postponement of Presidential Preference Primary to August 11. To protect the health and safety of voters, poll workers, and the most vulnerable members of our population, I hereby further modify Section 9-464 of the Connecticut General Statutes to provide that on August 11, 2020, each party shall conduct a primary in each town if the names of two or more candidates for President of the United States remain on such party’s ballot in accordance with the provisions of chapter 154 of the General Statutes.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 17th day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 17th day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7CC

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - MUNICIPAL FISCAL AUTHORITY, BENEFITS PROTECTION, ACCESS TO COURTS WITHOUT CERTAIN IN-PERSON ACTIONS

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued twenty-nine (29) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the 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, certain municipal charters, ordinances or resolutions require critical and time-sensitive town decisions necessary for the fiscal and public health and welfare of a municipality to be voted on in-person by referendum or town meeting, which increases the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 7S, Section 7, required municipal legislative bodies or boards of selectmen to authorize such municipalities’ budget-making authorities to approve certain financial transactions, expenditures, or decisions, without the normally required in-person vote of residents or taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, certain additional essential and time-critical actions by municipalities may be required in order to maintain continuity of contracts, preserve the rights of municipalities and taxpayers, or safeguard the public welfare before it may be deemed safe to conduct widespread in-person authorization votes by residents or taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 7S, Section 11, provided an extension of certain time frames for holders of certain property interests related to non-judicial tax sales, describing such time frames in calendar days rather than numbers of months, and such time frames should be calculated in whole months; and

WHEREAS, counting federal stimulus payments as income or resources in determining eligibility for state-funded benefits and services during the current public health and civil preparedness emergency could harm the health and welfare of state residents by causing them to lose vital state-funded services, including healthcare and residential home care services, and could cause economic harm to the state’s neediest residents by eliminating their basic assistance payments, which will make it more difficult for such residents to adhere to social distancing measures needed to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the Chief Court Administrator on behalf of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Judicial Branch, I have determined that there exists a compelling state interest that courts conduct only essential business in order to minimize the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in order to allow the efficient conduct of Court business and provide maximum access to the judicial system, the Judicial Branch has recommended procedures for conducting certain court business using alternatives to in-person presence; and
WHEREAS, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has concluded that, because of the COVID-19 public health emergency, patients who would ordinarily be able to choose to receive all care from in-network healthcare providers may no longer be able to receive such care only in-network; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has protected such patients by requiring that health care providers who receive a payment from the CARES Act Provider Relief Fund agree to charge patients for all care related to a possible or actual case of COVID-19 no more than what the patient would have otherwise been required to pay if the care had been provided by an in-network health care provider;

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. **Applicability of Executive Order 7S, Section 7 to Additional Critical and Time-Sensitive Municipal Fiscal Actions.** Executive Order No. 7S, Section 7, permitting a municipality’s legislative body and budget-making authority to authorize certain actions enumerated therein, by a majority vote of each such body, is amended to additionally include among the actions which such bodies may authorize by a majority vote of each such body: (i) the application for or acceptance of any grants, funding, or gifts; (ii) approval of collective bargaining agreements and legal settlements; (iii) the transfer of funds to or from capital or reserve accounts, (iv) the investment of funds pertaining to pensions, trusts, retirement programs or other post-employment benefit funds; or (v) any financial actions required by (a) a contract or agreement or (b) a court order or consent decree that require approval, provided that such legislative body (or board of selectmen, where applicable) and budget-making authority have each approved such action and have made specific findings that such action is necessary to permit the orderly operation of the municipality and that there is a need to act immediately during the public health and civil preparedness emergency in order to avoid endangering public health and welfare, prevent significant financial loss, or that action is otherwise necessary for the protection of persons and property within the municipality.

2. **Clarification of Time Periods Regarding Suspension and Modification of Non-Judicial Tax Sales Pursuant to Executive Order No. 7S, Section 11.** Because interest on redemptions pursuant to Section 12-157(f) of the Connecticut General Statutes is calculated by the month, not by the day, Executive Order No. 7S, Section 11, subsection (2) is amended to provide that for any sales held pursuant to Section 12-157 or Section 7-258 that were conducted prior to March 10, 2020, any six-month redemption period in General Statutes Section 12-157 which had not yet expired as of April 2, 2020 shall be extended by the number of whole months that is nearest to the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, including any period of renewal, of such public health and civil preparedness emergency.

3. **Exclusion of Federal Stimulus Payments in Evaluating Eligibility for State or Local Programs Financed in Whole or in Part Using State Funds.** Section 1-141 (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide that individual stimulus payments made pursuant to Section 2201 of Public Law 116-136 (“Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act” or “CARES Act”) shall not be counted as income or resources when determining eligibility for, or the amount of, benefits or services funded in whole or in part with state funds. Such exclusion shall apply to any such stimulus payment made or originally applied for the duration, including any period of renewal, of the public health and civil preparedness emergency.

