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Fifteenth Extension – Declaration of a State of Emergency

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WHEREAS, in connection with the serious public health threat from the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") that has impacted the State of Delaware, I issued a Declaration of a State of Emergency for the entire state at 3:00 p.m. on March 12, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, I subsequently issued Twenty-Six Modifications to the State of Emergency declaration to protect from the spread of COVID-19; and

Live Event (<https://governor.delaware.gov/live/>)

WHEREAS, on September 4, 2020, I issued a Twenty-Seventh Modification to the State of Emergency which consolidated all prior Modifications into one Order; and

CONNECT:

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2020 and November 5, 2020, respectively, I issued a First and Second Revision to the 27th Modification to, among others things, limiting social gatherings, closing places of public

Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/JohnCarneyDE/>) Twitter Account (<https://twitter.com/johncarneyde/>)

requiring individuals to wear cloth face coverings both inside essential businesses and outside when social distancing is required, restricting businesses and places of public accommodation to reopen slowly,

reopening the beaches, lifting the quarantine and restrictions on commercial lodgings, establishing guidelines for restaurants and bars and participating in sports safely and taking other measures to reopen the economy while still focused on protecting the public health, safety and welfare of Delawareans during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(<https://www.instagram.com/johncarneyde/>) Flickr Photos
(<https://www.flickr.com/photos/153125298@N08/>)
WHEREAS, as a result of the ongoing increased exposure to and hospitalizations caused by COVID-19, on November 20, 2020 at 3:45 p.m., I entered the Third Revision to the 27th Modification to the State of Emergency to, among other things, require face coverings at all times while inside gyms, reduce occupancy in restaurants and other places of public and private accommodation, and restrict participation in out-of-state sports tournaments; and

WHEREAS, as a result of increased exposure to and hospitalizations caused by COVID-19, on December 10, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., I entered the Fourth Revision to the 27th Modification to the State of Emergency to, among other things, include a stay-at-home advisory to Delawareans until January 11, 2021 and further reduce occupancy in businesses as determined by square footage; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the ongoing increased exposure to and hospitalizations caused by COVID-19, on January 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m., I entered the Fifth Revision to the 27th Modification to the State of Emergency to extend the stay at home advisory, and permit food and drink establishments to remain open after 10:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the gradual decline in hospitalizations in Delaware caused by COVID-19, on February 4, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., I entered the Sixth Revision to the 27th Modification to the State of Emergency to increase occupancy limits for certain businesses; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the continuing decline in hospitalizations in Delaware caused by COVID-19: on February 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., I entered the Seventh Revision to the 27th Modification; on March 29, 2021 at 1:00 p.m., I entered the Eighth Revision to the 27th Modification; on April 1, 2021 at 12:30 p.m., I entered the Ninth Revision to the 27th Modification; and on April 27th, 2021 at 4:00 p.m., I entered the Tenth Revision to the 27th Modification to further ease restrictions on businesses, including easing class size restrictions at exercise facilities, easing restrictions on indoor gatherings and youth and amateur sports, and ease certain requirements of food and drink establishments; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the ongoing threat to public health caused by COVID-19, and to ensure the efficient and effective communication of the suspension of certain regulatory and procedural rules and statutory provisions caused by the COVID-related public health threat to Delawareans, on May 12, 2021 I issued the 28th Modification to the State of Emergency Declaration, to be effective on May 21, 2021, which consolidated all prior Modifications, including the First through Twenty-Seventh Modifications, and the First through Tenth Revisions to the Twenty-Seventh Modification; and

WHEREAS, the State of Delaware continues to face a serious public health threat from COVID-19 and the risk to life remains; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Delaware's emergency management statutes, a State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor may not continue for more than 30 days without being renewed; and

WHEREAS, I extended the State of Emergency for an additional 30 days on April 10, 2020; May 8, 2020; June 6, 2020; July 6, 2020; August 5, 2020; September 3, 2020; October 2, 2020; October 30, 2020; November 25, 2020; December 24, 2020; January 23, 2021; February 19, 2021; March 19, 2021; and April 16, 2021; and

WHEREAS, I find that the conditions necessitating a State of Emergency continue to exist and require that the State of Emergency remains in effect.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN C. CARNEY, pursuant to Title 20, Chapter 31 of the Delaware Code, to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the State of Delaware, do hereby declare:

1. The State of Emergency due to COVID-19, first declared on March 12, 2020 and subsequently modified as set forth above is extended, effective immediately.

2. All provisions of the State of Emergency in the Twenty-Seventh Modification currently in place, which includes the terms of the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Revisions to the 27th Modification, shall remain in full force and effect until terminated in accordance with state law.

APPROVED this 14th day of May 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

John C. Carney

Governor

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