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D 2021 018

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Extending Executive Orders D 2020 011, D 2020 029, D 2020 052, D 2020 084, D 2020 093, D 2020 118, D 2020 147, D 2020 173, D 2020 201, D 2020 229, D 2020 257, and D 2020 283 Concerning the Temporary Suspension of Certain Regulatory Statutes 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 011, D 2020 029, D 2020 052, D 2020 084, D 2020 093, D 2020 118, D 2020 147, D 2020 173, D 2020 201, D 2020 229, D 2020 257, and D 2020 283, concerning the temporary suspension of certain regulatory statutes 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 we have evidence of widespread 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, D 2020 076, D 2020 109, D 2020 125, D 2020 152, D 2020 176, D 2020 205, D 2020 234, D 2020 258, D 2020 264, D 2020 268, D 2020 284, D 2020 290, D 2020 296, and D 2021 009. 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.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is spread primarily by close contact between people and through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Public health experts recommend the practice of "social distancing," or maintaining a physical distance of six (6) feet or more from other people, as a way to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The economic impacts of COVID-19 are significant, and threaten to undermine the economic stability of many Coloradans and local businesses. The risk of contamination posed by COVID-19 has necessitated closure of multiple businesses. Employers and employees in virtually all sectors of the economy have been hard hit. We must take action to shore up economic security, employment, community cohesion, and community recovery.

This Executive Order extends Executive Order D 2020 011 for an additional thirty (30) days, as amended and extended by Executive Orders D 2020 029, D 2020 052, D 2020 084, D 2020 093, D 2020 118, D 2020 147, D 2020 173, D 2020 201, D 2020 229, D 2020 257, and D 2020 283.

II. Duration

Executive Order D 2020 011, as amended and extended by Executive Orders D 2020 029, D 2020 052, D 2020 084, D 2020 093, D 2020 118, D 2020 147, D 2020 173, D 2020 201, D 2020 229, D 2020 257, D 2020 283, and this Executive Order, shall expire thirty (30) days from January 16, 2021, unless extended further by Executive Order. In all other respects, Executive Order D 2020 011, as amended and extended by Executive Orders D 2020 029, D 2020 052, D 2020 084, D 2020 093, D 2020 118, D 2020 147, D 2020 173, D 2020 201, D 2020 229, D 2020 257, and D 2020 283 shall remain in full force and effect as originally promulgated.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this sixteenth day of January, 2021.

Jared Polis
Governor