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D 2020 082

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Extending Executive Orders D 2020 020 and D 2020 046 Concerning the Temporary Suspension of Certain Statutes to Expand the Use of Telehealth Services Due to the Presence of COVID-19

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution and the relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.*, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order extending Executive Orders D 2020 020 and D 2020 046 for thirty (30) days, concerning the temporary suspension of certain statutes to expand the use of telehealth services due to the presence of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Colorado.

I. Background and Purpose

On March 5, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) public health laboratory confirmed the first presumptive positive COVID-19 test result in Colorado. Since then, the number of confirmed cases has continued to climb, and there is community spread throughout the State. I verbally declared a disaster emergency on March 10, 2020, and on March 11, 2020, I issued the corresponding Executive Order D 2020 003, as amended by Executive Orders D 2020 018, D 2020 032, D 2020 058, and D 2020 076. On March 25, 2020, I requested that the President of the United States declare a Major Disaster for the State of Colorado, pursuant to the Stafford Act. The President approved that request on March 28, 2020.

My administration, along with other state, local, and federal authorities, has taken a wide array of actions to mitigate the effects of the pandemic, prevent further spread, and protect against overwhelming our health care resources.

COVID-19 is a highly contagious viral disease that has spread throughout many Colorado communities, across the country, and across the world. To protect the public health and mitigate exposure to and the spread of COVID-19, Colorado health care providers, including veterinarians, must be able to use telehealth services whenever possible. These services, including low-cost telephone, internet, audio-only, and live video, are widely available and accessible to health care providers and patients.

On April 1, 2020, I issued Executive Order D 2020 020 ordering the temporary suspension of certain statutes to extend the use of telehealth services due to the presence of

COVID-19 in Colorado. On April 30, 2020, I issued Executive Order D 2020 046 extending Executive Order D 2020 020 for an additional thirty (30) days.

Telehealth services remain essential to ensure that health care providers and veterinarians can provide needed services to patients while also minimizing the risk of spread of COVID-19. This Executive Order extends Executive Orders D 2020 020 and D 2020 046 for an additional thirty (30) days so that telehealth services can continue throughout the State.

II. Duration

Executive Order D 2020 020, as extended by Executive Order D 2020 046 and this Executive Order, shall expire thirty (30) days from May 29, 2020, unless extended further by Executive Order. In all other respects, Executive Order D 2020 020, as extended by Executive Order D 2020 046, shall remain in full force and effect as originally promulgated.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twenty-ninth day of May, 2020.

Jared Polis
Governor