4. **Alternative to Physical Presence in Court for Finding of Irretrievable Breakdown of Marriage.** Any requirement in Section 46b-51 of the Connecticut General Statutes
requiring the physical presence in court of a party to a dissolution or legal separation prior to a finding that a marriage has broken down irrevocably is modified to permit the Court to accept not-in-person testimony from such parties sufficient to make such finding. Such testimony may take the form of, but is not limited to, an affidavit made under oath stating that the marriage has broken down irrevocably. In cases where the parties have submitted an agreement as described in Section 46b-51(a)(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Court may also accept such not-in-person testimony from the parties as the basis for making any other jurisdictional and factual findings that the court deems necessary or appropriate in order to enter a judgment of dissolution of marriage, without necessity of the physical presence in court of either party. Such waiver shall not be permitted in any case where a restraining order, issued pursuant to Section 46b-15, or a protective order, issued pursuant to Section 46b-38c, between the parties is in effect or an application for such an order is pending before the Court.

5. **Alternative to In-Person Waiver of Right to File Motion or Petition for Educational Support.** Any requirement contained in Section 46b-56c (b) (1) that a parent must be present in court for the Court to make findings sufficient to accept the parent’s waiver of the right to file a motion or petition for educational support is modified to provide that such a waiver may be accepted upon submission of proof deemed sufficient by the Court that the parent fully understands the consequences of such waiver. Such modification shall not apply to any case where a restraining order, issued pursuant to Section 46b-15, or a protective order, issued pursuant to Section 46b-38c, between the parties is in effect or an application for such an order is pending before the Court.

6. **Alternative to Physical Appearance of Petitioner Regarding Decree of Dissolution After Entry of Decree of Legal Separation.** The requirement in Section 46b-65 (b) of the Connecticut General Statutes of the presence of the party seeking a decree dissolving a marriage at the time of the entry of such decree is modified to permit the Court to make such entry without requiring the presence of the party, except that in any case where a restraining order, issued pursuant to Section 46b-15, or a protective order, issued pursuant to Section 46b-38c, between the parties is in effect or an application for such an order is pending before the Court, the presence of the party shall be required.

7. **Alternative to In Court Canvass Prior to Entrance of Final Agreement.** The requirement in Section 46b-66 (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes that the Court shall inquire into the financial resources and actual needs of the spouses and their respective fitness to have physical custody of or rights of visitation with any minor child prior to entry of a final order of dissolution or approval of a final agreement is modified to permit the Court to satisfy the inquiry requirement by accepting the submission of affidavits made under oath containing statements by the parties in a form and manner prescribed by the Court, provided such statements shall address each element of the court’s inquiry as described in said section. Such modification shall not apply to any case where a restraining order, issued pursuant to Section 46b-15, or a protective order, issued pursuant to Section 46b-38c, between the parties is in effect or an application for such an order is pending before the Court.

8. **Alternative to Physical Presence When Findings on the Record Required.** Whenever applicable law requires the court to make a specific finding on the record in a proceeding specified in Chapter 815j, 815y or 816 of the Connecticut General Statutes, that requirement is satisfied if the Court’s written judgment, order or memorandum of decision includes such finding except in any case where a restraining order, issued pursuant to Section 46b-15, or a protective order, issued pursuant to Section 46b-38c, between the parties is in effect or an application for such an order is pending before the Court.
9. Revised Financial Protections for People Covered by Insurance Who Receive Out-of-Network Health Care Services During the Public Health Emergency. Sections 2(a) and 2(b) of Executive Order No. 7U are hereby repealed in their entirety. Such repeal shall be retroactive to the effective date of those respective Sections.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 21st day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 21st day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7DD

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - EXPANSION OF HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued thirty (30) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the 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, there is a significant need for the expansion of the healthcare workforce in Connecticut to respond adequately to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
WHEREAS, such expansion of the healthcare workforce would benefit from permitting additional out-of-state healthcare providers to provide telehealth services to Connecticut residents; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 7G increased availability of telehealth services pursuant to the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-123) by modifying and suspending several provisions of section 19a-906 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, since the issuance of Executive Order No. 7G, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, or CARES Act (Public Law 116-136), was enacted into law; and

WHEREAS, several of the provisions of the CARES Act further expand the use and coverage of telehealth services and supersede provisions of Executive Order No. 7G; and

WHEREAS, the required expansion of the healthcare workforce to respond to COVID-19 pandemic would be enhanced by suspension of certain administrative requirements and could thereby make more fully trained but unlicensed providers available more quickly; and

WHEREAS, to avoid delays in providing healthcare services, the Secretary of Health and Human Services has recommended the suspension of requirements for written agreements to meet supervision requirements; and

WHEREAS, the federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has suspended temporarily the physician supervision requirements for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists; and

WHEREAS, as a result of distancing and other protection measures enacted to limit the transmission of COVID-19, people with professional and occupational licensure through the Department of Public Health may be unable to safely satisfy their continuing education requirements for licensure in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, cancellation of school classes to reduce COVID-19 transmission and compliance with other protective measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic may delay face-to-face assessments for children who need them to assess eligibility for additional services or delay observations to determine eligibility of young children for Part B IDEA Services; and

WHEREAS, continuing remote early intervention services for such children beyond the age where they would normally lose eligibility will limit in-person contact related to such assessments and observations, and thereby reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19;

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. **Additions to Definition of Telehealth Provider.** Section 19a-906(a)(12) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to add any dentist licensed under Chapter 379, behavior analyst licensed under Chapter 382a, genetic counselor licensed under Chapter 383d, music therapist licensed under Chapter 383f, art therapist licensed under Chapter 383g, and veterinarian licensed under Chapter 384 to the definition of telehealth provider.

