OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 18 FY 19/20
DATE March 23, 2020

AN ORDER EXTENDING COMPLIANCE DATES UNDER CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS

WHEREAS, I proclaimed a state of emergency on March 15, 2020 to authorize the use of emergency powers in order to expand and expedite the State's response to the many different effects of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, this Order is necessary to address numerous administrative, compliance and enforcement issues identified by the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Department of Public Safety, law enforcement and other officials; and

WHEREAS, these issues require certain extensions or modifications of license terms, license requirements, registrations, and suspensions are required to ensure a continuity of orderly compliance; and

WHEREAS, the governor's emergency powers expressly include the authorities to adjust time frames and deadlines imposed by law and to suspend the enforcement of a statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, pursuant to 37-B M.R.S. Ch. 13, including but not limited to 37-B M.R.S. §742(1)(C)(1), (12), (13)(a) and §834, do hereby Order as follows:

I. ORDERS

A. DRIVER'S LICENSES AND NONDRIVER IDENTIFICATION CARDS

Notwithstanding the expiration dates and fees required by 29-A M.R.S. §1406-A, the expiration dates of all driver's licenses, both commercial and noncommercial, due to expire during the period of emergency are deemed extended until 30 days after the termination of the emergency.

Notwithstanding the expiration dates and fees required by 29-A M.R.S. §1410, the expiration dates of all nondriver identification cards due to expire during the period of emergency are deemed extended until 30 days after the termination of the emergency.

B. DEALER LICENSES

Notwithstanding the expiration dates and fees required by 29-A M.R.S. §951, the expiration dates of dealer licenses due to expire during the period of emergency are deemed extended until 30 days after the termination of the emergency, and any fees may be waived by the Secretary of State for the duration of the emergency.

C. SALVAGE MOTOR VEHICLE RECYCLER LICENSES

Notwithstanding the expiration dates and fees required by 29-A M.R.S. §1101, the expiration dates of recycler licenses due to expire during the period of emergency are deemed extended until 30 days after the termination of the emergency, and any fees related thereto may be waived by the Secretary of State for the duration of the emergency.

D. DRIVER EDUCATION SCHOOL LICENSES

Notwithstanding the expiration dates and fees required by 29-A M.R.S. §1354, the expiration dates of driver education school and instructor licenses due to expire during the period of emergency are deemed extended until 30 days after the termination of the emergency, and any fees related thereto may be waived by the Secretary of State for the duration of the emergency.

E. MOTORCYCLE RIDER EDUCATION LICENSES

Notwithstanding the expiration dates and fees required by 29-A M.R.S. §1353, the expiration dates of motorcycle rider education school and instructor licenses due to expire during the period of emergency are deemed extended until 30 days after the termination of the emergency, and any fees related thereto may be waived by the Secretary of State for the duration of the emergency.

F. VISION TEST REQUIREMENTS

Notwithstanding the requirements of 29-A M.R.S. §1303, the Secretary of State, during the period of the emergency, may waive requirements for a vision test if the person demonstrates that the person is otherwise physically, mentally or emotionally competent to operate a motor vehicle.

G. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT AFTER SALE OR TRANSFER OF VEHICLES

Notwithstanding any provision of 29-A M.R.S. §351, or any other pertinent provision of Title 29-A, the Secretary of State may temporarily stay the requirement for any vehicle, including trailers, to be registered after transfer of title or ownership.

H. STAY OR MODIFICATION OF EXISTING SUSPENSIONS

Notwithstanding any provision of Title 29-A, the Secretary of State may, during the period of the state of emergency and until 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency, stay or modify the suspension of any license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle or any registration for any reason considered necessary and related to the emergency.

II. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Order is March 23, 2020.

Janet T. Mills
Governor