STATE OF VERMONT

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ADDENDUM 11 TO AMENDED AND RESTATED EXECUTIVE ORDER 01-20

[Extension of State of Emergency Declared March 13, 2020]

WHEREAS, since December 2019, Vermont has been working in close collaboration with the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") and with the United States Health and Human Services Agency to first monitor and plan for outbreaks of a respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") and then to implement measures to keep Vermonters healthy and safe; and

WHEREAS, the Governor directed the Vermont Department of Health ("VDH") to activate the Health Operations Center in February 2020 when VDH began to monitor and later, test Vermonters who may have been exposed to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in March 2020, the Governor directed the Department of Public Safety, Division of Vermont Emergency Management ("DPS") to assemble an interagency taskforce, and later to activate the Vermont State Emergency Operations Center ("SEOC"), in accordance with the State Emergency Management Plan, to organize prevention, response and mitigation efforts and share information with local and State officials; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020 and March 11, 2020, VDH detected the first two cases of COVID-19 in Vermont and as of February 14, 2021, the State has experienced 13,862 cases (an increase of over 4,200 cases in a one-month period), and 190 deaths (26 additional deaths in a one-month period) which are COVID-19 related; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization made the assessment that COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 01-20, Declaration of State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 and National Guard Call-Out ("Executive Order"), declaring a state of emergency for the State of Vermont in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, President Trump issued a national emergency declaration for the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Governor, in consultation with VDH, DPS and the Vermont Agency of Human Services, initiated aggressive and sustained efforts to protect property and public health, and to ensure public safety in this public health emergency including issuing the Executive Order, as supplemented and amended and Directives issued pursuant to the Executive Order, to limit in-

person contact, such as limiting the size of gatherings, closure of schools and the institution of remote learning through the end of the 2019-2020 school year, directing the postponement of non-essential medical and surgical procedures, suspending the operation of close contact businesses, requiring telecommuting and work from home, requiring Vermonters to stay home and stay safe, with exceptions for essential purposes, and suspending the operation of businesses which were not deemed critical to public health and safety and national and economic security; and

WHEREAS, modeling studies done for the State clearly show that, but for the mitigation measures taken to date, the number of COVID-19 cases and COVID-19 related deaths in the State would be having a much more devastating effect on Vermonters and would be threatening to overwhelm the capacity of the Vermont health care system; and

WHEREAS, the Governor undertook a cautious, measured and data-based approach to restarting Vermont's economy to minimize the risk to the public by limiting the spread of infection in our communities in order to protect the most vulnerable, while reopening our business, non-profit, government and recreation sectors in a safe and effective way; and

WHEREAS, while the Governor is optimistic that the COVID-19 vaccine in Vermont will eventually bring much needed relief, the roll-out of the vaccine will be a methodical, deliberate process designed to protect the Vermonters most vulnerable to severe illness or death from COVID; and

WHEREAS, numerous tools needed to address response efforts remain in place by virtue of the State of Emergency declaration, including protections for residents of long term and other medical care facilities, National Guard resources standing by to assist with the COVID-19 response, workplace health and safety requirements, public gathering limitations, a mandate for facial coverings, expanded housing and meal delivery systems, expanded eligibility for unemployment insurance, tools needed by certain businesses to maintain a minimum level of economic sustainability, moratoria on evictions and utility service disconnection, and federal emergency funding; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has determined, in consultation with the Commissioner of VDH and DPS, based on the best science and data available, to extend the State of Emergency for the State of Vermont through Monday, March 15, 2021.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of Vermont by the Constitution of the State of Vermont, the emergency powers set forth in 20 V.S.A. §§ 8, 9 and 11 and other laws, hereby declare the State of Emergency for the State of Vermont shall be extended through midnight on Monday, March 15, 2021.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

Except as modified herein, the Executive Order, as Amended and Restated June 5, 2020, and all Addenda and Directives issued thereunder, shall continue in full force and effect until midnight on March 15, 2021, at which time the Governor, in consultation with VDH and DPS shall assess the emergency and determine whether to amend or extend the State of Emergency.

This Addendum 11 to the Amended and Restated Executive Order shall take effect upon execution and shall continue in full force and effect until midnight on March 15, 2021, at which time the Governor, in consultation with the Vermont Department of Health and the Department of Public Safety shall assess the emergency and determine whether to amend or extend the Executive Order.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

By the Governor:

Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs

Addendum 11 to Amended and Restated Executive Order No. 01-20

February 15, 2021