



Offered by:

- REP. FOX, 148<sup>th</sup> Dist.
- REP. RITTER M., 1<sup>st</sup> Dist.
- REP. ROJAS, 9<sup>th</sup> Dist.
- REP. CANDELORA, 86<sup>th</sup> Dist.
- REP. MASTROFRANCESCO, 80<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **5653**

File No. 571

Cal. No. 398

**"AN ACT AMENDING THE CIVIL PREPAREDNESS AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY STATUTES."**

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1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
4 sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the general statutes, the Governor is  
5 hereby authorized to renew: (1) The public health and civil  
6 preparedness emergencies declared in response to the COVID-19  
7 pandemic, and (2) any orders issued pursuant to the declarations and  
8 the renewal of such declarations that remain in effect as of July 20, 2021,  
9 provided any exercise of authority under this section is done in  
10 accordance with section 2 of this act. On and after July 1, 2021, the  
11 Governor may file the renewal of such declarations with the Secretary  
12 of the State in accordance with section 2 of this act and any such renewal

13 may cover the period of time from July 21, 2021, through March 1, 2022.  
14 Not less than five days prior to filing the renewal of any emergency  
15 declaration with the Secretary of the State under section 2 of this act, the  
16 Governor shall provide electronic notice of such renewal to the  
17 president pro tempore of the Senate, the speaker of the House of  
18 Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader  
19 of the Senate, the majority leader of the House of Representatives, and  
20 the minority leader of the House of Representatives. The provisions of  
21 this section shall not limit the Governor, or any department head, state  
22 agency or municipality from exercising any authority granted under  
23 said sections of the general statutes from July 21, 2021, through March  
24 1, 2022, provided any exercise of such authority in response to the  
25 COVID-19 pandemic is done in accordance with section 2 of this act.  
26 After March 1, 2022, nothing in this section or section 2 of this act shall  
27 affect or limit any authority conveyed pursuant to section 19a-131a or  
28 28-9 of the general statutes. As used in this section and section 2 of this  
29 act, "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World  
30 Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any  
31 related mutation thereof recognized by said organization as a  
32 communicable respiratory disease.

33       Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The Governor may renew the public  
34 health and civil preparedness emergencies originally declared on March  
35 10, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, provided: (1) Any such  
36 renewed declaration shall have a duration of not more than an  
37 additional sixty days from the date of the renewed declaration if such  
38 renewal is made during a regular session of the General Assembly or  
39 not more than an additional one hundred eighty days from the date of  
40 the renewed declaration if such renewal is made when the General  
41 Assembly is not in regular session, and (2) any such renewal issued by  
42 the Governor shall cease to be effective unless approved by a majority  
43 vote of each house of the General Assembly by resolution not later than  
44 three business days after the date of filing such renewal with the  
45 Secretary of the State.

46       (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of

47 the general statutes, from July 21, 2021, through March 1, 2022, the  
48 Governor, or any department head, state agency or municipality may  
49 exercise any authority granted under sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the  
50 general statutes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, provided an  
51 executive order issued under such authority shall not exceed the  
52 duration of the emergency declaration under which it has been issued  
53 and may be disapproved by a majority vote at a meeting of a joint  
54 legislative committee consisting of the president pro tempore of the  
55 Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the majority leader  
56 of the Senate, the minority leader of the Senate, the majority leader of  
57 the House of Representatives and the minority leader of the House of  
58 Representatives. Such joint legislative committee meeting may be  
59 conducted on a virtual platform that can be viewed by the public. Any  
60 disapproval of an executive order by the joint legislative committee shall  
61 not be effective unless filed with the Secretary of the State not later than  
62 thirty-six hours after the Governor's filing of the order with the  
63 Secretary of the State.

64 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a bipartisan  
65 commission to study sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the general statutes  
66 and make recommendations on how said sections should be amended  
67 to provide greater legislative oversight of declarations of public health  
68 and civil preparedness emergencies and the exercise of executive  
69 authority pursuant to said sections.

70 (b) The commission shall consist of the following members:

71 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

72 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

73 (3) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
74 Representatives;

75 (4) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

76 (5) One appointed by the Governor.

77 (c) Any member of the commission appointed under subdivision (1),  
78 (2), (3), or (4) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the  
79 General Assembly.

80 (d) All initial appointments to the commission shall be made not later  
81 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall  
82 be filled by the appointing authority.

83 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro  
84 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the commission  
85 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall  
86 schedule the first meeting of the commission, which shall be held not  
87 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

88 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
89 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government  
90 administration and elections shall serve as administrative staff of the  
91 commission.

92 (g) Not later than January 1, 2022, the commission shall submit a  
93 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
94 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
95 relating to government administration and elections, in accordance with  
96 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The commission  
97 shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2022,  
98 whichever is later."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section