Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# DIRECTIVE AND ORDER REGARDING FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

**Pursuant to Executive Order Nos. 20-06-10-01 and 20-04-15-01**

**No. MDH 2020-06-10-01**

I, Robert R. Neall, Secretary of Health, finding it necessary for the prevention and control of 2019 Novel Coronavirus ("SARS-CoV-2" or "2019-NCoV" or "COVID-19"), and for the protection of the health and safety of patients, staff, and other individuals in Maryland, hereby authorize and order the following actions for the prevention and control of this infectious and contagious disease under the Governor's Declaration of Catastrophic Health Emergency.

## 1. Limitations on Food Service Establishments

A. All food service establishments under Executive Order No. 20-06-10-01 who may serve food and beverages to customers for consumption in outdoor and indoor seating areas as of 5:00 p.m. on June 12, 2020 shall:

I. Modify floor plans to ensure customers are seated at least 6 feet away from each other, except for households or a group seated together. No more than six people may be seated at a table.

II. For facilities with booth seating, the social distance of 6 feet must be maintained by closing every other booth.

III. Establish a 6-foot marking system to visually demonstrate the recommended social distancing at all locations where customers and staff congregate.

IV. Customers seated at the bar must comply with the appropriate social distancing guidelines of at least 6 feet, except for households or a group seated together. Standing in a bar area should not be permitted.

V. Clean and disinfect each table between each seating as well as all high touch surfaces. Cleaning products should be appropriate for food contact surfaces that still meet EPA criteria for use against COVID-19.

VI. Food may not be served in a buffet format.

VII. Total capacity of an indoor food service establishment shall not exceed 50% of that facility's maximum occupancy as defined in the Executive Order No. 20-06-10-01.

B. All food service establishments shall require all staff to wear face coverings unless it is not safe to do so, as defined in Executive Order No. 20-04-15-01, and undertake the following staff measures:

I. Employees shall be trained in and understand COVID-19 health and workplace guidelines, such as hand hygiene, cleaning protocols, use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and disposal.

II. Implement a daily screening process for workers, which includes CDC or Maryland Department of Health (MDH) recommended health questions and consider temperature testing.

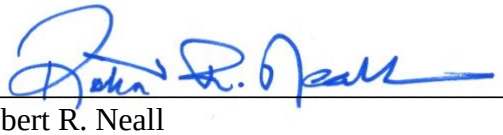
III. Direct sick workers to follow CDC and MDH guidelines regarding home isolation for suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infections and returning to work.

C. Any food service establishment shall require its customers over the age of nine, and visitors over the age of nine to wear face coverings indoors (as defined in Executive Order No. 20-04-15-01), except during the consumption of food and drink. The food service establishment shall post signage at each entrance advising customers and visitors about such requirements.

2. **Severability**

If any provision of this Directive and Order or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of this Directive and Order or Guidance shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Directive and Order are severable.

THESE DIRECTIVES AND ORDERS ARE ISSUED UNDER MY HAND THIS 10TH DAY OF JUNE 2020 AND ARE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.



Robert R. Neall
Secretary