STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 53-20

By the Governor

WHEREAS, , a State of Emergency was declared on the Sixteenth Day of March, Two Thousand Twenty for all counties in West Virginia ("the State of Emergency Declaration") to allow agencies to coordinate and create necessary measures to prepare for and respond to the outbreak of the respiratory disease caused by the novel coronavirus now known as COVID- 19; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 6 of the Code of West Virginia authorizes the Governor to, among other things, suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders, rules of any state agency, if strict compliance therewith would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 8, Article 1, Section 5a requires that municipalities participating in the Municipal Home Rule Program pay an annual assessment of two thousand dollars ($2,000.00) on July 1 of each year after admittance to the program, and strict compliance with this payment due date may, because of the finite resources and funds available, prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in such municipalities' coping with the COVID-19 pandemic; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM JUSTICE, pursuant to the authority vested in me pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 6 and Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 1 of the Code of West Virginia, hereby DECLARE and ORDER that the applicable provisions of Chapter 8,

Article 1, Section 5a, are hereby suspended to the extent that the payment of the annual assessment due from municipalities currently admitted to the Municipal Home Rule Program, presently due as of July 1, 2020, shall be deemed to be timely paid if paid on or before September 1, 2020.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this Fifteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty in the One Hundred Fifty-eighth year of the State.

GOVERNOR

By the Governor

SECRETARY OF STATE