STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 57-20

By the Governor

WHEREAS, a State of Emergency was declared on the Sixteenth Day of March, Two Thousand Twenty for all counties in West Virginia (the "State of Emergency Declaration"), to allow agencies to coordinate and create necessary measures to prepare for and respond to the outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus now known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 6 of the Code of West Virginia authorizes the Governor to, among other things, suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders, rules of any state agency, if strict compliance therewith would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

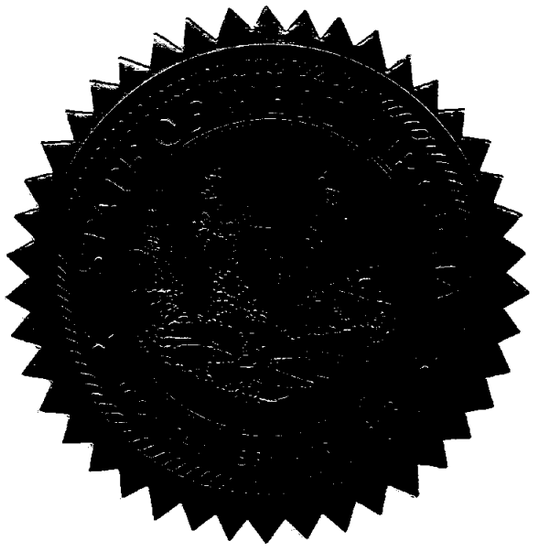
WHEREAS, Executive Orders 4-20, 7-20, 10-20, 11-20, 12-20, 17-20, 23-20, 26-20, 31-20, 46-20, and 54-20 suspended certain provisions and sections of statute that strict compliance therewith would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

Executive Order 4-20 suspended certain regulatory provisions of statute, and directed WorkForce West Virginia to waive or interpret flexibly, as appropriate, the one-week waiting period for benefits under W. Va. Code § 21A-6-2, the able to work and available to work requirements under W. Va. Code § 21A-6-1(3), the work search requirements under W. Va. Code § 21A-6-1(6), and the actively seeking work requirements under W. Va. Code § 21A-6-1(6); and

WHEREAS, there has been an additional statutory regulation identified by WorkForce West Virginia that is preventing the state from best coping with the emergency and assisting the citizens of West Virginia; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE, pursuant to the authority vested in me pursuant to the provision of Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 6 of the Code of West Virginia, hereby **DECLARE** and **ORDER** that Executive Order 4-20 is amended, effective immediately, to the extent necessary to include the actively seeking work requirement for Extended Benefits under 21A-6A-1(12)(E)(i) of the West Virginia Code in the list of regulatory statutory provisions to be suspended and interpreted flexibly or waived, as appropriate, for the duration of the State of Emergency, for the sole purpose of waiving the work search requirement under the Extended Benefits program of the unemployment compensation provisions of West Virginia Code.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.



DONE at the Capitol in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this Thirty-first day of July, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty in the One Hundred Fifty-eighth year of the State.

GOVERNOR

By the Governor

SECRETARY OF STATE