2. **Flexibility for Medicaid-Enrolled Providers and In-Network Providers for Commercial Fully Insured Health Insurance to Perform Telehealth Through Additional Methods.** Section 5 of Executive Order No. 7G issued on March 21, 2020, and the provisions of Section 19a-906 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any
associated regulations, rules and policies regarding the delivery of telehealth are modified or suspended as follows:

a. The definition of "telehealth" in Section 19a-906(a)(11) is modified to provide that telehealth providers that are Medicaid-enrolled providers providing covered telehealth services to established patients who are Medicaid recipients, or telehealth providers that are in-network providers for commercial fully-insured health insurance providing covered telehealth services to patients, may engage in telehealth through the use of audio-only telephone;

b. The requirements of Section 19a-906(a)(12) for the licensure, certification, or registration of telehealth providers are suspended for such telehealth providers that are Medicaid-enrolled providers or in-network providers for commercial fully-insured health insurance providing telehealth services to patients, in accordance with any related orders issued by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to her established authority as a result of this declared public health and civil preparedness emergency and in accordance with Sections 19a-131a and 28-9.

c. The requirement in Section 19a-906(f) that the provision of telehealth services and health records maintained and disclosed as part of a telehealth interaction shall comply with the provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 P.L.104-191, as amended from time to time (HIPAA), is modified to permit telehealth providers that are Medicaid enrolled providers or in-network providers for commercial fully insured health insurance providing telehealth services to patients to utilize additional information and communication technologies consistent and in accordance with any direction, modification or revision of requirements for HIPAA compliance as related to telehealth remote communications as directed by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights during the COVID-19 pandemic.

d. Notwithstanding paragraphs a through c herein, a provider who elects to provide telehealth services for a patient who is not a Medicaid beneficiary or a member covered by a fully-insured commercial plan, may engage in "telehealth" services as defined in such paragraphs for such patient, provided that any provider engaging in telehealth services under this section must, prior to engaging in such services, determine whether a patient is covered by a health plan other than Medicaid or a fully-insured commercial plan, and whether such plan provides coverage for such telehealth services. A provider who receives payment under such health plan shall not bill a patient for any additional charges beyond the reimbursement received under such health plan. A provider who determines that payment or coverage for telehealth services as described in this order is not available under a health plan other than Medicaid or a fully-insured commercial plan or who determines a patient is uninsured, shall accept as reimbursement for any telehealth service as payment in full, the amount that Medicare reimburses for such service, provided that if the provider determines that the patient is uninsured or otherwise unable to pay for such services, the provider shall offer financial assistance, if such provider is otherwise required to provide financial assistance under state or federal law.

e. Any related regulatory requirement that any telehealth services described herein be provided from a provider's licensed facility is hereby waived.

3. **Additions to Permissible Out-of-State Healthcare Providers.** Section 19a-131j(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to additionally allow the Commissioner of
Public Health to issue an order to suspend, for a period not to exceed sixty consecutive days, the requirements for licensure, certification or registration, pursuant to chapters 376a (occupational therapist), 376b (alcohol and drug counselor), 376c (radiographer, radiologic technologist, radiologist assistant and nuclear medicine technologist), 379 (dentist), 379a (dental hygienist), 382a (behavior analyst), 383d (genetic counselor), 383f (music therapist). 383g (art therapist), 384b (dietician-nutritionist), and 399 (speech and language pathologist).

4. **Participation in Intern, Resident Physician, or United States Medical Officer Candidate Training Programs Prior to Permit Issuance.** Section 20-11a of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to allow a person to participate in an intern or resident physician program or United States Medical Officer candidate training program prior to issuance of a permit by the Department of Public Health provided that the hospital administrator documents that the person has satisfied the requirements for such a permit set forth in the statute.

5. **Participation in Resident Physician Assistant Program Prior to Permit Issuance.** Section 20-12h of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to allow a person to participate in a resident physician assistant program in a short-term hospital that provides a postgraduate medical education program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, without a license or temporary permit issued pursuant to section 20-12b or a training permit issued by the Department of Public Health, provided that the hospital administrator documents that the person is to be appointed a resident physician assistant in such hospital and has satisfied the requirements of subdivisions (1), (2) and (5) of subsection (a) of section 20-12b.

6. **Temporary Suspension of Physician Assistant Supervision Restrictions.** Section 20-12a of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to suspend the supervision requirements for physician assistants authorized to practice in the State of Connecticut set forth in Subsection (7)(A) subparts (iii) through (v), inclusive, and (7)(B) subparts (iii) through (v), inclusive, of said Section.

7. **Temporary Suspension of In-Person Supervision Requirement for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.** Section 20-87a(b)(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to suspend the requirement that a physician, medically directing the prescriptive activity of an advanced practice registered nurse who is prescribing and administering medical therapeutics during surgery, must be physically present in the institution, clinic or other setting where the surgery is being performed.

8. **Provision of Services by Respiratory Care Therapist and Respiratory Care Technician Students.** Section 20-162q(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to allow a respiratory care therapist student or a respiratory care technician student as specified in said subsection to provide services in accordance with the requirements of said subsection except that the services are not required to be a component of such person's course of study.

