

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH  
Commissioner



Ned Lamont  
Governor  
Susan Bysiewicz  
Lt. Governor

### HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

#### BLAST FAX 2020-14

**TO:** All Healthcare Facilities

**FROM:** Commissioner Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH

**CC:** Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, LNHA  
Barbara Cass, RN., Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch  
Donna Ortelte, Section Chief, Facility Licensing and Investigations Section

**DATE:** March 16, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Governor Ned Lamont Orders and DPH's Commissioner Renée Coleman-Mitchell Order

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Attached are:

1. Executive Order 7C signed on March 15, 2020 by Governor Ned Lamont with reference to previous Orders 7, 7A and 7B (attached for your easy reference).
2. The Department of Public Health's Order dated March 13, 2020.



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**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**

**NED LAMONT**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7C**

**PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC  
AND RESPONSE – FURTHER SUSPENSION OR MODIFICATION OF STATUTES**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, I issued declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, proclaiming a state of emergency throughout the State of Connecticut as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed spread in Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7, dated March 12, 2020, prohibited gatherings of 250 people or more for social and recreational activities, including but not limited to, community, civic, leisure, and sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; movie screenings; plays or performances; conventions; and similar activities, and suspended various statutes and regulations to protect public health and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No.7A, dated March 13, 2020, authorized the Commissioner of Public Health to restrict entrance into nursing homes and similar facilities to protect people who are most vulnerable to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7B, dated March 14, 2020, among other things, modified in-person open meetings requirements, waived certain rules to mitigate the critical shortage of hand sanitizer and personal protective equipment (PPE), maintain and increase the availability of childcare, and provide for increased healthcare resources and facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization has declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 appears to be higher for individuals who are 60 years of age or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, to reduce spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Connecticut Department of Public Health recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus and to slow transmission of

the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

**WHEREAS**, attendance at public meetings and proceedings is likely to increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons residing in congregate settings, such as inpatient or outpatient hospitals, clinics or other facilities for the diagnosis, observation or treatment of persons with psychiatric and intellectual disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, there exists a compelling state interest in collecting health information pertaining to COVID-19 and its spread throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health has added COVID-19 to the list of reportable diseases under Section 19a-215 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 17a-547 of the Connecticut General Statutes governs the rights of patients to receive visitors at regular visiting hours at inpatient or outpatient hospitals, clinics or other facilities for the diagnosis, observation or treatment of persons with psychiatric and intellectual disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 17a-238 of the Connecticut General Statutes governs the rights of persons under the supervision of the Commissioner of Developmental Services to communicate freely and privately with any person; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 52-146e of the Connecticut General Statutes limits the disclosure of information that identifies a patient to any person, corporation or governmental agency without the consent of the patient or the patient's authorized representative; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 52-146f of the Connecticut General Statutes provides exceptions to Section 52-146e of the Connecticut General Statutes;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NED LAMONT**, Governor of the State of Connecticut, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Connecticut, do hereby **ORDER AND DIRECT**:

1. **Cancellation of School Classes.** To promote and secure the safety and protection of children in schools related to the risks of COVID-19, all public school classes will be cancelled for all students effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020 until March 31, 2020, unless extended beyond that date. Private schools and other non-public schools are encouraged to follow the same schedule. The Connecticut State Department of Education, the Connecticut Department of Public Health, the Department of Children and Families, and the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, are directed to immediately work together to implement measures to provide for the health, nutrition, safety, educational needs and well-being of children during the class cancellation period.

