EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-30-20

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS based on the best available data as of March 16, 2020, more than 80 percent of the local educational agencies in California are currently closed in response to the threat of COVID-19, impacting nearly 90 percent of the students enrolled in California public schools; and

WHEREAS local public health officials have ordered school closures in numerous counties across California, some of which are currently expected to last at least multiple weeks; and

WHEREAS school closures disrupt the lives and educational progress of students, impacting their ability to make progress in meeting grade level standards in their courses, including the subjects for which California annually administers statewide academic assessments; and

WHEREAS California is currently in the midst of the window for administering the statewide academic assessments for the 2019-2020 academic year; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes specified in this order would prevent, hinder, or delay appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567 and 8571, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Education Code section 60641(a), requiring that all pupils be administered academic assessments in mathematics, English language arts, and science, as provided for in Education Code section 60640, is waived for the 2019-2020 school year for all schools in the state for which the United States Department of Education approves, based on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students and school communities throughout California, a federal waiver of requirements to administer those academic assessments.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 17th day of March 2020.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State