Office of
The Governor

No. 29 FY 20/21
DATE February 3, 2021

AN ORDER AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER 35 FY 19/20 AND REINSTATING CERTAIN LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, I proclaimed a state of emergency on March 15, 2020 and renewed states of emergency on April 14, 2020, May 13, 2020, June 9, 2020, July 8, 2020, August 5, 2020, September 2, 2020, September 30, 2020, October 29, 2020, November 24, 2020, December 22, 2020, and January 19, 2021 to authorize the use of emergency powers in order to expand and expedite the State's response to the serious health and safety risks of the highly contagious COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 35 FY 19/20 temporarily suspended certain professional or occupational licensing laws in order to facilitate health and veterinary care during the civil state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the suspension of certain professional or occupational licensing laws is no longer necessary, as health care practices have reopened to patient care either in person or virtually, continuing education courses are available through remote means, and licensees can renew online; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2019, Ch. 617, Pt. F, § F-1(3&4), in recognition of the closure of many municipal offices at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, extended the deadline for dog licensing until 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, municipal offices are now generally operating at pre-pandemic hours and thus available to process license requests, and it is necessary and appropriate to reinstate dog licensing requirements to ensure dogs are being properly vaccinated against rabies; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's emergency powers expressly include the authority suspend the enforcement of statutes pursuant to 37-B M.R.S. §§ 742(l)(C)(l) & 834, to adjust timeframes and deadlines imposed by law pursuant to 37-B M.R.S. § 742(l)(C)(13)(a), and to modify or suspend the enforcement of requirements for professional or occupational licensing or registration by any agency, board, or commission pursuant to 37-B M.R.S. § 742(l)(C)(13)(c);

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 the authority referenced above, do hereby Order as follows:

I. ORDER

A. Professional licensing of certain healthcare providers.

1. To protect the public by ensuring that healthcare providers are qualified and properly licensed, Section I(E) of Executive Order 35 FY 19/20 is repealed and replaced with the following:

   E. Any individual who holds an active license of a type listed in Paragraph A or B above, including a conditional license, or an active administrator license issued by the Nursing Home Administrators Licensing Board, that is scheduled to expire on or before March 20, 2021, may renew that license without satisfying any continuing education requirement that would otherwise apply. All active licenses of the types listed in Paragraphs A and B above, and all active administrator licenses issued by the Nursing Home Administrators Licensing Board, that were scheduled to expire during the declared state of civil emergency shall have their expiration dates extended until March 20, 2021. All temporary licenses issued by the Board of Occupational Therapy Practice and all permits for the performance of relief veterinary service issued by the State Board of Veterinary Medicine during the state of civil emergency shall not expire prior to March 20, 2021.

2. All other provisions of Executive Order 35 FY 19/20 remain in effect.

B. Dog licensing.

1. To protect the public by ensuring dogs are vaccinated against rabies, for the 2021 calendar year only, the January 1 deadline for dog licensure set forth in 7 M.R.S. §§ 3922(1)&(2) is extended to June 2, 2021. All other requirements governing dog licensure set forth in Title 7, Ch. 721 are hereby reinstated, prospectively, upon the effective date of this order. The enforcement of dog licensure requirements for the 2020 calendar year remains suspended.

2. To effectuate this section, the enforcement of any inconsistent provisions of P.L. 2019, Ch. 617, Pt. F, § F-1(3&4) is hereby suspended.

II. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Order is February 3, 2021.

Janet T. Mills
Governor