THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

REDUCING REGULATIONS TO ASSIST THE STATE'S RESPONSE TO THE SPREAD OF COVID-19:

WHEREAS: On March 14, 2020, due to the impact of COVID-19 on the State of Georgia, I issued Executive Order No. 03.14.20.01, declaring a Public Health State of Emergency in Georgia; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia General Assembly concurred with Executive Order 03.14.20.01 by joint resolution on March 16, 2020; and

WHEREAS: The number of COVID-19 cases in Georgia continues to rise; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia Department of Public Health has determined that COVID-19 is spreading throughout communities, requiring the reduction of certain restrictions on the State's Child Care Centers to ensure continued work force availability; and

WHEREAS: Code Section 38-3-51(c)(4) vests the Governor with the power to perform and exercise such other functions, powers, and duties as may be deemed necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population; and

WHEREAS: Code Section 38-3-51(d)(l) vests the Governor with the power to suspend any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business, or the orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency if strict compliance with any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency or disaster; and

WHEREAS: In consultation with the Governor's Coronavirus Task Force and health and emergency preparedness officials, I have determined that the following temporary actions are necessary and appropriate to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Georgia's residents and visitors.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO CODE SECTION 38-3-51 AND THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That in order to allow Child Care Learning Centers and Family Child Learning Homes the option of restricting families' and guardians' access to all areas of their facilities and to limit family access to the front door of the facility or classroom, Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 591-1-1-.22 and Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 290-2-3-.06 are hereby suspended.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That to assist families or guardians that may encounter difficulty in obtaining immunizations and/or immunization records due to recent strains on the health care industry, Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 591-1-1.08(2) and Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 290-2-3.(08)(2), which require either records of age-appropriate immunizations or a signed affidavit against such immunization, are hereby suspended.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That to adhere to guidance related to group sizes and social distancing, no field trips shall occur, and Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 591-1-1-.13 related to field trips is hereby suspended.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 591-1-1.14(1), which requires at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver staff in Child Care Centers to have completed CPR and First Aid training is hereby suspended. Child Care Centers shall still be required to have at least one staff member and one administrator to have CPR and First Aid Certification on the premises at all times that the facility is caring for children.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That if one or more of the provisions contained in this Order shall be held to be invalid, in violation of the Georgia Constitution, in violation of Georgia law, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, violation, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions of this Order, but, in such case, this Order shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained within the Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: All provisions of the Order shall become effective upon signature and shall expire at the conclusion of the Public Health State of Emergency declared in Executive Order No. 03.14.20.01. If the Public Health State of Emergency declared in Executive Order No. 03.14.20.01 is renewed, this Order shall carry forward with the Public Health State of Emergency until such state of emergency is terminated or ceases to be renewed by the Governor.

This 24th day of March 2020.

GOVERNOR