CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR

Executive Order 2020-05

Extension of State of Emergency Declared in Executive Order 2020-04

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 2020-04, An order declaring a state of emergency due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, the Governor activated the Emergency Operations Center at the Incident Planning and Operations Center in Concord to assist in the State's response to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on Monday, March 23, 2020, the first New Hampshire death resulting from COVID-19 occurred; and

WHEREAS, on Monday, March 23, 2020, the Governor issued Emergency Order #16, temporarily prohibiting scheduled gatherings of 10 or more attendees; and

WHEREAS, as of Thursday, April 2, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that every U.S. state has reported cases of COVID-19 to the CDC, and that 213,144 confirmed cases of COVID-19 have occurred in the United States and territorial partners with 4,513 deaths; and

WHEREAS, experts anticipate that while a high percentage of individuals affected by COVID-19 will experience mild flu-like symptoms, some will have severe symptoms and require hospitalization, particularly individuals who are elderly or already have underlying chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, experts indicate that COVID-19 is most commonly spread from an infected symptomatic person to others through respiratory droplets, including:

- Through the air by coughing and sneezing;
- Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands;
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands.

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WHEREAS, the CDC reports that COVID-19 may be spread before an infected person shows symptoms of the virus; and

WHEREAS, the CDC reports that COVID-19 is spread mainly from person to person, that COVID-19 is currently spreading very easily and sustainably, and that the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of Friday, April 3, 2020, the CDC reports that the United States is currently in the acceleration phase of the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, as of Friday, April 3, 2020, the CDC reports that 47 U.S. states and territorial partners are reporting some community spread of COVID-19, meaning people have been infected with the virus who may not have the usual risks of international travel or known contact with a confirmed case; and

WHEREAS, in the 21 days since the Governor declared a State of Emergency, the COVID-19 outbreak in New Hampshire has expanded significantly; and

WHEREAS, as of April 3, 2020, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services has reported 540 cases of COVID-19; 7 deaths; 80 hospitalizations; 1,700 individuals are being monitored; and all 10 counties in the State have been impacted; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health has found that community-based transmission of COVID-19 continues to increase in the State and has been identified in the majority of counties; and

WHEREAS, the White House and CDC have extended their Slow the Spread Guidelines for COVID-19 to April 30, and these guidelines direct Americans to, among other things, work from home whenever possible; avoid social gatherings of more than 10 people; avoid eating and drinking at bars, restaurants and food courts; and avoid discretionary travel; and

WHEREAS, state and local health and emergency response organizations must continue to use all available preventative measures to combat the spread of COVID-19, which will require access to services, personnel, equipment, facilities, and other resources, potentially including resources beyond those currently available, to prepare for and respond to any potential cases and the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, if COVID-19 spreads in New Hampshire at a rate comparable to the rate of spread in other states and countries, the number of persons requiring medical care may exceed locally available resources, and controlling outbreaks minimizes the risk to the public, maintains the health and safety of the people of New Hampshire, and limits the spread of infection in our communities and within the healthcare delivery system; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to continue to prepare for and respond to suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases in New Hampshire, implement measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and prepare to respond to an increasing number of individuals requiring medical care and hospitalization.

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christopher T. Sununu, Governor of the State of New Hampshire, by the authority vested in me pursuant to part II, article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution and New Hampshire RSA 4:45, I do hereby renew the Declaration of a State of Emergency due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and extend the State of Emergency declared in Executive Order 2020-04 for a period of 21 days.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, THAT:

1. All provisions of Executive Order 2020-04, and all Emergency Orders issued pursuant thereto, shall remain in full force and effect through the expiration date of this Executive Order 2020-05.

2. All executive branch actions taken pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04 and the associated Emergency Orders, shall remain in full force and effect through the expiration date of this Executive Order 2020-05.

3. In the interest of public transparency and recordkeeping, all additional Emergency Orders, temporary orders, directives, rules and regulations made for the purpose of responding to the State of Emergency hereby extended shall be issued pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04 as extended by Executive Order 2020-05 and be reflected as such in writing on the Governor's Office website.

Given under my hand and seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord, this 3rd day of April, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and twenty, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty-four.

Christopher T. Sununu

GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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