9. **Suspension of Continuing Education Requirement for Health Care Providers.** The continuing education requirements in Chapters 370, 373, 376, 376a, 376b, 376c, 378, 379, 379a, 380, 381, 381a, 383, 383a, 383b, 383c, 384, 383d, 384a, 384c, 385, 387a, 388, 397a, 398, 399 and Section 19a-515 of the General Statutes are suspended for one (1) year for occupations and professions with annual education requirements, and for the other occupations and professions within said statutes, the continuing education completion period and reporting requirements are suspended for six (6) months. The continuing education requirements are modified as stated above for each person for the continuing education year in which March 10, 2020 lies for him or her.
10. **Modification of Thirty-Six Month Age Limit for Birth-to-Three Services.** Section 17a-248 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and any associated regulations, rules, and policies are modified to authorize the Commissioner of the Office of Early Childhood to temporarily expand the definition of “eligible children” to include children who turn older than thirty-six months of age, who are presently engaged in early intervention services and not already determined to be eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B, to further supplement access to services during the period of school class cancelations due to this civil preparedness and public health emergency. The Commissioner may issue any order deemed necessary to implement this order.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 22nd day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT  
Governor

Filed this 22nd day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill  
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020
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, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons living in long-term care facilities and managed residential communities, and most residents of long-term care facilities and managed residential communities are at increased risk for severe COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Hospital and Long-Term Care Mutual Aid Plan (LTC MAP) collects and provides critical data each day to DPH regarding the current operating status of most nursing homes in Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, such data is critical to DPH’s ability to allocate resources to protect the health and safety of residents of managed residential communities, limit the transmission of COVID-19 among residents and staff of such communities, and otherwise respond effectively and efficiently to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Section 17b-239b of the Connecticut General Statutes and certain sections of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and the Medical Services Policy Manual of the Department of Social Services (DSS) require that certain health care providers first obtain authorization or other utilization review approvals before billing and receiving payment from Medicaid for services; and

WHEREAS, waiving, suspending, or modifying prior authorization and other utilization review requirements will maximize availability of hospital beds on shorter notice and accelerate access to services to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Section 17b-278 of the Connecticut General Statutes and section 17b-262-307 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies authorize Medicaid payment to Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IIDs) for beds reserved by ICF/IIDs for residents while on home leave and other leave for a maximum of thirty-six (36) days in a calendar year; and

WHEREAS, waiving, suspending, or modifying home leave and other bed reserve requirements for ICF/IIDs will allow DSS and healthcare providers to provide residents with longer home leave or hospitalization and minimize the risk of infection from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, certain Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies require a provider of Medical Equipment, Devices and Supplies to obtain a delivery receipt signed by the Medicaid member receiving the equipment, device, or supplies as a condition for Medicaid payment; and

WHEREAS, waiving, suspending, or modifying delivery receipt requirements can reduce in-person contact and thereby reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission among Medicaid members and providers;

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. Mandatory Reporting by Managed Residential Communities. Section 19a-694 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified by adding the requirement that (1) all managed residential communities operating in the state shall participate in and provide daily status reports in the form and manner requested by the Connecticut Hospital and Long Term Care Mutual Aid Plan (LTC MAP), and (2) that a managed residential community that fails to comply with the foregoing requirement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not
more than five thousand dollars per violation, said penalty to be imposed in accordance
with the process provided in Section 19a-525.

2. **Mandatory Reporting by Nursing Homes.** Section 19a-521e of the Connecticut
General Statutes is modified by adding the requirement that all nursing homes, as defined
in Section 19a-490, operating in the state shall participate in and provide daily status
reports in the form and manner requested by the LTC MAP.

3. **Civil Penalties for Failure to Comply With Mandatory Reporting.** Sections 19a-524
and 19a-527 of the Connecticut General Statutes are modified to provide that the failure
of a nursing home to comply with the requirements of Section 2 of this order shall be
classified as and constitute a Class A violation subject to a civil penalty of not more than
five thousand dollars per violation without adoption by regulation in accordance with
Chapter 54 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

4. **Waiving Certain Medicaid Prior Authorization Requirements.** Sections 17b-239b
and 17b-262 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any implementing regulations,
policies, rules or other directives related to the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program,
whether or not specifically adopted pursuant to said statutes, are modified to authorize the
Commissioner of Social Services to temporarily waive, suspend, or modify, to the extent
the Commissioner deems necessary, any prior authorization and other utilization review
requirements contained therein. The Commissioner may issue any order and take other
action that she deems necessary to implement this order.

5. **Waiving Medicaid Bed Reserve Day Requirements for Residents on Leave from
Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IIDs).**
Sections 17b-262 and 17b-278 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any implementing
regulations, policies, rules or other directives related to the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program, whether or not specifically adopted pursuant to said statutes, are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to temporarily waive, suspend, or modify, to the extent the Commissioner deems necessary, requirements contained therein related to payments to ICF/IIDs for individuals residing in the ICF/IID who are on home leave or hospitalized and related requirements for ICF/IIDs with individuals on home leave or hospitalized, including, but not limited to, waiving the maximum day limit for the length of such home leave or hospitalization. The Commissioner may issue any order and take other action that she deems necessary to implement this order.

