

A car's side-view mirror reflecting a street scene with trees and buildings. The mirror is oval-shaped and mounted on a dark surface. The reflection shows a street with trees on the left and buildings in the distance. The text is overlaid on the mirror's reflection.

A LOOK BACK AT 2020 IN STATE GOVERNMENT

Terry Adams and Jennifer Proto
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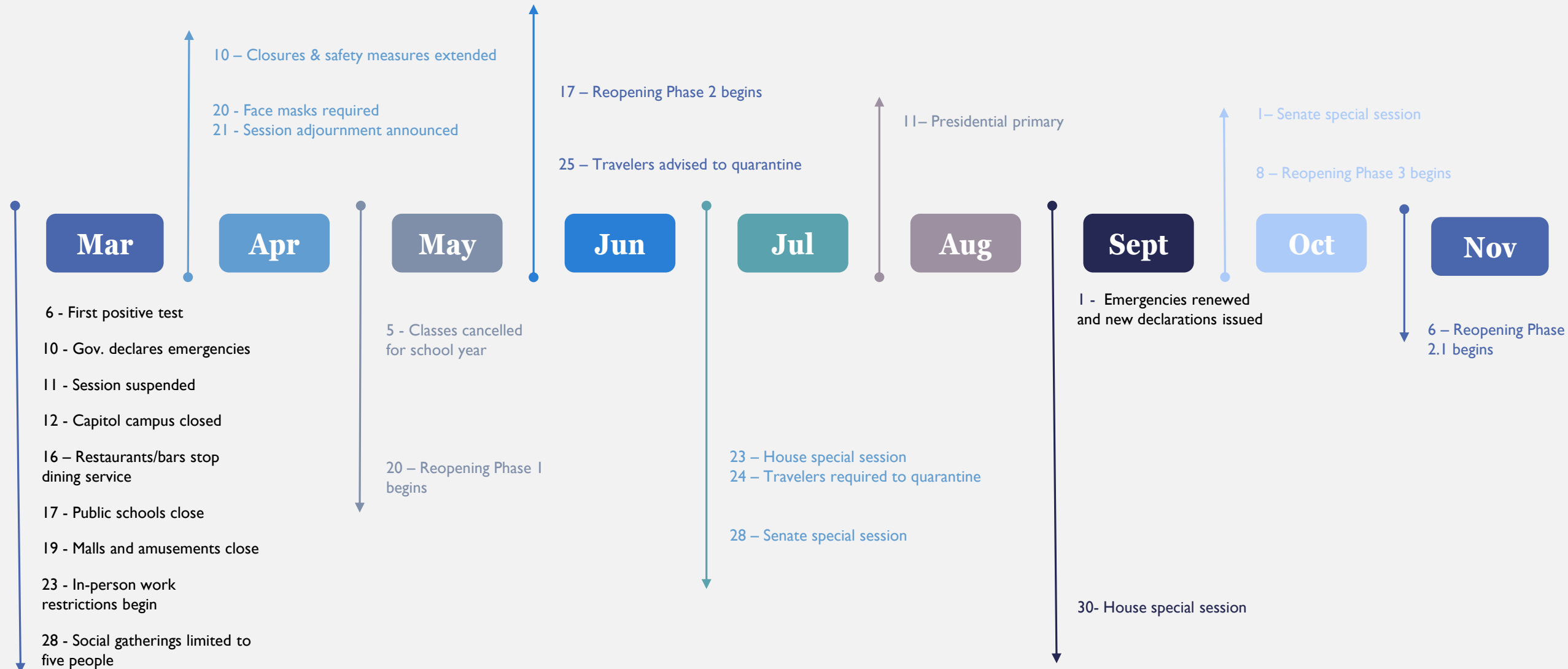


PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Timeline Highlights
- Emergency Declarations
- Executive Orders
- Legislative Actions
- Questions & Additional Resources

