STATE OF MINNESOTA
Executive Department

Governor Tim Walz

Emergency Executive Order 20-18

Continuing the Closure of Bars, Restaurants, and Other Places of Public Accommodation

I, Tim Walz, Governor of the State of Minnesota, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, issue the following Executive Order:

On March 16, 2020, I issued Executive Order 20-04 ordering the closure of bars, restaurants, and other places of public accommodation ("Executive Order 20-04"). On March 18, 2020, I issued Executive Order 20-08 to clarify the term "spas" used in Paragraph 1.e. of Executive Order 20-04 by replacing that term with others.

Executive Order 20-04 closed places of public accommodation beginning no later than March 17, 2020 at 5:00 pm and continuing until March 27, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Executive Order 20-08 did not modify the end date for the closures.

Since the issuance of Executive Orders 20-04 and 20-08, the community spread of COVID-19 has continued to rapidly increase in Minnesota and the United States, as well as other parts of the world. In addition to widespread voluntary social distancing, closure of public accommodations remains an effective and necessary measure to slow the spread of COVID-19. Based upon observations of the community spread, allowing the public accommodations closure to expire on March 27, 2020 would be premature and undermine our successful collective efforts to slow the spread of this pandemic. An extension is necessary to protect the public health and safety of Minnesotans.

For these reasons, I order as follows:

1. The closure of bars, restaurants, and other public accommodations set forth in Executive Orders 20-04 and 20-08 is extended until May 1, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

2. The first sentence of paragraph 1 of Executive Order 20-04 is amended by the following additions (indicated by underlined text) and deletions (indicated by strikethroughs):

Beginning no later than March 17, 2020 at 5:00 pm, and continuing until ~~March 27~~ May 1, 2020 at 5:00 pm, the following places of public accommodation are closed to ingress, egress, use, and occupancy by members of the public:

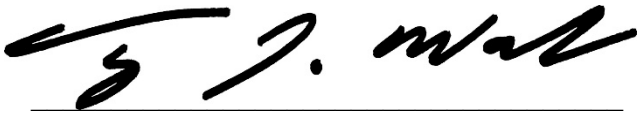
3. I further direct and clarify that places of public accommodation, which would otherwise be ordered closed, may stay open if they have been repurposed to exclusively provide services permitted under Paragraph 4 of Executive Order 20-04. For example, a gymnasium that has been repurposed to provide child care services is authorized to provide those essential services, subject to relevant licensing and other requirements, as well as applicable Minnesota Department of Health guidelines.

4. All other provisions of Executive Order 20-04 remain in effect, including the amendment made by Executive Order 20-08.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2019, section 4.035, subdivision 2, and section 12.32, this Executive Order is effective immediately upon approval by the Executive Council. It remains in effect until the peacetime emergency declared in Executive Order 20-01 is terminated or until it is rescinded by proper authority.

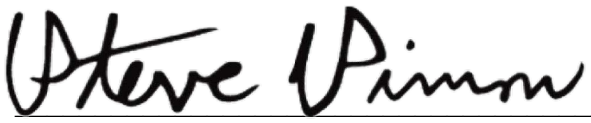
A determination that any provision of this Executive Order is invalid will not affect the enforceability of any other provision of this Executive Order. Rather, the invalid provision will be modified to the extent necessary so that it is enforceable.

Signed on March 25, 2020.



Tim Walz
Governor

Filed According to Law:



Steve Simon
Secretary of State

Approved by the Executive Council on March 25, 2020:

Alice Roberts-Davis
Secretary, Executive Council

Filed March 25, 2020
Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State,
Steve Simon