STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26-20

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

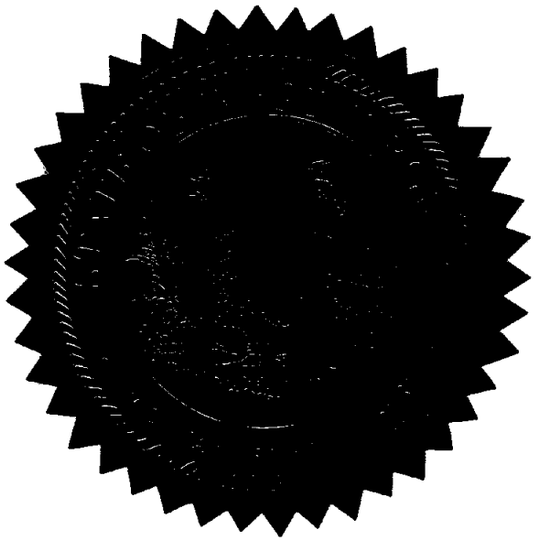
WHEREAS, Executive Orders 7-20, 10-20, 11-20, 12-20, 17-20, and 23-20 suspended certain provisions and sections of statute that strict compliance therewith would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, there have been additional statutory regulations identified by the West Virginia Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology that are 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, the following statutory regulations are to be suspended for the duration of the State of Emergency:

1. In the discretion of the West Virginia Board for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology who shall issue additional guidance, the requirement that a nonresident speech-language pathologist or audiologist who holds a valid out-of-state license or other authorization to engage in the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology which, in the opinion of the board, the requirements and qualifications for which are at least as stringent as those provided in W. Va. Code §§ 30-32-1, and who renders services in this state for no more than five days in any calendar year (W. Va. Code § 30-32-2(6)), provided that this suspension relates only to the five day practice limitation of such regulatory statute.

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 Thirteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty in the One Hundred Fifty-seventh year of the State.

GOVERNOR

By the Governor

SECRETARY OF STATE