STATE OF CONNECTICUT

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

NED LAMONT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 11E

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC – EXTENSION OF ADDITIONAL COVID-19 EXECUTIVE ORDERS

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I declared public health and civil preparedness emergencies throughout the State of Connecticut as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2020, I renewed the March 10, 2020 declaration of public health and civil preparedness emergencies and also issued new declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, which new and renewed emergencies remained in effect until February 9, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2021, I renewed the March 10, 2020 and September 1, 2020 declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies and also issued new declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, which new and renewed emergencies shall run concurrently and remain in effect until April 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2021, I signed into law Special Act 21-2, through which the General Assembly ratified the previously mentioned declarations and endorsed a renewal and extension of such declarations through May 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to such declarations, I have issued various executive orders to protect public health, limit transmission of COVID-19, and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic (the "COVID-19 Orders"); and

WHEREAS, on April 19, 2021, I renewed the March 10, 2020 and September 1, 2020 declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies and also issued new declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, which new and renewed emergencies shall run concurrently and remain in effect until through May 20, 2021; 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 COVID-19 pandemic remains a grave threat to public health and safety and civil preparedness in the State of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, public health experts have determined that it is possible to transmit COVID-19 even before a person shows symptoms and through aerosol transmission; and transmission or "shedding" of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 may be most virulent before a person shows any symptoms; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has recommended that people with mild symptoms consistent with COVID-19 be assumed to be infected with the disease; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to slow transmission of COVID-19, including limitation on the size of gatherings, maintaining a safe distance from others, and wearing masks or face coverings; and

WHEREAS, because COVID-19 has caused unanticipated health effects that are not fully understood by the medical community, residents, businesses, and government, agencies face new and unanticipated economic, fiscal, and operational challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, infections with highly transmissible variants of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 have spread widely in the United Kingdom and elsewhere and have been discovered in Connecticut and other states, increasing the risk of greater transmission of COVID-19 throughout Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut continues to successfully conduct a campaign to vaccinate as many residents as possible against COVID-19, including having opened eligibility to all residents aged 16 or older and having vaccinated a large percentage of those most vulnerable to serious health effects from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, having consulted with agency leaders, department heads, municipal and legislative leaders, and other stakeholders, I allowed many COVID-19 Orders, representing more than 60 percent of those in effect on April 19, 2021, to expire today; and

WHEREAS, as a result of such consultation, I also identified many unexpired COVID-19 Orders that remain critical to the protection of public health and safety and the maintenance of civil preparedness and likely will remain critical to ensuring execution of the essential duties of government because they provide for an efficient and effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and therefore, on April 19, 2021, I issued Executive Order Nos. 11, 11A, 11B, 11C, and 11D to extend and consolidate those critical COVID-19 orders; and

WHEREAS, I have identified additional COVID-19 Orders that are critical to the continued pandemic response;

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, and pursuant to the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared on March 10, 2020 and renewed on September 1, 2020, January 26, 2021, and April 19, 2021, and the new public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared on April 19, 2021, do hereby **ORDER AND DIRECT:**

1. Extension of Additional COVID-19 Orders to May 20, 2021. In addition to the orders extended by Executive Order No. 11, Section 1, the following Executive Orders are extended through May 20, 2021:

Executive Order No. 7EE, Section 4 Executive Order No. 10A, Section 5

Unless otherwise provided herein, this order shall be retroactive to 11:59 p.m. on April 19, 2021 and remain in effect through May 20, 2021.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 20th day of April, 2021.

Ned Lamont Governor

By His Excellency's Command

Denise W. Merrill Secretary of the State