OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE REGISTRAR OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO TEMPORARILY EXTEND LICENSES, PERMITS, AND OTHER IDENTIFICATION CARDS

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 15, 2020, 164 cases of COVID-19 were reported by the Department of Public Health, with 10 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 the cancellation of large events; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health is urging all residents of the Commonwealth to practice social distancing when outside of their homes;

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;

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby order the following:

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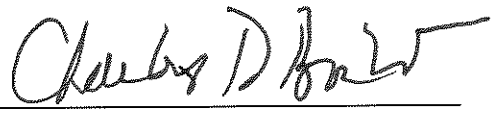
The Registrar of Motor Vehicles is hereby authorized to extend the expiration dates of Massachusetts operators' licenses, permits, and identification cards which have expired or will expire between the dates of March 1, 2020 and the later of April 30, 2020 or the date on which the declared emergency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

The Registrar is further authorized to suspend road and knowledge tests during the effective period of the state of emergency; 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.

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 4:10 PM this 15th day of March, two thousand and twenty



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of Massachusetts