2. **Flexibility of Graduation Requirements, and Prescribed Courses of Study.** The provisions of Sections 10-16b and 10-221a, and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding prescribed courses of study and graduation requirements are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Education to temporarily waive any requirements contained therein as he deems necessary to address the impact of COVID-19 and school class cancellations.
3. **Flexibility for Educator Prep Programs.** The provisions of Section 10-145a, and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding educator preparation programs are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Education to temporarily waive any requirements, contained therein as he deems necessary to address the repercussions of college, university, and school class cancellations on students pursuing secondary education programs. The Commissioner may issue any order that he deems necessary to implement this order.
4. **Flexibility for Educator Certification Timelines, Educator Evaluations, and School In-Services.** The provisions of Sections 10-145, 10-145b, 10-145d, 10-151b, 10-151 and 10-220a, and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding educator certification timelines, evaluations, and professional development requirements are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Education to temporarily waive any requirements contained therein as he deems necessary to address the impact the school class cancellations and COVID-19 risks when classes resume and students return. The Commissioner may issue any order that he deems necessary to implement this order.
5. **Extension of Municipal Budget Adoption Deadlines.** Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, including Title 7, or any special act, municipal charter or ordinance, that conflicts with this order, all municipal budget deadlines for the preparation of the municipal budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 that fall on any date prior to and including May 15, 2020 are extended by thirty (30) days. The legislative body of the municipality, or in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting, the board of selectmen, may alter or modify the schedules and deadlines pertaining to the preparation and submission of a proposed budget and the deliberation or actions on said budget by the legislative body or other fiscal authority, including any required public hearing(s), publication, referendum or final budget adoption. All submission dates may be postponed until such time as the legislative body approves said modified schedule and deadline, consistent with the thirty (30) day extension.
6. **Extension of Regional Board of Education Budget Adoption Deadlines.** Notwithstanding any provision of the Connecticut General Statutes, including Title 10, or any special act, municipal charter or ordinance, that conflicts with this order, all budget deadlines for the preparation of regional school district budgets for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 that fall on any date prior to and including May 15, 2020 may be extended by thirty (30) days. Any regional board of education may alter or modify the schedules and deadlines pertaining to the preparation and submission of a proposed budget and the

deliberation or actions on said budget by the legislative body or other fiscal authority, including any required public hearing(s), publication, referendum or final budget adoption.

7. **Remote Conduct of DMV Operations.** To protect public health and safety, particularly the risk of transmission of COVID-19, by reducing in-person interactions, Title 14 of the Connecticut General Statutes is hereby modified to authorize the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to issue any and all orders she deems necessary to close any DMV branch to transaction of business by the public, facilitate the conduct of business remotely using online methods or any other feasible means, including provision of any notice or conduct of any hearing required pursuant to that Title, waive the suspension of licenses and other credentials as required, and waive, modify or suspend related requirements in Title 14 that result from closure of DMV branch offices to the public. The Commissioner may suspend any timeline or deadline for any notice or hearing required by this Title or by the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act for up to 90 days. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall post a plan on its website to instruct customers how to conduct business remotely and provide updated information on services conducted by its partners. The DMV shall implement its plan as soon as feasible, and shall review the plan weekly to determine whether any modifications are necessary.
8. **Limits on Visitors to Facilities That Treat Persons with Psychiatric Disabilities.** For the duration of the aforementioned public health and civil preparedness emergencies, or until such time as I repeal or modify this executive order, notwithstanding Section 17a-547 of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other statute, regulation, local rule or ordinance or provision of law, the Commissioners of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Department of Public Health are authorized to issue any and all orders restricting entrance into facilities, as defined in Section 17a-540(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes, including Whiting Forensic Hospital, that the Commissioners deem necessary to protect the health and welfare of patients, residents and staff.
9. **Limits on Visitors to the Southbury Training School.** For the duration of the aforementioned public health and civil preparedness emergencies, or until such time as I repeal or modify this executive order, notwithstanding Section 17a-238 of the of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other statute, regulation, local rule or ordinance or provision of law, the Commissioners of the Department of Developmental Services and the Department of Public Health are authorized to issue any and all orders restricting entrance into facilities, as referenced in Section 17a-231(1), the Southbury Training School and any other facility operated by the Department of Developmental Services that the Commissioners deem necessary to protect the health and welfare of patients, residents and staff.
10. **COVID-19 Information Sharing Between Facilities That Treat Persons with Psychiatric Disabilities, DPH, and Local Health Directors.** For the duration of the aforementioned public health and civil preparedness emergencies, or until such time as I

repeal or modify this executive order, Section 52-146f of the Connecticut General Statutes is amended to permit the Commissioner of Public Health and Local Health Directors to disclose communications or records to report cases of COVID-19 as required under Section 19a-215 of the Connecticut General Statutes and as they may deem necessary to limit the further spread of COVID-19 or respond to this public health and civil preparedness emergency.

