The State of Maryland

Executive Department

ORDER
OF THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND

EXTENDING CERTAIN LICENSES, PERMITS, REGISTRATIONS, AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORIZATIONS, AND AUTHORIZING SUSPENSION OF LEGAL TIME REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, A state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency was proclaimed on March 5, 2020, to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the state, and the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency still exists;

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, is a public health catastrophe and has been confirmed in several Maryland counties;

WHEREAS, The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has advised employers, such as the State of Maryland, to prepare for increased employee absence and alternative working arrangements (such as teleworking) in response to an outbreak of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Increased employee absence and alternative working arrangements within the State of Maryland's workforce may impact the State's ability to timely process renewals of expiring permits, licenses, registrations, and other governmental authorizations;

WHEREAS, The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Maryland Department of Health recommend social distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Renewal of expiring permits, licenses, registrations, and other governmental authorizations often requires the public to enter public buildings and interact with State employees and other persons, which may be contrary to prudent social distancing; and

WHEREAS, To reduce the threat to human health caused by transmission of the COVID-19 in Maryland, and to protect and save lives, it is necessary and reasonable that permits, licenses, registrations, and other governmental authorizations be extended until after the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency has ended;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TITLE 14 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE, AND IN AN EFFORT TO CONTROL AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 WITHIN THE STATE, DO HEREBY ORDER:

I. This Order applies to all licenses, permits, registrations, and other authorizations issued by the State of Maryland, any agency of the State of Maryland, or any political subdivision of the State of Maryland, including, without limitation, driver's licenses, vehicle registrations, and professional licenses (collectively, the "Covered Authorizations"), that would otherwise:

a. expire during the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency; and

b. be renewable during the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency under applicable laws and regulations.

II. The expiration date of each Covered Authorization is hereby extended to the 30th day after the date by which the state of emergency is terminated and the catastrophic health emergency is rescinded.

III. Suspension of Legal Time Requirements

a. The head of each unit of State or local government may, upon a finding that the suspension will not endanger the public health, welfare, or safety, and after notification to the Governor, suspend the effect of any legal or procedural deadline, due date, time of default, time expiration, period of time, or other time of an act or event described within any State or local statute, rule, or regulation that it administers. The unit head shall provide reasonable public notice of any such suspension.

b. Such suspension may, at the discretion of the unit head and to the extent that it will not endanger public health, welfare, or safety, continue until no later than the 30th day after the date by

which the state of emergency is terminated and the catastrophic health emergency is rescinded.

IV. The effect of any statute, rule, or regulation of an agency of the State or a political subdivision inconsistent with this order is hereby suspended.

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND THIS 12TH DAY OF MARCH, 2020, AND EFFECTIVELY IMMEDIATELY.

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor