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CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ORDER AUTHORIZING ACTIONS TO REDUCE IN-PERSON TRANSACTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LICENSING, REGISTRATION, AND INSPECTION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19");

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak was characterized as a pandemic by the World Health Organization;

WHEREAS, the number of presumptive positive and confirmed cases of COVID-19 continues to rise in the Commonwealth. As of March 19, 2020, 328 cases of COVID-19 were reported by the Department of Public Health, with 12 of the 14 counties in the Commonwealth impacted;

WHEREAS, the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies, including avoiding close personal contact with others and practicing social distancing when outside of the home;

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, I authorized the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to extend the expiration dates of certain permits and licenses, and to suspend road and knowledge tests during the state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise any and all authority over persons and property necessary or expedient for meeting a state of emergency, including but not limited to authority to modify the terms and conditions of licenses, permits, or certificates of registration issued by the Commonwealth or any of its agencies or political subdivisions, and to

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regulate transportation and travel by vehicle or otherwise, including the use of registration plates, signs, or markers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby order the following:

The Registrar of Motor Vehicles is hereby authorized to extend the expiration dates of Massachusetts operator licenses, permits, identification cards, and certificates of registration, which have expired or will expire between the dates of March 1, 2020 and the later of April 30, 2020 or the date on which the declared emergency is terminated.

The Registrar is further authorized during the state of emergency to modify the terms and conditions of the issuance of certificates of registration, number plates, and titles, and to suspend road and knowledge tests; provided that, to the extent a road or knowledge test is a prerequisite for the issuance of a license, the Registrar shall not waive that requirement.

The Registrar and the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection are authorized during the state of emergency to waive compliance with motor vehicle safety and emissions inspection requirements, including but not limited to 310 CMR § 60.02 and 540 CMR § 4.03(1) and § 4.08(2).

The Registrar and Commissioner shall publish on their respective websites any policies implemented or guidance issued pursuant to this Order.

This Order supersedes and rescinds my previously issued March 15, 2020 Order Authorizing the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to Temporarily Extend Licenses, Permits and Other Identification Cards. This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.

Given in Boston at 1:12 PM this 20th day of March, two thousand and twenty

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of Massachusetts