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EXECUTIVE ORDER

Authorizing the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to Reallocate Existing Funds from Contracts with Local Public Health Agencies Due to the Presence of COVID-19

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution and the relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701 *et seq.*, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order authorizing the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to reallocate existing funds from contracts with local public health agencies due to the presence of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the State.

I. Background and Purpose

On March 5, 2020, CDPHE's public health laboratory confirmed the first presumptive positive COVID-19 test result in Colorado. Since then, the number of confirmed cases has continued to climb, and we have evidence of community spread throughout the State. I verbally declared a disaster emergency on March 10, 2020, and on March 11, 2020, I issued the corresponding Executive Order D 2020 003, as amended by Executive Orders D 2020 018, D 2020 032, D 2020 058, D 2020 076, D 2020 109, D 2020 125, D 2020 152, D 2020 176, D 2020 205, D 2020 234, D 2020 258, D 2020 264, D 2020 268, D 2020 284, and D 2020 290. On March 25, 2020, I requested that the President of the United States declare a Major Disaster for the State of Colorado, pursuant to the Stafford Act. The President approved that request on March 28, 2020.

My administration, along with other State, local, and federal authorities, has taken a wide array of actions to mitigate the effects of the pandemic, prevent further spread, and protect against overwhelming our health care resources. On May 16, 2020, I issued Executive Order D 2020 066, which reallocate existing funds from contracts with local public health agencies during State Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

This Executive Order authorizes CDPHE to reallocate existing funds from contracts with local public health agencies to COVID-19 response activities. Reprioritizing the use of existing funds will provide flexibility to local public health agencies as they respond to COVID-19 during State Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

II. Directives

A. I authorize CDPHE to redirect any remaining State fund balance on contracts between CDPHE and a county or district public health agency or the Denver Health and Hospital Authority (collectively, "local public health agency"), related to the Communities that Care (CTC) Program appropriated from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund created by C.R.S. § 39-28.8-501(1), to COVID-19 response activities. CDPHE may permit a local public health agency who is a CTC contractor to utilize any remaining State contract funds for State Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for this purpose.

III. Duration

This Executive Order shall expire thirty (30) days from December 29, 2020, unless extended further by Executive Order.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twenty-ninth day of December, 2020.

Jared Polis
Governor