STATE OF VERMONT

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

AMENDMENT TO ADDENDUM 6 TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 01-20

[Stay Home/Stay Safe: Restart Phase VI]

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020 and March 11, 2020, the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) detected the first two cases of COVID-19 in Vermont and almost two months later Vermont has experienced over 900 cases and over 50 related deaths; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 01-20, Declaration of State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 and National Guard Call-Out ("Executive Order"), declaring a state of emergency for the State of Vermont in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order expressly recognized the critical need to take steps to control outbreaks of COVID-19, particularly among those who are elderly or already have underlying chronic health conditions, to minimize the risk to the public, maintain the health and safety of Vermonters, and limit the spread of infection in our communities and within our healthcare facilities; and

WHEREAS, consistent with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines regarding social distancing, and in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Health (VDH), the Governor has directed a number of mitigation strategies for the State in order to protect individuals at risk for severe illness; and

WHEREAS, after consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Health, the Governor determined it was necessary to require Vermonters to stay home and to limit travel to essential activities only, and suspend the operation of all non-essential businesses and non-profit governmental services pursuant to Addendum 6 to the Executive Order as of March 24, 2020 (Stay Home/Stay Safe), in order to help reduce the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, modeling studies done for the State clearly show that, but for the mitigation measures taken to date, the number of COVID-19 cases and COVID-19 related deaths in the State and the region would be having a much more devastating effect on Vermonters and would be threatening to overwhelm the capacity of the Vermont health care system; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has undertaken a cautious, incremental and evidence-based approach to restarting Vermont's economy and continues to do so with a limited reopening of retail businesses.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of Vermont by the Constitution of the State of Vermont, the emergency powers set forth in 20 V.S.A. §§ 8, 9 and 11 and other laws, hereby authorize the Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) to issue mitigation requirements and procedures for the

limited, incremental and phased resumption of business, non-profit and government entity operations which had previously been determined to be non-critical services under Stay Home/Stay Safe, effective Monday, May 18, 2020. The limited, incremental, and phased resumption of business, non-profit and government entity operations shall begin with non-essential retail; and mitigation requirements and procedures issued by the Secretary shall require implementation of appropriate occupancy limits and physical distancing, health and sanitation and training measures.

1. The Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD), in consultation with the Commissioner of VDH, and with the approval of the Governor, may, from time-to-time, authorize additional limited, incremental, and phased resumption of business, non-profit and government entity operations and update and modify the mitigation requirements and procedures regarding the resumption of business, non-profit and government entity operations.

   If the Commissioner of the VDH has determined that a COVID-19 outbreak has occurred and businesses and non-profit and government entities cannot safely operate in a way that 1) limits the exposure of customers and staff to COVID-19 and 2) does not threaten to overwhelm our hospitals and healthcare resources, he is hereby authorized, with approval of the Governor, to notify and require any or all businesses and non-profit and government entities to return to certain standards of operation.

2. Businesses and non-profit and government entities deemed critical in accordance with Addendum 6 to the Executive Order and ACCD Sector Guidance (Stay Home/Stay Safe), may continue to operate under pre-existing guidance and shall operate in accordance with mandatory health and safety and training requirements issued by ACCD.

3. All businesses and not-for profit and government entities are encouraged to continue business strategies, procedures and practices to maximize use of on-line presence, telephone and web-based service delivery and phone or online orders for term curb-side pick-up and delivery.

4. Addendum 2 to the Executive Order dated March 16, 2020, which prohibited on-premises consumption of food or drink, Addendum 4 to the Executive Order dated March 20, 2020, which suspended the operation of close contact businesses, and Addendum 5 to the Executive Order dated March 23, 2020, which required all businesses, and non-profit and government entities to implement telework procedures to the extent possible, shall remain in full force and effect.

This Amendment to Addendum 6 to the Executive Order shall take effect upon signing and, except as amended hereby, Addendum 6 to the Executive Order, shall continue in full force and effect until midnight on May 15, 2020, at which time the Governor, in consultation with the Vermont Department of Health and the Department of Public Safety/Division of Emergency Management shall assess the emergency and determine whether to amend or extend Addendum 6, as amended.

By the Governor:

Philip B. Scott
Governor

Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs

Executive Order No. 01-20 – Amendment to Addendum 6

Dated: May 13, 2020