TIMELINE HIGHLIGHTS

STATE GOVERNMENT'S PANDEMIC RESPONSE



MARCH - MAY

Mar

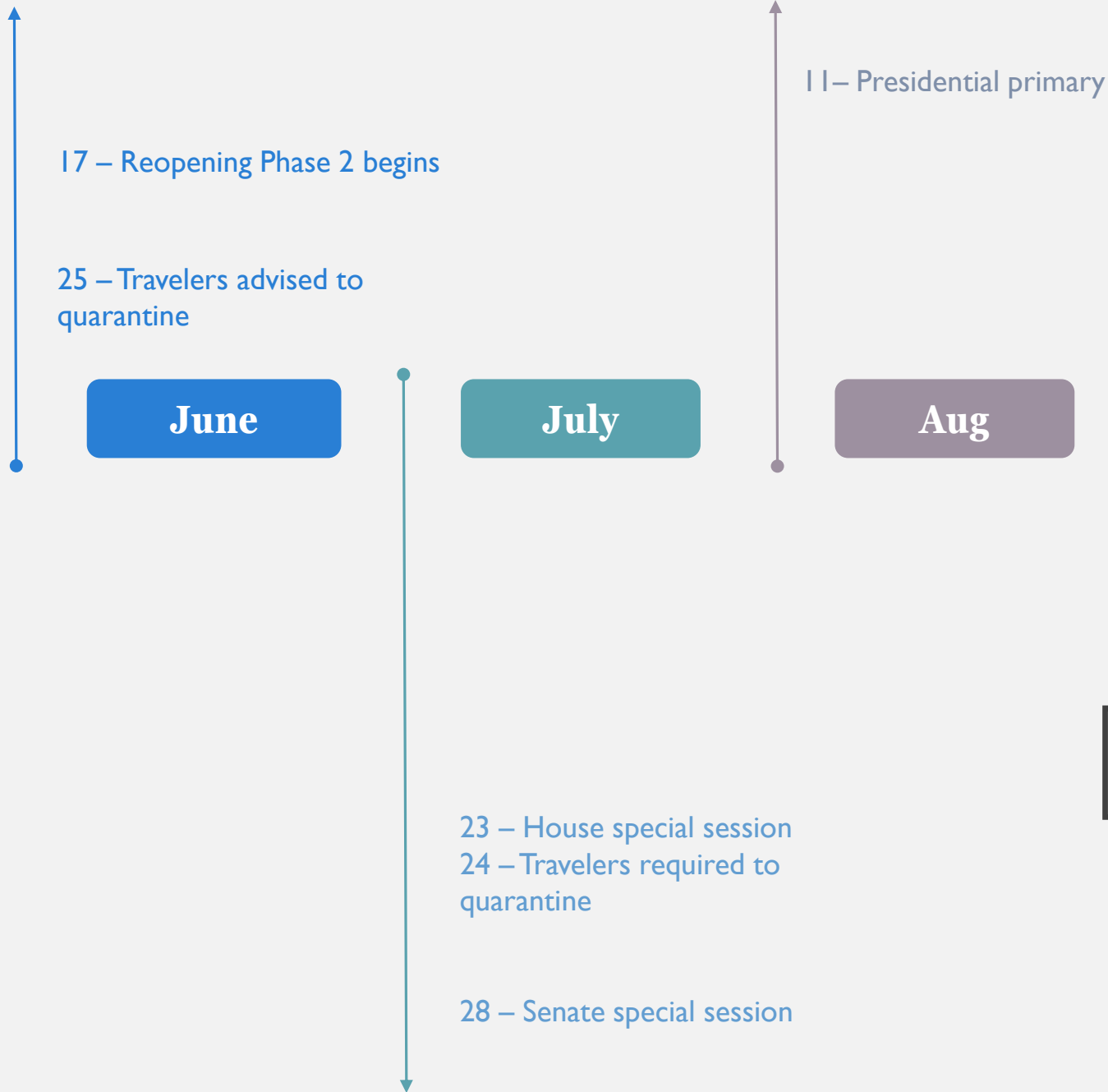
- 6 - First positive test in state
- 10 - Gov. declares emergencies until Sept. 9
- 11 - Session suspended
- 12 - Capitol campus closed
- 16 - Restaurants and bars stop on-premises service
- 17 - Public schools close
- 19 - Malls and public amusements close
- 23 - In-person work restrictions begin
- 28 - Social and recreational gatherings limit = 5

Apr

- 10 - Closures / safety measures extended
- 20 - Face masks required
- 21 - Session adjournment announced

May

- 5 - Classes cancelled for school year
- 20 - Reopening Phase I begins



JUNE - AUGUST

SEPT - NOV

Sept

1 - Emergencies renewed and new declarations issued

Oct

Nov

6 – Reopening Phase 2.1 begins

1 – Senate special session

8 – Reopening Phase 3 begins

30- House special session

EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

- Defined as an occurrence or imminent threat of:
 - Communicable disease (except STDs)
 - Contamination caused (or believed to be caused) by bioterrorism
 - Epidemic or pandemic disease
 - Natural disaster
 - Chemical attack
 - Accidental release or a nuclear attack
 - Accident posing a substantial risk of significant human fatalities or incidents of permanent or long-term disability
- CGS § 19a-131 et seq

CIVIL PREPAREDNESS EMERGENCY

- Defined as a serious disaster, enemy attack, sabotage, or other hostile action; or the imminent occurrence of such events
- CGS § 28-9 et seq

A group of people, including officials and staff, are gathered in a room. In the background, there are American and Connecticut state flags, and a screen displaying the Connecticut Emergency Operations Center logo. A date overlay is present in the center of the image.