Unless specified herein, each provision of this order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless earlier modified or terminated by me.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 15th day of March, 2020.



Ned Lamont  
Ned Lamont  
Governor

By His Excellency's Command



Denise W. Merrill  
Denise W. Merrill  
Secretary of the State







**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**

**NED LAMONT**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7**

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID 19 PANDEMIC AND  
RESPONSE**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, I issued declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, proclaiming a state of emergency throughout the State of Connecticut as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed spread in Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization has declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 appears to be higher for individuals who are 60 years of age or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons who are living in congregate settings, such as long-term care facilities, and most residents of long-term care facilities are at increased risk for severe COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, to reduce spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Connecticut Department of Public Health recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus and to slow down the transmission of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

**WHEREAS**, Sections 10-15 and 10-16 of the Connecticut General Statutes require that public schools be in session for at least 180 days during each year and for nine hundred hours of actual schoolwork for full-day kindergarten and grades one to twelve, inclusive, and four hundred and fifty hours for half-day kindergarten; and

**WHEREAS**, due to these unprecedented circumstances and because of the existence of this public health emergency and the anticipated temporary closure of schools due to COVID-19 risks where such local and regional boards of education deem it necessary to protect the safety and public health, multiple school districts may not be able to fulfill these requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Connecticut Department of Public Health and my administration continue to manage the public health aspects of this incident;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NED LAMONT**, Governor of the State of Connecticut, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Connecticut, do hereby **ORDER AND DIRECT**:

- 1. Prohibition of Large Gatherings.** Throughout the State, gatherings of 250 people or more for social and recreational activities including, but not limited to, community, civic, leisure, or sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; movie screenings; plays or performances; conventions; and similar activities; are prohibited. Such prohibition shall remain in effect until midnight on April 30, 2020, unless modified by a future Executive Order. Nothing in this order shall prohibit any spiritual gathering or worship service. Violators of this order may be subject to criminal penalties pursuant to Section 28-22 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- 2. Limits on Nursing Home Visitors.** Section 19a-550(b)(12) of the Connecticut General Statutes, specifically providing that each patient in a nursing home facility, residential care home or chronic disease hospital “may associate ... privately with persons of the patient's choice, including other patients,” is hereby modified to provide that the Commissioner of Public Health may issue restrictions on the number, category and frequency of outside visitors and the screening and protective measures as the Commissioner may deem necessary to assure the health and welfare of patients in a nursing home facility, residential care home or chronic disease hospital, provided that nothing in this order or any order by the Commissioner may prohibit a visit, where sufficient protective measures are able to be put in place, from 1) at least one family member, domestic partner, or other person designated by the patient, each day; 2) a patient's attorney, conservator, or any process server related to matters under the jurisdiction of the Probate Court; 3) persons necessary to conduct hearings under the jurisdiction of the Probate Court; or 4) a person authorized by law to oversee or investigate the provision of care and services (e.g. ombudsman). Except as provided herein regarding visitors, nothing in this order shall suspend or modify the provisions of Sec. 19a-550(b)(12) providing the right to communicate privately with persons of the patient's choice, send and receive the patient's personal mail unopened and make and receive telephone calls privately, unless medically contraindicated, as documented by the patient's physician or advanced practice registered nurse in the patient's medical record.
- 3. Waiver of 180-Day School Year.** For the 2019-2020 school year, the mandates of Sections 10-15 and 10-16 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and any associated implementing regulations or policies, requiring 180 school day sessions and the associated requirements for a threshold number of hours of actual school work, are immediately suspended for all schools that are closed for any period of time due to COVID-19 risks and, upon the reopening of the schools, hold school sessions through June 30, 2020. Nothing in this order shall preclude schools from satisfying the existing mandates of Sections 10-15 and 10-16 sooner than June 30, 2020 through distance learning or other alternatives approved by the Commissioner of Education. The Commissioner shall approve any such alternatives if they are filed with the State Department of Education on or before June 1, 2020 and consist of an attestation by the Superintendent or school leadership official, and signed

by the Chair of the local or regional board of education, stating that the alternative methods comply with all legal and regulatory requirements.

