THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: On March 14, 2020, due to the impact of COVID-19 on the State of Georgia, I issued Executive Order No. 03.14.20.01, declaring a Public Health State of Emergency in Georgia; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia General Assembly concurred with Executive Order 03.14.20.01 by joint resolution on March 16, 2020; and

WHEREAS: The number of COVID-19 cases in Georgia continues to rise; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia Department of Public Health has determined that COVID-19 is spreading throughout communities, requiring the implementation of certain restrictions to limit the spread; and

WHEREAS: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has determined that older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more serious complications from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS: Code Section 38-3-51(c)(4) vests the Governor with the power to perform and exercise such other functions, powers, and duties as may be deemed necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population; and

WHEREAS: Code Section 38-3-51(d)(1) vests the Governor with the power to suspend any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business, or the orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency if strict compliance with any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency or disaster; and

WHEREAS: Code Sections 31-2A-4 and 31-12-4 vest the Department of Public Health with the power to segregate and isolate individuals with certain communicable diseases or conditions when said individuals' exposure to the general population is likely to endanger the health of others; and

WHEREAS: In consultation with the Governor's Coronavirus Task Force and health and emergency preparedness officials, I have determined that the following temporary actions are necessary and appropriate to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Georgia's residents and visitors.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AFOREMENTIONED GEORGIA LAW AND THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That the Department of Public Health shall order certain persons within the State of Georgia who have serious underlying conditions likely to cause an increased spread of COVID-19, if such persons were to become infected, to isolate, quarantine, or shelter in place within their homes or place of residence. This order by the Department of Public Health shall include the following populations within the State:

(1) Those persons who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility;
(2) Those persons who have chronic lung disease;
(3) Those persons who are currently undergoing cancer treatment; and
(4) Those persons included in Department of Public Health Administrative Order 03.22.20.01.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Department of Public Health shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to effectuate this Order, including provisions to allow persons quarantined, isolated, or sheltered in place according to this Order to seek essential services, make necessary travel, and receive specific visitors in end-of-life circumstances.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That all businesses which possess a license to operate as or otherwise meet the definition of "Bar" as defined by Code Section 3-1-2(2.1) shall cease operation while this Order is in effect.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That no business, establishment, corporation, non-profit corporation, or organization shall allow more than ten (10) persons to be gathered at a single location if such gathering requires persons to stand or to be seated within six (6) feet of any other person.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Department of Public Health is authorized to mandate the closure of any business, establishment, corporation, non-profit

corporation, or organization not in compliance with this order for a period not to extend beyond the term of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety shall provide available resources to assist in the enforcement of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That in order to mitigate the possibility of more severe action in the future, the Department of Public Health, in accordance with Code Section 38-3-51(i)(1)(E), shall undertake a public information activities to encourage organizations and businesses to protect the public by adhering to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for preventing the spread of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. The public information campaign shall encourage businesses to undertake more extensive sanitation efforts, to encourage curbside pick-up or home delivery of purchased items, to limit personal interaction during transactions, and to limit the number of persons within their place of business.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That if one or more of the provisions contained in this Order shall be held to be invalid, in violation of the Georgia Constitution, in violation of Georgia law, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, violation, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions of this Order, but, in such case, this Order shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained within the Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: All provisions of the Order shall become effective for a period of fourteen days, beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, and expiring at 12:00 P.M. on Monday, April 6, 2020.

This 23rd day of March 2020, at 5:58 P.M.

B. Kemp

GOVERNOR