MARCH 10, 2020

RE: Declaration of Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergencies

Dear Secretary Merrill and Clerks of the General Assembly:

In response to the global pandemic of COVID 19 disease associated with a novel coronavirus that is currently affecting multiple countries and states and has resulted in the spread of infections in Connecticut and surrounding states, as well as resulting shortages of personal protective equipment and other supplies that could jeopardize public safety and civil preparedness, and in order to provide me and other appropriate officials with all authorities necessary to limit the spread of the COVID 19 coronavirus and protect public safety within the State of Connecticut, I hereby declare a public health emergency and civil preparedness emergency throughout the State, pursuant to Sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Such public health emergency and civil preparedness emergency shall remain in effect through September 9th, 2020, unless terminated earlier by me.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

- Renewed existing public health and civil preparedness emergency declarations
- Issued new public health and civil preparedness declarations due to:
 - Schools reopening
 - General election
 - Unanticipated COVID-19 health effects
 - No vaccine or effective treatment yet available
 - Unanticipated economic, fiscal, and operational challenges



HOW EMERGENCIES ARE INVOKED

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

- Authorizes governor to declare a statewide or regional public health emergency after making a good faith effort to inform legislative leaders
- Declaration must state the following:
 - Nature of emergency
 - Towns or geographic areas subject to declaration
 - Emergency conditions
 - Duration
 - Public health authority responding
- Effective upon filing with the secretary of the state and the House and Senate clerks
- CGS § 19a-131a

CIVIL PREPAREDNESS EMERGENCY

- Authorizes governor to take direct operational control of any or all parts of the state's civil preparedness forces and functions
- Effective upon filing with the secretary of the state
- CGS § 28-9 et seq

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

- A 10-member committee consisting of the six legislative leaders and the Public Health Committee's chairpersons and ranking members may review the governor's declaration of a public health emergency
- Within 72 hours after a declaration, the committee may disapprove and nullify it by majority vote

SPECIFIC POWERS AUTHORIZED

- “The governor may modify or suspend in whole or in part...any statute, regulation, or requirement or part thereof [that he finds] is in conflict with the efficient and expeditious execution of civil preparedness functions or the protection of public health.”
- Any such order has the full force and effect of law
- Applies to both public health and civil preparedness emergencies (CGS § 28-9(b)(1))

SPECIFIC POWERS (CONT.)

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

- Public health commissioner may order people into quarantine or issue a vaccination order
- Any such order may be appealed
- CGS §§ 19a-131b & 19a-131e

CIVIL PREPAREDNESS EMERGENCY

- The governor must take appropriate measures for protecting health and safety of inmates of state institutions and children in schools
- The governor may take such other steps as are reasonably necessary in light of the emergency to protect the state population's health, safety, and welfare (CGS § 28-9(b)(5) & (7))

EXECUTIVE ORDERS

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY TO ISSUE EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Under the state constitution, the governor:

1. is the supreme executive power in the state (Article Fourth, § 5);
2. must make sure that state laws are faithfully executed (Article Fourth, § 12);
3. serves as captain general of the state militia outside of U.S. service (Article Fourth, § 8); and
4. can grant reprieves after conviction, except for impeachments, until the end of the next legislative session (Article Fourth, § 13)

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO ISSUE EXECUTIVE ORDERS

<i>Statutory Citation</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>
<u>CGS § 3-6a</u>	Issue an order for travel on state streets and highways closed due to natural emergency
<u>CGS § 3-6b</u>	Proclaim or issue an order declaring a transportation emergency
<u>CGS §§ 4-11 and 12</u>	Issue an order to suspend or remove an executive branch commissioner
<u>CGS § 5-254</u>	Issue an order listing paid state holidays
<u>CGS § 16a-11</u>	Proclaim an energy emergency
<u>CGS § 19a-131a</u>	Declare a public health emergency
<u>CGS § 22a-148</u>	Issue an order, during an emergency, waiving the prohibition against the use of ionizing radiation
<u>CGS § 22a-161</u>	Issue an executive order for the state to become a party to the Northeast Interstate Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Compact
<u>CGS § 27-2 et seq.</u>	Issue military orders during time of peace
<u>CGS § 27-5</u>	Issue an executive order making applicable to the Navy any provision of state militia law necessary and proper for regulating the Navy that does not conflict with U.S. Navy regulations
<u>CGS § 28-9</u>	Declare a civil preparedness emergency
<u>CGS § 42-231</u>	Declare a product supply or service emergency