4. **Extension of DMV Licensing Renewal Deadlines and Suspension of Other DMV Requirements.** Pursuant to Section 14-5c of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles is authorized for the duration of the aforementioned public health and civil preparedness emergency to issue such orders pursuant to such section as she deems necessary.
5. **Modification of Police Academy Attendance Requirements.** Section 7-294e-15 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, which prohibits police training academy recruits from being absent from any basic training program for more than five days, is hereby suspended. The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection or his designee, subject to their discretion, may permit leave in excess of five days for any recruit if they determine such leave to be necessary as a result of the effects of or response to the COVID 19 pandemic; may permit a recruit on such leave to continue basic training via distance learning; and may permit a recruit who is unable, because of extended absence as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic, to complete the basic training in the next available or a future training class.

This order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect for the duration of the aforementioned state of emergency, unless earlier modified by me.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 12th day of March, 2020.

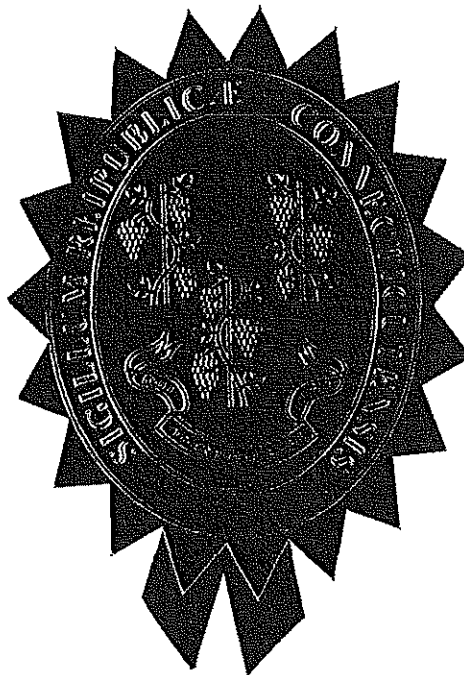


Ned Lamont  
Governor

By His Excellency's Command



Denise W. Merrill  
Secretary of the State





**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**

**NED LAMONT**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7A**

**PROTECTION OF RESIDENTS OF NURSING HOME FACILITIES,  
RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES AND CHRONIC DISEASE HOSPITALS  
DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, I issued declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, proclaiming a state of emergency throughout the State of Connecticut as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed spread in Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization has declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 is higher for people who are 60 years old or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons who are living in congregate settings, such as long-term care facilities, and residents of long-term care facilities are at increased risk for severe COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Connecticut Department of Public Health recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus and to slow down the transmission of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, I issued Executive Order No. 7, which, among other things, authorized the Commissioner of Public Health to restrict visitation in nursing home facilities, residential care homes and chronic disease hospitals, with certain exceptions; and

**WHEREAS**, nursing homes and related facilities throughout Connecticut are experiencing staffing shortages as a result of the closure of schools and other effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, increasing the risks to patients, residents, and staff; and

**WHEREAS**, there exists a compelling state interest in restricting visitation in nursing home facilities, residential care homes and chronic disease hospitals to protect the health and safety of their patients, residents, and staff;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NED LAMONT**, Governor of the State of Connecticut, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Connecticut, do hereby **ORDER AND DIRECT**:

1. For the duration of the aforementioned public health and civil preparedness emergencies, or until such time as I repeal or modify this executive order, notwithstanding Section 19a-550(b)(12) of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other statute, regulation, local rule or ordinance or provision of law, the Commissioner of Public Health is authorized to issue any and all orders restricting entrance into nursing home facilities, residential care homes or chronic disease hospitals that she deems necessary to protect the health and welfare of patients, residents and staff.
2. This order supersedes paragraph 2 of Executive Order No. 7 ("Limits on Nursing Home Visitors"). All other provisions of Executive Order No. 7 remain in effect.

