STATE OF VERMONT

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ADDENDUM 4 TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 01-20

Closure of Close-Contact Businesses and Further Restrictions of the Size of Mass Gatherings

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 01-20, Declaration of State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 and National Guard Call-Out ("Executive Order"), declaring a state of emergency for the State of Vermont in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, since that time, the number of cases of COVID-19 which have been tested as presumptively positive in the State has grown exponentially; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order expressly recognized the critical need to take steps to control outbreaks of COVID-19, particularly among those who are elderly or already have underlying chronic health conditions, to minimize the risk to the public, maintain the health and safety of Vermonters, and limit the spread of infection in our communities and within our healthcare facilities; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Health, the Governor has directed a number of mitigation strategies for the State in order to reduce close contact among individuals, including the temporary closure of bars and restaurants, schools and daycare facilities other than those providing childcare services as needed for the children of essential personnel and DMV district offices; limiting the size of mass gatherings; and postponing all non-essential medical procedures; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Health, the Governor has determined it is necessary to cease all in-person operations of businesses which, by the very nature of their business, are unable to comply with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines regarding social distancing; and

WHEREAS, in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Health, the Governor has determined it is necessary to further reduce the size of mass gatherings; and

WHEREAS, it is important for all Vermonters to recognize additional reductions or prohibitions may be implemented as needed to the extent there is a growing trend of confirmed COVID-19 in Vermont.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of Vermont by the Constitution of the State of Vermont, the emergency powers set forth in 20 V.S.A. §§ 8, 9 and 11 and other laws, hereby order as follows:

1. No later than 8:00 p.m. on Monday, March 23, 2020, gymnasiums, fitness centers and similar exercise facilities, hair salons and barbers, nail salons, spas and tattoo parlors shall cease all in-person operations.

2. For the avoidance of doubt, at this time, subject to closures and limitations provided in prior orders, all other businesses may remain open, but must, to the extent practicable, implement CDC guidance to ensure social distancing, including:
    - maintaining a distance of 6 feet between persons;
    - ensuring employees practice appropriate hygiene measures, including regular, thorough handwashing;
    - ensuring that employees who are sick remain home; and
    - regularly cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces.

3. I hereby further amend and restate Section 6 of the Executive Order to prohibit all non-essential gatherings of more than ten (10) people at the same time in a space such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, theater or any other confined indoor or confined outdoor space which encourages congregation.

   A "non-essential gathering" does not include normal operations at airports, bus or railway stations where persons may be in transit; typical office, construction, manufacturing, grocery, food production, retail and retail banking, professional or other employment environments; gatherings of the press; or operations of the Vermont Judiciary or General Assembly consistent with their constitutional authority. Questions from commercial entities, employers, event sponsors and others shall be directed to the SEOC which shall provide appropriate guidance.

4. All public and private enterprises shall post appropriate notices requiring compliance with recommendations by the CDC and the Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Health including, at a minimum, those set forth above in Section 2.

This Addendum to the Executive Order shall take effect upon signing and shall continue in full force and effect until April 15, 2020, at which time the Governor, in consultation with the Vermont Department of Health and Agency of Human Services, the Department of Public Safety/Division of Emergency Management shall assess the emergency and determine whether to amend or extend this Order.

By the Governor:

Philip B. Scott
Governor

Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs

Executive Order No. 01-20 – Addendum 4

March 20, 2020