6. **Waiving Requirements for Signed Delivery Receipt for Medical Equipment,
Devices, and Supplies.** Section 17b-262 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any
implementing regulations, policies, rules or other directives related to the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program, whether or not specifically adopted pursuant to said statutes, are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to temporarily waive, suspend, or modify, to the extent the Commissioner deems necessary, requirements contained therein for providers of medical equipment, devices, and supplies to obtain a signed delivery receipt from the Medicaid member as a condition of payment. The Commissioner may issue any order and take other action that she deems necessary to implement this order.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 23rd day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7FF

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - EXPANSION OF TELEHEALTH AVAILABILITY

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued thirty-two (32) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) 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, Executive Order No. 7DD, issued April 22, 2020, expanded, in part, the definition of “telehealth” in Section 19a-906(a)(11) to permit the use of audio-only telephone telehealth for providers that are in-network providers for commercial fully-insured health insurance providing telehealth services to include those patients without an existing provider-patient relationship; and

WHEREAS, existing restrictions on use of audio-only telehealth services may prevent certain Medicaid patients from accessing important healthcare services without in-person visits, and thereby increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, allowing Medicaid-enrolled providers to offer telehealth services using audio-only telephone for new or established patients who are Medicaid recipients will make more healthcare services available to more patients without increasing the risk of transmission of COVID-19;
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. Additional Flexibility for Medicaid-Enrolled Providers to Perform Telehealth Through Audio-Only Methods for New Patients. Section 5 of Executive Order No. 7G, issued on March 19, 2020, Section 2 of Executive Order No. 7DD, issued on April 22, 2020, and Section 19a-906 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any associated regulations, rules and policies regarding the delivery of telehealth are further modified to expand the definition of “telehealth” in Section 19a-906(a)(11) to permit telehealth providers who are Medicaid-enrolled providers providing covered telehealth services to “new or established patients” who are Medicaid recipients to engage in telehealth through the use of audio-only telephone.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 24th day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 24th day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7GG

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES, OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued thirty-three (33) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) 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, it is critical to the protection of the public health and safety that state agencies be able to procure essential services in high demand and in low supply as expeditiously as possible to limit the harm of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, because greatly increased volume of diagnostic testing for COVID-19 is critical to sustaining the protection of public health and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic and to preventing or limiting a resurgence of COVID-19 infections, such testing capability is among the essential services that state agencies may need to procure on an expedited basis; and

WHEREAS, many potential providers of services essential to the state’s COVID-19 response effort may be new to the state contracting process or affected by personnel shortfalls and other obstacles posed by the current remote working environment, and therefore may have difficulty preparing for and complying with certain statutory contracting requirements in the short timeframes required to effectively respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the significant death toll from COVID-19 has created unprecedented demands on Connecticut funeral directors and embalmers; and

WHEREAS, the United State Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has requested more timely submission of death data to assure necessary surveillance of COVID 19 deaths; and

WHEREAS, requiring an embalmer to affirm that the body of a person who had a communicable disease at the time of death has been disinfected in accordance with the Public Health Code by way of a witnessed or notarized sworn affidavit requires embalmers to more frequently come in contact with third parties and also makes it more difficult for them to provide timely data to state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Public Health has waived requirements for licensure, certification or registration for out of state health care providers so that such providers can render temporary assistance in Connecticut within the scope of the profession for which they are licensed, certified or registered, but such providers require a separate registration from the Department of Consumer Protection in order to prescribe controlled substances; and

WHEREAS, sealed ticket purchases are made by non-profit organizations, many of which have closed as a result of the ongoing state of emergency, thereby making it difficult for sealed ticket distributors to collect from those nonprofits revenue due to the distributor for the first quarter of 2020;

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. Modification of State Contracting Statutes to Facilitate the Emergency Procurement of Essential Services. In accordance with the provisions of Section 28-9(b)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes, for any contract entered into on or after March 10, 2020, the head of a state contracting agency may waive the following statutes or requirements as described below if he or she deems such waiver is necessary to expedite the
procurement of “essential services,” defined as “all services which (1) are necessary for
the servicing or supporting of persons who might be affected by COVID-19 and state
agencies that are responding to COVID-19, including, but not limited to, cleaning,
security, treatment, diagnosis, counseling, health-related care, and mitigating, preventing,
curing or limiting the risk of transmission of COVID-19 within Connecticut or as part of
any mutual aid agreement with one or more other states or (2) are necessary for
supporting or servicing critical care, including but not limited to health-related care, food,
housing and social supports, to vulnerable populations, including but not limited to
children, the aged, and the disabled, and for state agencies to ensure delivery of such
critical care to vulnerable populations.”

a. For Sections 4a-60, 4a-81(a), 4-252, 4-252a, and 9-612(f)(2)(E) of the
Connecticut General Statutes and Governor Malloy’s Executive Order 49, which
require disclosure of certain gifts and campaign contributions by state
contractors, prospective state contractors for state contracts over $50,000, all
certification and affidavit requirements may be temporarily suspended for the
duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency.

b. Section 4a-57 of the Connecticut General Statutes, which requires the
competitive solicitation for all purchases and contracts for supplies, materials
and equipment, and contractual services and includes, pursuant to Section 4d-8,
the purchasing, leasing and contracting for information system and
telecommunication system facilities, equipment and services;

c. Section 4-70b(e) and sections 4-214 through 4-219 of the Connecticut General
Statutes, which establish competitive solicitation requirements for Personal
Services Agreements and Purchase of Services Agreements.

