EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-06

DECLARATION OF ABNORMAL DISRUPTION OF THE MARKET DUE TO COVID-19

On March 8, 2020, I issued Executive Order No. 20-03 declaring a state of emergency due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in Oregon. This declaration recognized the "high" potential public health threat to citizens of Oregon due to respiratory disease from the novel coronavirus, which has the potential to cause serious illness or loss of life. In recognition of the serious nature of COVID-19, on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern."

ORS 401.965(5) empowers the Governor to declare an abnormal disruption of the market when any emergency prevents ready availability of essential consumer goods and services. On March 16, 2020, the Attorney General informed me that cleaning and basic hygiene supplies are becoming especially hard to find. Prices on medical supplies such as hand sanitizer and masks, as well as other essential consumer goods and services, have risen dramatically and supplies have dwindled since January 30, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. Having found that the COVID-19 outbreak is an emergency that prevents ready availability of essential consumer goods and services, I hereby declare that that an abnormal disruption of the market commenced at 12:00 a.m. on January 30, 2020, in all Oregon counties.

2. Persons who believe that they have been subjected to unconscionably excessive prices for essential consumer goods due to this disruption should report that conduct to the Oregon Department of Justice Consumer Protection hotline, at 503-378-8442. (Consumers can also visit www.OregonConsumer.gov.) The Oregon Department of Justice has the authority to investigate unlawful trade practices.

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3. This order shall remain in effect for thirty days unless extended or terminated sooner.

Done at Portland, Oregon this 17th day of March, 2020.

Kate Brown

Kate Brown
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Bev Clarno
SECRETARY OF STATE

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