This order shall take effect immediately.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



Ned Lamont  
Governor

By His Excellency's Command



Denise W. Merrill  
Secretary of the State



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**

**NED LAMONT**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7B**

**PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC  
AND RESPONSE – FURTHER SUSPENSION OR MODIFICATION OF STATUTES**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, I issued declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, proclaiming a state of emergency throughout the State of Connecticut as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed spread in Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7, dated March 12, 2020, prohibited gatherings of 250 people or more for social and recreational activities, including but not limited to, community, civic, leisure, and sporting events; parades; concerts; festivals; movie screenings; plays or performances; conventions; and similar activities, and suspended various statutes and regulations to protect public health and safety; and

**WHEREAS**, my Executive Order No. 7A, dated March 13, 2020, authorized the Commissioner of Public Health to restrict entrance into nursing homes and similar facilities to protect people who are most vulnerable to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization has declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 appears to be higher for individuals who are 60 years of age or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an increased risk of rapid spread of COVID-19 among persons living in congregate settings, such as long-term care facilities, and most residents of long-term care facilities are at increased risk for severe COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, to reduce spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Connecticut Department of Public Health recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus and to slow transmission of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

**WHEREAS**, attendance at public meetings and proceedings is likely to increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, increased demand on the healthcare system resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic has created an imminent shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE); and

**WHEREAS**, the imminent shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) will significantly impact pharmacies compounding sterile pharmaceuticals in the State of Connecticut due to their inability to comply with statutorily mandated garbing requirements;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Consumer Protection has issued liquor permits to persons and organizations sponsoring public outings, picnics, social or charitable events that would draw crowds of people, but fees for such permits are currently non-refundable;

**WHEREAS**, the need to enact social distancing, limit large crowds, and other measures, combined with the closure of schools and workplaces to limit the transmission of COVID-19, has vastly expanded the need for childcare for families throughout the State; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 19a-420 (1) of the Connecticut General Statutes provides in relevant part that youth camps operate based on a summer instructional program schedule; and

**WHEREAS**, due to unprecedented circumstances and because of the existence of this public health emergency and the anticipated need for additional childcare for families faced with multiple school closures, it is deemed necessary to allow camps to open and provide care for a period longer than the summer season; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 10-16p (6) of the Connecticut General Statutes requires School Readiness programs to remain open for 50 weeks of the year; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the unprecedented circumstances and because of the existence of this public health emergency and the temporary closure of School Readiness programs due to COVID-19 risks, where such School Readiness programs deem it necessary to protect the safety and public health, multiple School Readiness programs may not be able to fulfill this requirement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Director of the Office of Health Strategy directs and oversees the Health Systems Planning Unit established under section 19a-612 and all of its duties and responsibilities as set forth in Sections 19-610 through 19-689 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Health Systems Planning Unit oversees the Certificate of Need program, hospital financial reporting and other functions; and

**WHEREAS**, healthcare providers in the state of Connecticut may need the flexibility to establish temporary health care facilities to test, diagnose and treat patients exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 in response to the anticipated surge in COVID-19 cases; and



**WHEREAS**, the current licensed bed capacity within the state of Connecticut may be insufficient to accommodate and facilitate the safe and effective treatment of individuals diagnosed with COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the utilization of certain imaging equipment is required to diagnose, treat, and monitor the progression of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 19a-638(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes requires a certificate of need for the establishment of a new health care facility; the establishment of a freestanding emergency department; the acquisition of computed tomography scanners; and an increase in licensed bed capacity of a health care facility in the state of Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 19a-639a through 19a-639f of the Connecticut General Statutes sets forth notice requirements and timelines related to the certificate of need analytic process, and sets forth a process to request public hearings;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NED LAMONT**, Governor of the State of Connecticut, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Connecticut, do hereby **ORDER AND DIRECT**:

- 1. Suspension of In-Person Open Meeting Requirements.** Sections 1-206, 1-225, and 1-226 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and any open meeting provision of any municipal charter, ordinance, or regulation that conflicts with this order, are suspended to the extent necessary to permit any public agency to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting or requiring in-person, public access to such meetings, and to hold such meetings or proceedings remotely by conference call, videoconference or other technology, provided that: 1) the public has the ability to view or listen to each meeting or proceeding in real time, by telephone, video, or other technology; 2) any such meeting or proceeding is recorded or transcribed, and such recording or transcript shall be posted on the agency's website within seven (7) days of the meeting or proceeding, and made available within a reasonable time in the agency's office; 3) the required notice and agenda for each meeting or proceeding is posted on the agency's website and shall include information about how the meeting will be conducted and how the public can access it; 4) any materials relevant to matters on the agenda, including but not limited to materials related to specific applications, if applicable, shall be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty four (24) hours prior and posted to the agency's website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting, and any exhibits to be submitted by members of the public shall, to the extent feasible, also be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting and posted to the agency's website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting; and 5) all speakers taking part in any such meeting or proceeding shall clearly state their name and title, if applicable, before speaking on each occasion that they speak.
- 2. Waiver of Manufacturer Registration Requirement for Hand Sanitizer:** The requirement for a manufacturer registration under 21a-70(b) of the Connecticut General

Statutes, and any associated implementing regulations or policies, is suspended to authorize the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to allow pharmacists licensed pursuant to chapter 400j to compound and sell finished hand sanitizer products over the counter to customers requesting this product, provided that the Commissioner shall issue an implementing order to prescribe the rules for such activity, and such activity shall be allowed only upon issuance of such order.

3. **Suspension of Garbing Requirements For Non-Hazardous Compounding of Sterile Pharmaceuticals.** The requirement in Section 20-633b of the Connecticut General Statutes that pharmacies compounding sterile pharmaceuticals, in community pharmacies and institutional pharmacies, meet the garbing requirements set forth in United States Pharmacopeia (USP) Chapter 797 is suspended for the purpose of allowing such pharmacies to continue compounding non-hazardous sterile pharmaceuticals. This suspension shall apply only to the garbing requirements for non-hazardous compounding of sterile pharmaceuticals and shall apply only for the duration of this imminent shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE), as determined by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. Pharmacies compounding sterile pharmaceuticals shall follow all other relevant state and federal laws and shall comply with all other requirements set forth in United States Pharmacopeia (USP) Chapter 797. Additionally, all deviations from current Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for garbing shall be memorialized and dated. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may issue any implementing orders that she deems necessary.
4. **Refunds of Certain Liquor License Application Fees Permissible.** Section 30-39(b)(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, is modified to authorize the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to cancel and refund the application fee for a liquor permit to any person or organization who cancels public outings, picnics, social or charitable events, and no longer requires the liquor permit granted for use at the event. The Commissioner may issue any such implementing orders as she deems necessary.
5. **Waiver of Face-to-Face Interview Requirements for Temporary Family Assistance.** Section 17b-688c of the Connecticut General Statutes is suspended to authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to 1) waive prohibitions on temporary family assistance to applicants prior to an applicant's attendance at an employment services interview or participation in development of an employment services plan, 2) to consider the effects of or a pandemic or the response to it as good cause when assessing compliance with any provision of Section 17b-688c, and 3) issue any implementing orders that she deems necessary.
6. **Flexibility to Maintain Adequate Childcare Resources.** The provisions of Sections 10-16p (6), 10-530, 19a-420 through 19a-429, 19a-77, 19a-79 through 19a-87f and 10-530 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any associated regulations, rules, and policies regarding youth camps, family childcare homes, childcare centers, and group childcare homes, are modified to authorize the Commissioner of Early Childhood to temporarily waive any requirements, including licensing requirements, contained therein as she deems

necessary to maintain a sufficient capacity of childcare services or otherwise respond to the need for childcare during this public health and civil preparedness emergency. The Commissioner may issue any implementing orders that she deems necessary.

- 7. Flexibility to Provide For Adequate Healthcare Resources and Facilities.** Sections 19a-610 through 19a-689 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any related regulations, rules, or policies are modified to authorize the Executive Director of the Office of Health Strategy to waive provisions of such sections as she deems necessary to ensure that adequate healthcare resources and facilities are available to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to issue any implementing orders that she deems necessary.

Unless specified herein, each provision of this order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless earlier modified or terminated by me.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 14th day of March, 2020.



Ned Lamont  
Governor

By His Excellency's Command



Denise W. Merrill  
Secretary of the State







# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH  
Commissioner

Ned Lamont  
Governor  
Susan Bysiewicz  
Lt. Governor

### ORDER

Whereas, on March 10, 2020, Governor Ned Lamont (the Governor), in response to the global pandemic of 2019 Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), declared a public health and civil preparedness emergency throughout the State of Connecticut pursuant to Sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the Connecticut General Statutes, to remain in effect through September 9, 2020, unless sooner terminated by the Governor; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, the Governor, in furtherance of the authority granted by virtue of such emergency declaration, issued Executive Order No. 7A to address critical public health issues regarding COVID-19; and

Whereas, said Executive Order provides that for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergencies, or until such time as the Governor repeals or modifies Executive Order 7A, notwithstanding Section 19a-550(b)(12) of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other statute, regulation, local rule or ordinance or provision of law, the Commissioner of Public Health is authorized to issue any and all orders restricting entrance into nursing home facilities, residential care homes or chronic disease hospitals (the Facility or Facilities) that she deems necessary to protect the health and welfare of patients, residents and staff.

Now, therefore, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Executive Order No. 7A, and in response to the ongoing public health crisis arising out of COVID-19, especially among elderly individuals and persons with co-morbid conditions, I hereby order that, **effective immediately, all Connecticut Facilities shall impose a complete ban on all visitors to such Facilities, for a period of THIRTY (30) DAYS commencing on the date of this order unless terminated earlier by virtue of a future order**, except that a Facility shall continue to provide reasonable access to:

1. First responders, including Emergency Medical Services, law enforcement, firefighting and Emergency Management personnel;
2. Family members, domestic partners or other persons designated by a patient only when the Facility's Medical Director, a licensed physician or advanced practice registered nurse has determined such patient to be at the end stage of life with death being imminent;



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3. Any person authorized by law to oversee or investigate the provision of care and services; and
4. Service providers who are required to do maintenance or repair necessary without delay for the Facility's continued operation.

In all instances where visitors are permitted entry to a Facility as enumerated above, such visitors shall only be permitted into the Facility after Facility personnel have performed a risk screening of each such visitor for COVID-19, and with the use of appropriate Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) in accordance with CDC guidance documents, if necessary. Please refer to CDC guidance documents at [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html?CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Finfection-control.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Finfection-control.html)


The risk screening to be performed shall include, but not be limited to, recent travel history, contact with a person presumed or confirmed positive for COVID-19, fever of 100 degrees or greater, sneezing, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath and recent travel by airplane. The Facility shall ban entrance to any visitor who confirms the existence of any of the utilized screening conditions or who the Facility determines meets one of such criteria.

Except as provided herein, nothing in this order shall suspend or modify the provisions of Sec. 19a-550(b)(12) providing the right to communicate privately with persons of the patient's choice, send and receive the patient's personal mail unopened and make and receive telephone calls privately, unless medically contraindicated, as documented by the patient's physician or advanced practice registered nurse in the patient's medical record.

Any Facility resident desirous and capable of leaving the Facility may do so at any time provided he or she is screened for exposure to COVID-19 upon his or her return as provided above.

The restrictions imposed herein shall be reviewed weekly and modified as circumstances warrant but shall, in no event, continue beyond September 9, 2020.

Ordered this 13th day of March, 2020

  
Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH  
Commissioner