STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-01

Whereas, An outbreak of the severe respiratory disease, COVID-19, which is caused by the person-to-person spread of the novel coronavirus, started in late 2019 and has been detected across the world, including the United States; and,

Whereas, The World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") have declared the COVID-19 outbreak a public health emergency and pandemic; and,

Whereas, The CDC issued guidance to all state and local governments and all citizens recommending preparedness, nonessential travel, social distancing, and other mitigation strategies impacting many sectors of daily life to slow the spread and guard against the COVID-19 outbreak; and,

Whereas, South Dakota has confirmed cases of COVID-19, making this a public health emergency posing a danger to public health and safety in all of South Dakota; and,

Whereas, A state of emergency has been declared by Executive Order 2020-04 on March 13, 2020, which has been extended by Executive Orders 2020-15, 2020-26, 2020-30, and 2020-34, and continues to currently exist within the State of South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Many entities, including local governmental bodies, were unable to hold meetings via electronic media and were unable to safely hold in-person meetings so that strict compliance with the statutory requirement that local emergency planning committee meetings be held each quarter in order to be eligible for grant awards will prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action to cope with this emergency in all counties of our state:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KRISTI NOEM, Governor of the State of South Dakota, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of this State, including but not limited to SDCL 34-48A, do hereby order and direct the following:

Section 1 Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting schedule. I temporarily suspend the statutory provision of SDCL 1-50-10(1)(c) requiring that a meeting be held at least once per quarter for local emergency planning committees that continued to hold public meetings, but whose meetings did not fall within four separate quarters in calendar year 2020.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, This Executive Order shall be in effect immediately and shall continue for the duration of the state of emergency, initially declared by Executive Order 2020-04 and extended by subsequent Executive Orders 2020-15, 2020-26, 2020-30, and 2020-34, unless sooner terminated or extended.

Dated in Pierre, South Dakota this 7th day of January, 2021.

Kristi Noem
Governor of South Dakota

ATTEST:

Steve Barnett
Secretary of State