2. Modification of State Contracting Authorities to Facilitate the Emergency
Procurement of Essential Services. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary, for
any Purchase of Service or Personal Service Agreement entered into on or after March
10, 2020 related to direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic or its effects, the head of
any state contracting agency may use the authority under Department of Administrative
Services General Letter 71, Section (e) for an emergency procurement.

3. Modification of State Construction Requirements to Facilitate the Emergency
Provision of Construction and Construction-Related Services. In accordance with the
provisions of Section 28-9(b)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes, for any contract
entered into on or after March 10, 2020, the head of any state contracting agency may
waive the competitive solicitation requirements imposed by Sections 4b-55 through 4b-
58 and 4b-91 through 4b-100, and associated regulations, if he or she deems such waiver
is necessary to expedite the provision of construction or construction-related services in
order to respond to emergency needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Extension of Existing Contracts to Prevent Gaps in Necessary Services. In
accordance with the provisions of Section 28-9(b)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes
and if necessary in order to ensure continuity of services, for any contract in
existence on or after March 10, 2020, including but not limited to contracts which
provide critical services to vulnerable populations in the State, the head of a state
contracting agency may amend or extend the renewal deadline of any expiring contract
for services until September 30, 2020, provided that the agency head certifies in writing
that the failure to provide such extension would compromise the continuity of state
agency systems, operations or critical services to vulnerable populations.

5. Required Embalmer’s Affidavit Regarding Communicable Disease Modified.
Section 7-62b(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to permit a licensed
embalmer, who is filing a death certificate of a deceased person who had a communicable disease at the time of death, to state on a form provided by the department that the body has been disinfected in accordance with the Public Health Code, by providing a signed statement of fact made under penalty of false statement pursuant to Section 53a-157b instead of by a signed and sworn affidavit.

6. **Temporary Suspension of Controlled Substance Registration.** Section 21a-317 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide that out-of-state practitioners, working within the scope of practice for which the practitioner is licensed, registered or certified in another state, and in accordance with the order issued by the Commissioner of Public Health on March 23, 2020 authorizing certain out-of-state practitioners to provide care in Connecticut, or any superseding or amended order, may prescribe controlled substances in Connecticut without obtaining a Controlled Substance Registration from the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). This modification shall continue as long as such order by the Commissioner of Public Health remains in effect. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders that she deems necessary to effectuate the purposes of this order.

7. **Extension of Payment Time for Sealed Ticket Revenue Due to the State.** Section 7-169h(i) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to provide that sealed ticket distributors, who are having difficulty collecting payments from sealed ticket purchases during the first quarter of 2020, shall collect such amounts that are due during the second quarter of this year and include such revenue in the payment due to the State for the second quarter of 2020. Sealed ticket distributors shall make a payment to the State this quarter based on revenue that has been collected and shall notify the Department of Consumer Protection of such amounts that remain uncollected.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 30th day of April, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 30th day of April, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7HH

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - MUNICIPAL BUDGET ADOPTION, COMMON-INTEREST COMMUNITY MEETINGS

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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 Connecticut; and
WHEREAS, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued thirty-four (34) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7-405 of the Connecticut General Statutes, municipalities are required to adopt budgets for the July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 fiscal year by June 30th, and public town-meetings and referendums usually take place in May, during a period when the risk of spreading COVID-19 posed by large gatherings is expected to remain high; and

WHEREAS, the close contact and high attendance required for in-person voting in large numbers increases the risk of transmission of COVID-19 for voters, town officials, and poll workers and will consume a significant quantity of critically needed personal protective equipment; and

WHEREAS, the circumstances of in-person meetings or votes by members of common-interest communities may pose the same risks of transmission of COVID-19 as those posed by public votes on municipal budgets, requiring flexibility for the governing bodies of such communities to take measures to make decisions that eliminate or reduce such risks;

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. Clarification of Executive Order No. 7I, Section 13 - Mandatory Suspension of In-Person Voting Requirements by Members of the Public on Municipal Budgets. Executive Order No. 7I, Section 13 shall be deemed to require the budget-making authority of every municipality to adopt a budget for the July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 fiscal year and to set a mill rate sufficient, in addition to the other estimated yearly income of such town and in addition to such revenue surplus, if any, as may be appropriated, not only to pay the expenses of the municipality for said fiscal year, but also to absorb the revenue deficit of such town, if any, at the beginning of said fiscal year using the procedures set forth therein, and to suspend any requirement for a vote on such budgets or mill rates by residents, electors, or property owners, including, but not limited to, any vote by annual town meeting or referendum. All conditions precedent to any such adoption, including without limitation, public notices, hearings, or presentations, shall proceed in a manner as closely consistent with the applicable statutes, special acts, town charters, municipal ordinances, resolutions or procedures as possible, and in compliance with the open meeting provisions set forth in Executive Order No. 7B. Nothing in this order shall invalidate or repeal the results of any vote on a budget or tax rate held by annual town meeting or referendum before the effective date of this order.
2. Allowance of Use of Remote Meeting and Voting Procedures for Common Interest Ownership Association. To protect the public health and limit transmission of COVID-19, Sections 47-250 and 47-252 are modified to provide that any common interest ownership association and any executive board or committee thereof may conduct any meeting, election, or vote by telephonic, video, or other conferencing process, or by ballot without a meeting, in accordance with Sections 47-250(a)(5), 47-250(b)(7), and/or 47-252(d) notwithstanding any prohibition or limitation in its declaration or bylaws.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 1st day of May, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 1st day of May, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7II

