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CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

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AMENDMENT TO THE SECOND ORDER AUTHORIZING ACTIONS TO LIMIT IN-PERSON TRANSACTIONS AT THE REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES

COVID-19 Order No. 64

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19");

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak was characterized as a pandemic by the World Health Organization;

WHEREAS, in order to limit in-person transactions at service centers, I issued COVID-19 Order Nos. 39 and 47, which permitted the Registry of Motor Vehicles ("RMV") to implement modified processes to reduce in-person transactions, including permitting the Registrar to waive the fee for a subsequent upgrade to a REAL ID for drivers choosing to obtain a standard license or identification online;

WHEREAS, the federal REAL ID requirements are currently scheduled to go into effect on October 1, 2021, thus requiring a minor modification of the terms set in those earlier issued Orders so as to permit customers who have previously renewed their standard Massachusetts driver's license or identification credential pursuant to Section 2 of COVID-19 Order Nos. 39 or 47 to apply for an amended REAL ID credential in advance of the federal deadline; and

WHEREAS, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise any and all authority over persons and property necessary or expedient for meeting a state of emergency, including but not limited to authority to modify the terms and conditions of licenses, permits, or certificates of registration issued by the Commonwealth or any of its agencies or political subdivisions, and to regulate transportation and travel by vehicle or otherwise, including the use of registration plates, signs, or markers.

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NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby order the following:

COVID-19 Order No. 47 is hereby amended by striking out Section 2 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 2. ***Waiver of Fee to Upgrade to REAL ID.*** The Registrar may treat the payment for the online renewal of a standard driver's license or identification, renewed between June 12, 2020 and April 30, 2021, as inclusive of payment for a subsequent amendment of that credential to a REAL ID driver's license or identification; provided, that to receive the subsequent amendment at no additional cost, the driver shall apply for an amended REAL ID driver's license or identification within the period prescribed by the Registrar in guidelines which shall be published on the RMV's website.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until the earlier of the date on which this Order is rescinded or the date on which the State of Emergency is terminated.

Given in Boston at 2:30 AM/PM this 10th day of February, two thousand and twenty-one

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR