EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-65-20

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 despite sustained efforts, COVID-19 continues to spread and is impacting nearly all sectors of California; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic and the physical distancing measures implemented to combat it have affected governmental agencies, private businesses, and members of the public, with associated impacts on adherence to certain statutory and regulatory deadlines and other requirements; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has also put increased strain on community-based organizations that combat domestic violence, making it more difficult for those organizations to satisfy certain state grant requirements at a time when there is a critical need for domestic violence prevention and survivor support; and

WHEREAS many state and federal agency offices have closed and shifted their workforce to remote locations as a result of public health requirements regarding physical distancing, limiting the public's access to many state and federal agency offices; and

WHEREAS schools in California have closed their campuses and shifted their resources and workforce capacity to implement distance learning to provide ongoing educational support and services to the preschool through grade 12 students in California, limiting their ability to process verifications necessary for the administration of financial aid for graduating students and changing the grading for courses during the impacted academic terms; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations 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, 8571, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1) All encumbrance and liquidation deadlines for all funds administered by the Energy Commission shall be suspended for a period of 60 days from the date of this Order, regardless of how the funds may be awarded (e.g., grants, contracts, and loans), in order to allow applicants and recipients an opportunity to work with the Energy

Commission to implement mechanisms for meeting grant and loan requirements for projects that have been delayed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and to allow for potential action by the Legislature.

2) The provisions of Public Resources Code sections 21000 through 21178 are suspended, for a period of 60 days from the date of this Order, as applied to the approval of encumbrance of funds for all Energy Commission programs if all of the following criteria are met:

   (i) The Energy Commission is a responsible agency, not lead agency, under the California Environmental Quality Act;

   (ii) The Energy Commission approval is solely for the encumbrance of funds;

   (iii) Any encumbered funds are contingent on the project lead agency approving such project in accordance with the provisions of California Environmental Quality Act; and

   (iv) The applicant provides documentation of the approval(s) required in subparagraph (iii) prior to receipt of any encumbered funds.

3) The deadline specified in Government Code section 1774(c), related to the Senate's confirmation of an individual appointed or reappointed by the Governor to an office, is extended for a period of 90 days. Additionally, the deadlines specified in Government Code section 1774(a), related to the Governor's reappointment of an incumbent to an office, and Government Code section 1774(b), related to transmittal of the required information about reappointment of an incumbent to the Secretary of the Senate, and which were extended via Executive Order N-35-20, are further extended for a period of 60 days from the date of this Order.

4) The requirement for certain domestic violence centers to provide cash or an in-kind match of at least 10 percent of funds received pursuant to Penal Code section 13823.15, as set forth in subdivision (c) of that section, is suspended for a period of 180 days.

5) Notwithstanding the one-year period set forth in Health and Safety Code section 11362.745(a), identification cards issued under Health and Safety Code section 11362.71 (concerning identification cards for persons authorized to engage in the medical use of cannabis and their designated primary caregivers) that would otherwise have expired between March 4, 2020 and any day within 60 days from the date of this Order shall remain valid for 60 days from the date of this Order.

6) The deadline specified in Title 5, California Code of Regulations, sections 30023(c)(2) and 30023(c)(4), to verify the minimum grade point average of applicants for Cal Grants for the 2020-21 academic year pursuant to Education Code Sections 69434(b), 69435.3(a)(1), and 69436(b) is extended to September 2, 2020. Additionally, the certification requirements specified in Title 5, California Code of Regulations, section 30023(c)(1) are waived for applicants whose

verification of the minimum grade point average is submitted pursuant to the September 2, 2020 deadline specified above.

7) The requirement in Education Code Sections 69433.9 and 69400 and any accompanying regulations or formal policy to verify Selective Service registration is waived for applicants eligible for Cal Grants pursuant to Education Code section 69508.5 for the grants received for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 academic years.

8) The timeframe set forth in Executive Order N-35-20, Paragraph 7, is extended for an additional 60 days from the date of this Order.

9) The timeframe set forth in Executive Order N-35-20, Paragraph 8, is extended for an additional 60 days from the date of this Order.

10) The timeframe set forth in Executive Order N-35-20, Paragraph 11, is extended for an additional 60 days from the date of this Order

11) The timeframe set forth in Executive Order N-35-20, Paragraph 12, is extended for an additional 60 days from the date of this Order.

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 19th day of May 2020.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State