ORDER

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Governor Ned Lamont (the Governor), in response to the global pandemic of 2019 Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), declared public health and civil preparedness emergencies 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, the Governor’s Executive Order No. 7K, dated March 23, 2020, authorized the Commissioner of Public Health (the Commissioner) to temporarily waive, modify or suspend any regulatory requirements adopted by the Commissioner or any Boards or Commissions under Chapters 368a, 368d, 368v, 369 to 381a, inclusive, 382a, 383 to 388, inclusive, 398 to 399, inclusive, 400a, 400c and 474 of the Connecticut General Statutes as the Commissioner deems necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the public health; and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2020, the Governor renewed the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared on March 10, 2020 and declared new public health and civil preparedness emergencies, to remain in effect until February 9, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Executive Order No. 9A, dated September 8, 2020, reissued all executive orders issued pursuant to the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared on March 10, 2020 and renewed on September 1, 2020 that are unexpired and currently in effect as of September 8, 2020, to expire on November 9, 2020, unless earlier modified or terminated; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Executive Order No. 9L, dated November 9, 2020, reissued all executive orders issued pursuant to the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared on March 10, 2020 and renewed on September 1, 2020 that are unexpired and currently in effect as of November 9, 2020, to expire on February 9, 2021, unless earlier modified or terminated; and

WHEREAS, sections 25-32-9(d), 25-32-11(d) and 25-32-11a(d) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies require that a written examination administered by the Department of Public Health (Department) be given to qualifying water treatment plant, distribution system, and small water system operator candidates;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Executive Order No. 7K, and in response to the ongoing public health crisis arising out of COVID-19, for the duration of the public
health and civil preparedness emergencies, unless sooner modified or terminated by me by a future Order, or the Governor’s earlier repeal or modification of Executive Order No. 7K, or termination of the public health and civil preparedness emergencies, I hereby order, effectively immediately, that:

1. **Certified operator examinations**: Sections 25-32-9(d), 25-32-11(d) and 25-32-11a(d) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are hereby modified to allow DPH to test qualifying operator candidates by way of a written examination prescribed by DPH for each applicable classification and administered by an organization designated by DPH, with such examinations to be held remotely using online methods or by other means deemed by DPH adequate to qualify the operator candidate for certification. The examinations prescribed and the organizations designated by DPH to administer such examinations shall be published on DPH’s Internet website.

Ordered this 24th day of December 2020

Deirdre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner