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CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

REVISED ORDER ALLOWING FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION FOR THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL

COVID-19 Order No. 29

Rescinding COVID-19 Order No. 14

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19");

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak was characterized as a pandemic by the World Health Organization;

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, I issued COVID-19 Order No. 14, which permitted the Governor's Councillors to participate remotely in any Governor's Council Assembly held through April 29, 2020 and provided that Assemblies of the Council would be recorded and made accessible to the public through posting such recordings on the Governor's Council website;

WHEREAS, the number of presumptive positive and confirmed cases of COVID-19 continues to rise in the Commonwealth. As of April 27, 2020, the Department of Public Health had reported 56,462 cases of COVID-19, including 3,003 deaths, with all counties in the Commonwealth affected;

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health continues to urge all residents of the Commonwealth to limit activities outside of the home and to practice social distancing at all times to limit the spread of this highly contagious and potentially deadly virus;

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WHEREAS, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise any and all authority over persons and property necessary or expedient for meeting a state of emergency, including but not limited to authority over assemblages to protect the health and safety of persons; and

WHEREAS Article I of Chapter II, Section III of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts allows for the Governor to call together and assemble the Council for the ordering and directing the affairs of the Commonwealth,

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby Order the following:

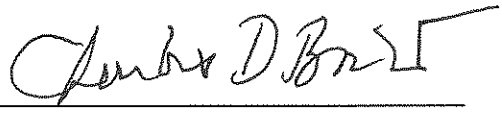
In order to ensure the continued execution of the important business of the Governor's Council during the state of emergency, Councillors shall be permitted to take part in Assembly by remote means. Councillors taking part in Assembly by remote means shall be considered present for purposes of determining quorum and may vote by remote means and otherwise participate in all of the activities of Assembly as if attending in person.

The Council shall ensure public access to the deliberations of the Council conducted by remote means by providing the adequate, alternative means of access set forth in this Order. Assemblies shall be made available by means of livestream internet feeds in order to permit interested members of the public to follow the conduct of assemblies in real time. A URL address for accessing the livestream of the assembly shall be posted on the Governor's Council webpage in advance of each Assembly conducted pursuant to this Order. Assemblies will also be recorded and audio recordings of the proceedings will be made available to the public through the Office of the Governor's Council, including through posting on webpages.

COVID-19 Order No. 14 is hereby rescinded.

This Order is effective April 30, 2020 and shall remain in effect until rescinded or the state of emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.

Given in Boston at 11:10AM this 28th day of April, two thousand and twenty



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of Massachusetts