STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1486

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Mississippi and Miss. Code Ann. § 33-15-11(b)(17), I issued a Proclamation declaring that a State of Emergency exists in the State of Mississippi as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 beginning on January 27, 2020, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic, and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a nationwide state of emergency due to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout the United States and Mississippi significantly impact the life and health of our people, as well as the economy of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2020, the Mississippi State Department of Health announced new and expanded measures to increase testing and data analysis to identify regions and localities that are at higher risk for transmission of COVID-19 and to provide more location-specific restrictions and limitation of movement and social interaction to combat the virus in those regions and localities; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020, in order to minimize the risk of possible further transmission of COVID-19 and related measures, I issued Executive Order No. 1466 instituting a statewide Shelter in Place effective at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2020, and remaining in full force and effect until 8:00 a.m. on Monday, April 20, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2020, I issued Executive Order 1473 extending the statewide Shelter in Place, with certain additional exceptions, until 8:00 a.m. on Monday, April 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the guidance provided by the White House for beginning the process of reopening the economy while minimizing the risk of a resurgence of COVID-19, the incidences of infection in Mississippi have stabilized; there is decreased utilization of hospital resources; a robust testing system is in place capable of promptly detecting any increase in the rate of infection; the healthcare system is capable of treating persons with COVID-19 and has the capacity to promptly react to any increase in incidences; and the State has in place a plan to rapidly scale up healthcare capacity in the event of an increase in the rate of infection; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi must protect lives while restoring livelihoods, both of which can be achieved with the expert advice of medical professionals and business leaders; and

WHEREAS, on April 24, 2020, I issued Executive Order 1477 establishing the statewide Safer at Home order allowing certain businesses to open and operate under certain conditions, until 8:00 a.m. on Monday, May 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2020, I issued Executive Order 1478 amending Executive Order 1477 allowing certain additional business and parks to open and operate under certain conditions, until 8:00 a.m. on Monday, May 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2020, I issued Executive Order 1480 extending Executive Order 1477 as amended and allowing certain additional business to open and operate under certain conditions, until 8:00 a.m. on Monday, May 25, 2020; and

WHEREAS, continuing to follow a measured and strategic plan to reopen the economy is essential to the health, safety, and well-being of Mississippi residents, and in consultation with the State Health Officer, there are certain additional business operations and other activities that can safely resume under the limitations set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, and in consultation with the State Health Officer do hereby order and direct as follows:

I. Paragraph I(a)(ii) of Executive Order 1478 is amended to permit restaurants that do not serve alcohol to offer in-house dining to the public twenty-four (24) hours a day. Restaurants that do serve alcohol shall continue to set hours of operation to close in-house dining to the public no later than 10:00 p.m.

II. Paragraph I(h)(ix) of Executive Order 1477 is amended to allow tattoo parlors (including body piercing) to open subject to the following limitations:

i. Prior to resuming operations, the tattoo parlor, including areas not open to the public, shall be deep cleaned, disinfected, and sanitized.

ii. Pursuant to Paragraph I(h)(ii) of Executive Order 1477, tattoo parlors shall take all reasonable measures to ensure compliance with the Mississippi State Department of Health's and CDC's regulations, orders and guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including, but not limited to: social distancing; sending sick employees home; actively encouraging sick employees to stay home; separating and sending home employees who appear to have respiratory illness symptoms; adopting and enforcing regular and proper hand-washing and personal hygiene protocols; and daily screening of employees for COVID-19 related symptoms before beginning their shift.

iii. Tattoo parlors shall conduct a daily screening of all employees at the beginning of their shift. Such daily screening shall include the following questions, and any employee answering any question in the affirmative shall be sent home:

1. Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
2. Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
3. Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
4. Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
5. Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?

iv. All employees shall be required to report any symptoms of COVID-19 to their supervisor, and any employee who exhibits any of the symptoms of COVID-19 during their shift shall be sent home immediately and advised to consult with their physician.

v. All employees shall be provided training regarding minimizing the spread of COVID-19, including reinforcement of proper sanitation, hand washing, cough and sneeze etiquette, and using PPE.

vi. Break rooms shall be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized, and the number of employees in the break room shall be limited to allow for strict social distancing (a minimum of six feet between employees and no gathering of more than ten employees).

vii. Appropriate PPE shall be worn by all employees based on their duties and responsibilities and in adherence to state and local regulations and guidelines. Every employee who comes into direct contact with customers shall be provided a cloth mask and required to wear the mask while on duty. Employees are encouraged to wear face shields when serving a customer.

viii. Every employee shall wear disposable gloves when serving a customer and change gloves between customers.

ix. All linens shall be stored in an airtight container.

x. All linen hampers and trash containers shall be cleaned and disinfected daily, and all such containers must have a lid.

xi. Employees shall wash their hands with soapy, warm water for a minimum of twenty seconds between every customer.

xii. Services shall be provided on an appointment basis only. No walk-in customers are permitted.

xiii. The use of technology solutions to minimize person-to-person contact is encouraged, including mobile appointment systems, text upon arrival, and contactless payment options.

xiv. Signage shall be posted at each entrance stating no customer with a fever or other symptom of COVID-19 is permitted in the tattoo parlor.

xv. Customers shall be screened for illness prior to their entry into the tattoo parlor.

xvi. Customers shall wear a face covering, covering nose and mouth, at all times while inside the tattoo parlor.

xvii. Tattooing and piercing of the mouth and nose area is prohibited.

xviii. All waiting areas shall be closed, and customers shall not be permitted to congregate outside of the tattoo parlor prior to their appointment. Customers shall wait in their vehicle until their appointment time.

xix. Chairs/work stations shall be rearranged to ensure at least six feet of separation between customers.

xx. The number of customers in the tattoo parlor shall be limited to one customer per employee.

xxi. Chairs and work stations shall be sanitized and disinfected after each use.

xxii. All high-touch areas, including all door handles shall be sanitized, at a minimum, once every two hours.

xxiii. Hand sanitizer shall be placed at all points of entry and exit, and customers shall be required to sanitize their hands upon entry into and exit from the tattoo parlor.

xxiv. The tattoo parlor shall be deep cleaned daily.

III. Paragraph I(h)(ix) of Executive Order 1477 is amended to allow dance studies to open subject to the limitations placed on gyms pursuant to Paragraph I(b) and its subparts of Executive Order 1480.

IV. Paragraph I(b)(i)(ii) and (iii) of Executive Order 1478 is amended to remove the hours of 9:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m. as the hours of operation for state parks, municipal parks, private parks and outdoor recreational activities. Limitations and restrictions on hours of operation for state parks, municipal parks, private parks and outdoor recreational activities shall be established by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks or local authorities.

V. Paragraph I(b)(iii) of Executive Order 1473 is amended to remove the prohibition on fishing tournaments. Fishing tournaments are permitted subject to (a) the Mississippi State Department of Health's and CDC's regulations, orders and guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19; including social distancing, (b) the 20 person limitation on outdoor gatherings, and (c) any rules and regulations promulgated by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, Pearl River Valley Water Supply District or other operator of state or private lakes.

VI. This Executive Order shall remain in effect and in full force from date of execution until 8:00 a.m. on Monday May 25, 2020, unless it is modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 15TH day of May, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fourth.

TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR

MICHAEL WATSON
SECRETARY OF STATE