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - EXTENSION OF SCHOOL CANCELLATION, HOME HEALTH CARE COVERAGE, AND FOOD ASSISTANCE MEASURES

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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 Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued thirty-five (35) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase slow transmission of the virus, including cancellation of gatherings of ten people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and
WHEREAS, no vaccine is available to prevent or mitigate the health effects of COVID-19, and testing and contact tracing capabilities are not yet available in sufficient quantities to permit large gatherings in close quarters, especially indoors; and

WHEREAS, measures to limit in-person interaction, including the cancellation of school classes in Executive Order Nos. 7C, 7L, and 7X, will be necessary for at least several weeks past April 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Sections 17b-262-725 and 17b-262-735 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies require that a physician must order home health services as a condition for Medicaid payment; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to enable the Department of Social Services to have the authority to modify home health regulations to increase access to home health services during the COVID-19 pandemic, including enabling Medicaid payment of home health services when ordered by advance practice registered nurses and physician assistants, in addition to physicians; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture seeks to permit eligible participants in the Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program (“FMNP”) for Women, Infants and Children (“WIC”) to be able to follow all recommended social distancing practices when participating in the Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program by waiving in-person signature requirements for participation in the program, and by allowing any adult to act as a designated proxy to pick up and redeem vouchers for an eligible participant; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture and municipalities wish to ensure that individuals can follow all recommended social distancing practices and self-quarantine guidelines which may prevent them from being able to purchase a dog license within the month of June, by extending the start date for the imposition of a late fee for obtaining a dog license this year from July 1, 2020 to August 1, 2020;

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. **Extension of School Class Cancellations for Remainder of School Year.** To promote and secure the safety and protection of children in schools related to the risks of COVID-19, cancellation of public-school classes as ordered in Section 1 of Executive Order No. 7C, and as modified by Section 1 of Executive Order No. 7L and Section 2 of Executive Order No. 7X, is continued through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Private schools and other non-public schools are encouraged to follow the same schedule. Connecticut Unified School District 1, established pursuant to Section 18-99a of the Connecticut General Statutes, Unified School District 2, established pursuant to Section 17a-37, and Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services inpatient facilities providing school classes or programs are exempt from this section, but shall take such measures as are necessary to protect the health and safety of students and staff.

2. **Authorization for DSS Commissioner to Temporarily Waive, Modify, or Suspend DSS Home Health Regulatory Requirements.** Notwithstanding Sections 4-168 to 4-174, inclusive, of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Social Services may by written order temporarily waive, modify, or suspend any regulatory requirements adopted by the Commissioner of Social Services under section 17b-262 of the Connecticut General Statutes as the Commissioner of Social Services deems necessary to increase the access of Medicaid members to home health services.
3. **Authority to Waive Certain Requirements for the Issuance of Vouchers under the Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children.** In order to expedite and expand the availability of food to persons and families in need while reducing in-person contact to prevent transmission of COVID-19, the following sections of the Connecticut General Statutes are modified as described below:

   a. Section 22-6i(b)(4) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to waive the requirement that the voucher participant sign for the receipt of vouchers on the voucher registry maintained by the distributing agency, and to waive the requirement that the voucher participant sign the vouchers in the presence of the distributing agency’s staff.

   b. Section 22-6i(b)(4) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to authorize the Commissioner of Agriculture to accept written confirmation, including but not limited to an electronic communication such as text message or email, from an eligible participant that such participant has received the vouchers, in lieu of a participant’s signature on the voucher registry maintained by the distributing agency.

   c. Section 22-6i(b)(5) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to permit any adult to act as a designated proxy for an eligible participant to pick up vouchers from a distribution agency and redeem them at an authorized location.

   d. Section 22-6j(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to waive the requirement that an eligible participant countersign a voucher(s) in the presence of a certified vendor at an authorized location.

4. **Extension of the Start Date for Imposition of a Late Fee for Obtaining Dog Licenses from July 1, 2020 to August 1, 2020.** Section 22-338(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to extend the start date for the imposition of a late fee for obtaining this year’s annual dog license from July 1, 2020 to August 1, 2020.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 5th day of May, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 5th day of May, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7JJ

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19
PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - MUNICIPAL GOVERNANCE MEASURES AND
AUTHORIZATION FOR DEEP TO CONDUCT PROGRAMS THROUGH DISTANCE LEARNING

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration 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 Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued thirty-six (36) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; 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 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

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

WHEREAS, no vaccine is available to prevent or mitigate the health effects of COVID19, and testing and contact tracing capabilities are not yet available in sufficient quantities to permit large gatherings in close quarters, especially indoors; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 7S, Section 8, addressed tax relief claims that require municipalities to conduct specific duties, including but not limited to processing tax relief claims that require in-person meetings and application filing requirements for taxpayers who have attained age sixty-five or over or are totally disabled; and

