STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-24

Whereas, An outbreak of the severe respiratory disease, COVID-19, which is caused by the person-to-person spread of the novel coronavirus, started in late 2019 and has currently been detected across the world, including the United States; and,

Whereas, The World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") have declared the COVID-19 outbreak a public health emergency and pandemic; and,

Whereas, The CDC has issued guidance to all state and local governments and all citizens recommending preparedness, nonessential travel, social distancing, and other mitigation strategies impacting many sectors of daily life to prevent the spread and guard against the COVID-19 outbreak; and,

Whereas, South Dakota has confirmed cases of COVID-19, making this a public health emergency posing a danger to public health and safety in all of South Dakota; and,

Whereas, A state of emergency has been declared by Executive Order 2020-04 on March 13, 2020, which has been extended by Executive Order 2020-15, and continues to currently exist within the State of South Dakota until its expiration on May 31, 2020, unless sooner terminated or extended; and,

Whereas, Strict compliance with the regulatory requirement of on-site inspection or verification of trauma hospital designations will prevent, hinder or delay necessary actions to cope with this emergency in all counties of our state; and,

Whereas, Strict compliance with the statutory requirement of inspecting funeral establishments annually will prevent, hinder or delay necessary actions to cope with this emergency in all counties of our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KRISTI NOEM, Governor of the State of South Dakota, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of this State, including but not limited to SDCL 34-48A-5(4), do hereby order and direct the following:

Section 1 Trauma Hospital Designations. I temporarily suspend the regulatory provision of ARSD 44:68:02:03 governing on-site visits of Level IV and Level V trauma hospitals. Any Level IV or Level V trauma hospital on-site visit which cannot occur during the state of emergency shall occur within 180 days of the termination of the state of emergency.

Section 2 Funeral Establishment Inspections. I temporarily suspend the statutory provision of SDCL 36-19-31 governing the annual inspection of each funeral establishment. The Board of Funeral Service is not required to reschedule funeral establishment inspections not conducted in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, This Executive Order shall be in effect immediately and shall continue for the duration of the state of emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-04 and extended by subsequent Executive Order 2020-15, unless sooner terminated or extended.

Dated in Pierre, South Dakota this 18th day of May, 2020.

Kristi Noem
Governor of South Dakota

ATTEST:

Steve Barnett
Secretary of State