STATE OF ALABAMA

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, I declared the existence of a state public health emergency based on the appearance of the 2019 novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 in the State of Alabama;

WHEREAS that initial proclamation included provisions designed to assist in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and in mitigating the consequences of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on March 18, 20, 23, and 26 and April 2, 3, and 13 of 2020, I issued supplemental proclamations to further address the occurrence of COVID-19 in the State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS new implications of COVID-19 come to light on a continual basis, requiring flexibility and adaptability by all levels of government within the State of Alabama;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of the State of Alabama, pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Alabama Emergency Management Act of 1955, as amended, Ala. Code §§ 31-9-1, *et seq.*, do hereby proclaim the existence of conditions that warrant implementation of additional extraordinary measures and relief during the state public health emergency now in effect in order to guard public health and protect human life. I therefore proclaim and direct all of the following:

I. Rural Electric Cooperatives

I find that the State's electric cooperatives provide essential services that are necessary to protect the safety and security of the citizens of Alabama. To continue providing those services during the COVID-19 pandemic, the cooperatives may need access to working capital and operating loans and lines of credit financing, including access to emergency loans. Therefore, the procedural requirements of Ala. Code Sections 41-4-16, 37-6-2, and 37-7-12 and Ala. Admin. Code rule 355-2-1-.02 relating to publication of notice in newspapers, the holding of public hearings, and the filing of a petition with the Department of Finance five days before a public hearing are hereby suspended for the duration of this order. All other requirements of these laws remain in full force and effect, including the requirement to obtain the consent of the Finance Director before incurring debt, except that, in the case of an emergency loan from a government agency which was approved by that agency after April 3, 2020 and made before the effective date of this order, the electric cooperative shall have the ability to obtain the Department's ratifying consent to such debt as long as the petition is filed within ten days of the date of this order.

II. Administration of the July 14, 2020 Runoff Election

I find that the government response to COVID-19 requires a careful balance between concerns for the public health and safety, for the administration of the July 14, 2020 Runoff Election that best meets the needs of Alabama's counties, and for the right of the public to exercise the right to vote. To that end:

A. Notwithstanding the provisions of Ala. Code § 17-13-3, or any other law to the contrary, and only for the July 14, 2020 Primary Runoff Election, a judge of probate may determine if fewer precinct election officials or poll workers than the total number of election officials or poll workers who worked the primary election are necessary to conduct the election. If fewer workers are necessary, the judge of probate may conduct the election with the total number of workers he or she deems necessary to conduct the election.

B. Notwithstanding the provisions of Ala. Code § 17-8-9, or any other law to the contrary, and only for the July 14, 2020 Primary Runoff Election, a judge of probate may conduct a school of instruction for precinct election officials or poll workers via online video or recorded telephone call.

C. For the July 14, 2020 Primary Runoff Election, all precinct election officials or poll workers shall be entitled to all compensation provided for at Ala. Code § 17-8-12. All judges of probate shall ensure that all precinct election officials or poll workers are adequately prepared to conduct the election.

D. Any expenses and costs incurred by a county, and due to the above, shall be reimbursed in accordance with Ala. Code § 17-16-1, *et seq.*.

III. Protection Against Evictions

My supplemental emergency proclamation issued April 3, 2020, is hereby amended to specify that the protection against evictions applies only to evictions based on nonpayment. Specifically, the relevant section of that supplemental proclamation is amended to read as follows:

* * *

Because COVID-19 mitigation efforts require people to remain at their place of residence, I find that it would promote the safety and protection of the civilian population to grant temporary relief from residential evictions and foreclosures due to nonpayment. To that end: All state, county, and local law enforcement officers are hereby directed to cease enforcement of any order that would result in the displacement of a person from his or her place of residence for reasons related to the nonpayment of their lease, mortgage, or other payment obligation. Nothing in this section shall be construed as relieving any individual of the obligation to pay rent, to make mortgage payments, or to comply with any other obligation that an individual may have under a rental agreement or mortgage.

IV. Extension of Emergency

Pursuant to Ala. Code § 31-9-8, a State of Emergency proclamation expires sixty days from the issuance of such proclamation unless extended by proclamation of the Governor. Due to the continuing impact of the 2019 novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 on the State of Alabama, the conditions of disaster and extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the State of Alabama continue to exist. Therefore, I hereby extend the State of Emergency issued on March 13, 2020, for another sixty days unless sooner terminated.

FURTHER, to the extent a provision in this supplemental proclamation conflicts with any provision of state law, that law is hereby suspended for the duration of this state of emergency, and this proclamation shall control.

FURTHER, I declare that this proclamation and all subsequent orders, laws, rules, or regulations issued pursuant hereto shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of the public health emergency unless rescinded or extended by proclamation.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal to be affixed by the Secretary of State at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on this 8th day of May, 2020.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey
Governor

ATTEST:

John H. Merrill

John H. Merrill
Secretary of State