WHEREAS, Sections 12-129n, 12-170v and 12-170w of the Connecticut General Statutes authorize municipalities to provide tax relief for taxpayers who have attained age sixtyfive or over or are totally disabled; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) administers multiple programs that require education, testing, and certification, and such programs are necessary for the protection of public health, safety, and the environment or for safe conduct of regulated recreational and commercial activity; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide such programs and continuity of service during the COVID-19 pandemic, in a manner that protects public health by limiting in-person interactions that would increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19, it is necessary to conduct such education, testing, and certification activities remotely to the greatest degree practicable; and

WHEREAS, certain municipal charters, ordinances or resolutions require critical and time-sensitive town decisions necessary for the fiscal and public health and welfare of a municipality to be voted on in-person by referendum or town meeting; and

WHEREAS, the close contact and high attendance required for in-person voting through town meeting or referendum increases the risk of transmission of COVID-19 for voters and town
officials, and will consume a significant quantity of critically needed personal protective equipment;

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. **Applicability of Executive Order No. 7S, Section 8 - Suspension of Reapplication Filing Requirement for the Homeowners' Elderly/Disabled, Circuit Breaker Tax Relief Program and for the Homeowners Elderly/Disabled Freeze Tax Relief Program.** The biennial filing requirements in Sections 12-129n and Sections 12-170v and 12-170w of the Connecticut General Statutes for any taxpayers who were granted the benefit for the Grand List year 2017 and who are required to recertify for the Grand List year 2019, are suspended and such taxpayers shall automatically maintain their benefits for the next biennial cycle ending in Grand List year 2021.

2. **Distance Learning and Remote Testing and Certification for DEEP Programs.** To limit the risk of transmission of COVID-19, by reducing inperson interactions, Titles 15, 22a, 23, and 26 of the Connecticut General Statutes are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection to issue any orders she deems necessary to facilitate registration for and participation in, classes and testing remotely using online methods or any other feasible means, including provision of any notice, conduct of any classes, testing and certification required pursuant to these Titles, or regulations promulgated thereunder. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall post a plan on its website to instruct the public how to register and participate in, classes and testing remotely and provide updated information on services conducted by its partners.

3. **Tolling of Land Use and Building Permits.** In order to ensure that land use and building permit holders may continue to diligently pursue permitted activities after the state of emergency, an approval or permit issued by a municipal land use agency or official pursuant to the "Covered Laws" as defined in Section 19 of Executive Order 7I, or by a municipal building official pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Chapter 541 and valid as of March 10, 2020, shall not lapse or otherwise expire during the state of emergency, and the expiration date of the approval shall toll during the state of emergency. To the extent that any such approval contains or is subject to conditions, the agency or official may waive such conditions if an approval holder is not able to abide by the conditions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic or protective measures taken in response to it, provided that such waiver shall not be unreasonably withheld. This section shall not apply to an approval or permit whose holder was in violation of the terms and conditions of the approval as of March 10, 2020 or who violates such terms and conditions during the state of emergency.

4. **Allowance of Suspension of In-Person Voting Requirements by Members of the Public for Critical and Time-Sensitive Municipal Decisions.** Notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, including Title 7, or any special act, municipal charter, ordinance or resolution that conflicts with this order, the legislative body of a municipality, or in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting other than a representative town meeting, the board of selectmen, after making specific findings that such action is necessary to permit the orderly operation of the municipality and that there is a need to act immediately and during the period of the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency, in order to avoid endangering public health and welfare or prevent significant financial loss, or that such action is otherwise necessary for the protection of persons and property...
within the municipality, may (i) adopt or amend ordinances or resolutions only as necessary to complete transactions deemed essential; (ii) approve, enter into or amend existing contracts or agreements deemed essential; or (iii) option, acquire, transfer, lease, dispose of or sell any real or personal property, or interest therein, as shall be deemed essential, with the exception of non-judicial tax sales or other property transfers that would result in the eviction of a residential tenant, without complying with any requirements for in-person approval by electors or taxpayers, including but not limited to, annual or special town meetings requiring votes or referenda. In so acting, the legislative body shall comply with open meeting requirements set forth in Executive Order No. 7B. All conditions precedent to any such approval, including without limitation, public notices, hearings or presentations, shall proceed in a manner as closely consistent with the applicable statutes, special acts, town charters, municipal ordinances, resolutions or procedures as possible, and in compliance with the open meeting provisions set forth in Executive Order No. 7B. The foregoing authority is not intended to apply to budgetary or similar essential nonbudgetary financial actions which require the concurrent approval of the municipal budget-making authority and are subject to the provisions of Executive Order Nos. 7I, Section 13, 7S, Section 7, and 7CC, Section 1. Nothing in this order shall be construed to prohibit a municipality from conducting any in-person meeting, approval process, or referendum, provided such municipality first consults with local or state public health officials and conducts such meeting, approval process, or referendum in a way that significantly reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

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

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 6th day of May, 2020.

NED LAMONT
Governor

Filed this 6th day of May, 2020

Denise W. Merrill
Secretary of the State

Date Received: May 6, 2020

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Representative Klarides of the 114th District, the House adjourned at 5:31 o’clock p.m., sine die.

ATTEST: Frederick J. Jortner
Cl ick of the House of Representatives
Hartford, Connecticut
May 6, 2020 at 5:31 o’clock p.m.