STATE OF KANSAS

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GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-39

Extending professional and occupational licenses during state of disaster emergency

WHEREAS, securing the health, safety, and economic well-being of residents of the State of Kansas is this Administration's top priority;

WHEREAS, Kansas is facing a crisis of economic insecurity resulting from a rapid increase in unemployment and lost wages;

WHEREAS, economic insecurity due to unemployment is a serious menace to the health, morals, and welfare of the people of Kansas, as expressed in K.S.A 44-702 of the Kansas Employment Security Law;

WHEREAS, the economic recovery of Kansas is imperiled by the imminent threat of surges in COVID-19 infections in the State of Kansas as statewide restrictions on businesses and individual movement and gatherings are lifted—since May 15, 2020, fifteen counties in the State have for the first time issued an emergency declaration resulting from the pandemic, indicating a further threat to the State's economic recovery;

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2020, I executed Executive Order 20-19 extending professional and occupational licenses during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the justifications for that Order are fully set forth therein and incorporated herein by reference;

WHEREAS, the operative provisions of Executive Order 20-19 were not only necessary to deal with the public health crisis caused by COVID-19 but are now also necessary to deal with the economic emergency resulting from COVID-19 in that the operative provisions allow the holders of certain professional and occupational licenses to continue to practice their professions and occupations who may otherwise may not be able to if strict compliance with certain licensing, certification, and renewal deadlines was required;

WHEREAS, continuing the operative provisions of Executive Order 20-19 minimizes the economic loss that would result if the holders of these professional and occupational license were unable to practice their profession and occupations, including the ability to transact business in such profession and occupations, it also allows such license holders to avoid gathering for in-person continuing education requirements that would increase the already imminent threat of new COVID-19 outbreaks;

WHEREAS, in these challenging times this Administration will do whatever it can to avoid immediate dangers to the health, safety, and welfare of Kansans, including ensuring that Kansans who provide important services can continue their work without regulatory interruptions.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Kansas, including but not limited to the authority granted me by K.S.A 48-924 and K.S.A 48-925, in order to slow the spread of COVID-19, I hereby direct and order the following:

1. All state agencies shall extend renewal deadlines for any occupational or professional license, certificate, permit, or registration issued by a state agency or any board, commission, division, or other licensing authority within a state agency to any individual, business, or organization, that was in good standing as of March 12, 2020, and that has expired or will expire during the State of Disaster Emergency, and such licenses, certificates, permits, and registrations shall remain valid until 90 days following the termination of the State of Disaster Emergency.

    a. This order does not apply to or affect licenses already addressed by Executive Order No. 20-12 ("Drivers' license and vehicle registration and regulation during public health emergency").

2. All state agencies shall extend renewal deadlines for any organization, establishment, facility, shop, or premises license, certificate, permit, or registration issued by a state agency or any board, commission, division or other licensing authority within a state agency to any individual, business, or organization that was in good standing as of March 12, 2020, and that has expired or will expire during the State of Disaster Emergency, and such licenses, certificates, permits, and registrations shall remain valid until 90 days following the termination of the State of Disaster Emergency.

3. All state agencies shall waive any late, delinquent, penalty, or expiration fees associated with any license, certificate, permit, or registration referred to in Sections 1 and 2 above.

4. All state agencies shall extend the deadlines for any continuing education requirements mandated by any state agency or any board, commission, division or other licensing authority until 90 days following the termination of the State of Disaster Emergency.

5. For purposes of this Order, a "state agency" has the meaning set forth in K.S.A. 75-3701, and reports to or is otherwise located within an executive office under the control of the Governor.

6. For purposes of this Order, "in good standing" shall include a license, certificate, permit, or registration that is subject to probation, or non-disciplinary conditions, limitations, or restrictions, but shall not include a license, certificate, permit, or registration that is revoked, cancelled, surrendered, or suspended. Any license, certificate, permit, or registration that is subject to disciplinary conditions, limitations, or restrictions shall remain subject to such conditions, limitations or restrictions.

7. This order does not affect licensing for attorneys.

8. This order should be read in conjunction with previous executive orders responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Any contrary provision in previous executive orders, except Executive Order 20-12 ("Drivers' license and vehicle registration and regulation during public health emergency"), is superseded by this order.

This document shall be filed with the Secretary of State as Executive Order No. 20-39. It shall become effective immediately and remain in force until rescinded, until June 30, 2020, or until the statewide State of Disaster Emergency proclaimed on May 26, 2020, expires, whichever is earlier.

THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE BY THE GOVERNOR _____

DATED 5.26.2020

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Secretary of State

_____
Assistant Secretary of State

FILED
MAY 26 2020
SCOTT SCHWAB
SECRETARY OF STATE