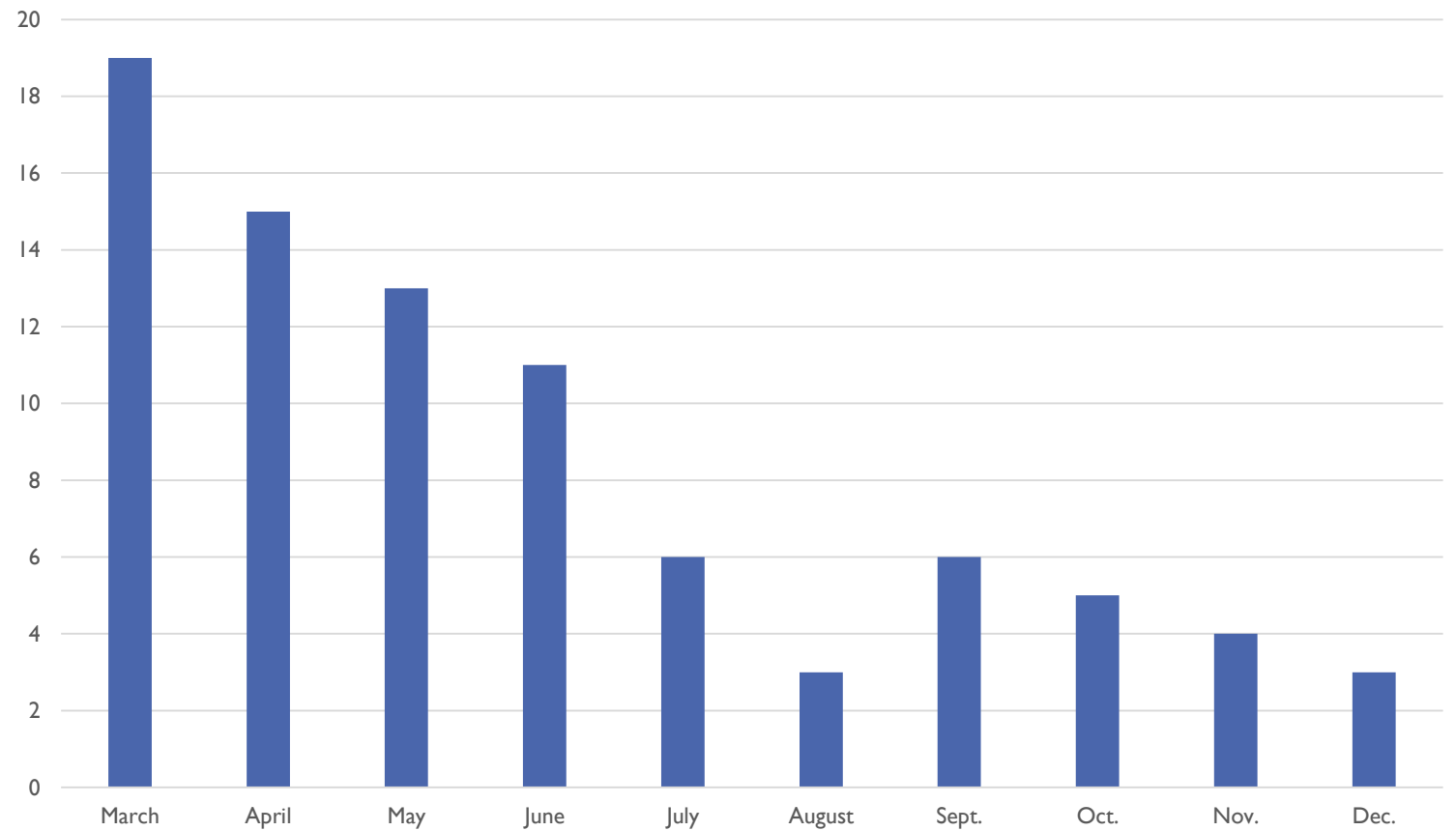
**May not be exhaustive*

COVID-19 EXECUTIVE ORDERS

- Governor Lamont has issued 85 COVID-19 orders as of December 9, 2020
- Unless otherwise specified, each order currently in effect remains effective until February 9, 2021, when the renewed emergency declarations expire
- Orders collectively have more than 350 discrete components
- In several cases, a newly issued order may be modifying or extending a previous order

COVID-19 EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Number of Orders Issued (as of Dec. 9, 2020)



EXAMPLES OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS' SUBJECT MATTER

Social
gathering size
limits

Business
closings and
reopenings

Traveler
quarantine
restrictions

Eviction
moratorium

State
procurement

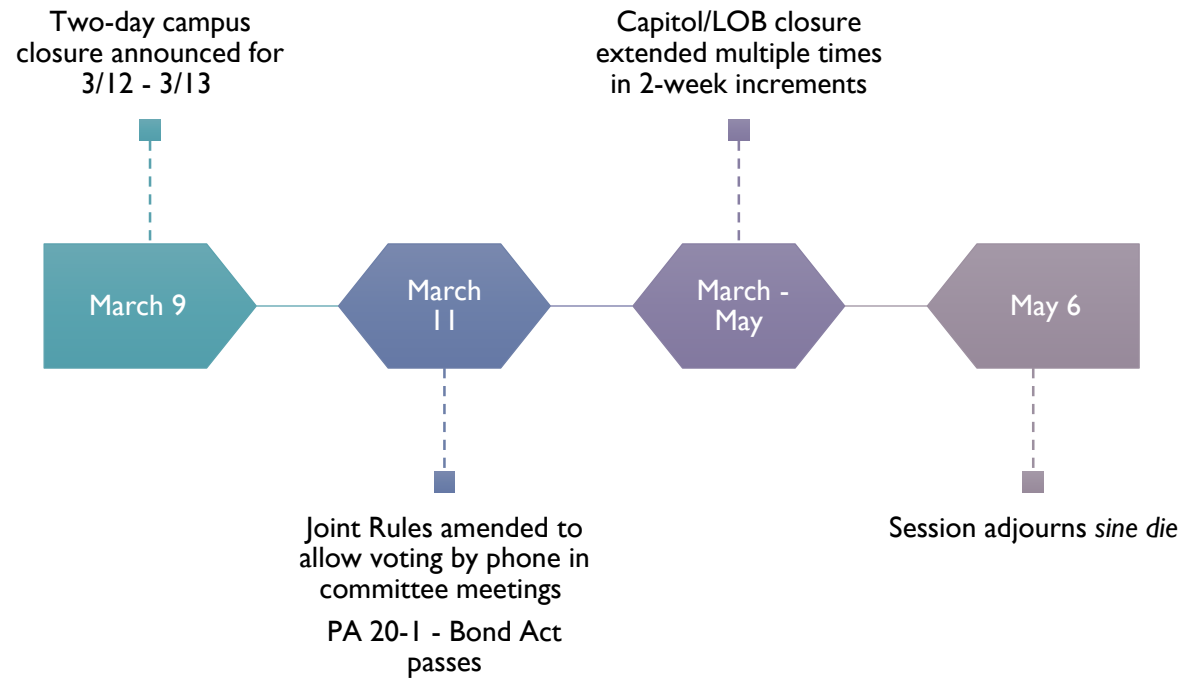
State and
municipal
permitting

Public agency
meetings

Occupational
licensing

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

2020 REGULAR SESSION RECAP





JULY SPECIAL SESSION

- How session operated
- Rules changes
- Legislation enacted:
 - PA 20-1, JSS – Police Practices
 - PA 20-2, JSS – Telehealth
 - PA 20-3, JSS – Absentee Voting & Election Admin.
 - PA 20-4, JSS – Diabetes & High Deductible Health Plans

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL SESSION

- Enacted legislation:
 - PA 20-1, SSS – State Marshal Fees
 - PA 20-2, SSS – Hemp Production
 - PA 20-3, SSS – Collapsing Foundations
 - PA 20-4, SSS – Elections/Absentee Ballots
 - PA 20-5, SSS – Public Utility Emergencies
 - PA 20-6, SSS – Environmental Justice
 - PA 20-7, SSS – Property Tax Exemptions
 - PA 20-8, SSS – Education
 - PA 20-9, SSS – Transfer Act



QUESTIONS &
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OLR RESOURCES

- COVID-19 Special Reports
 - Executive Orders Affecting:
 - Business, Labor, and Housing
 - Health and Human Services
 - Education and Child Care
 - State and Local Government Operations and Elections
 - Other COVID-19 Research
 - Legislative Library

A photograph of a black sign with orange text. The sign is mounted on a metal post and has two lines of text. The top line reads "STOP THE SPREAD" and the bottom line reads "SAVE LIVES". The background of the sign is black, and the text is in a bold, sans-serif font. The sign is set against a blurred background of trees and a light sky.

STOP THE SPREAD

SAVE LIVES

A car's side-view mirror reflecting a street scene with trees and buildings. The reflection is slightly distorted and has a warm, golden light. The background of the slide is a dark, textured surface, possibly the car's body panel.

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