

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**

**NED LAMONT**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 13**

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

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, September 1, 2020 and January 26, 2021, I declared and renewed public health and civil preparedness emergency 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 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**, on April 19, 2021, I renewed and issued new declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergency, which ran concurrently and remained in effect through May 20, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 13, 2021, I signed into law Special Act 21-4, through which the General Assembly provided procedures for renewal of such declarations and authorized me to continue to exercise the emergency powers provided in Sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the Connecticut General Statutes through July 20, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 17, 2021, I signed into law Special Act 21-5, through which the General Assembly provided procedures for renewal of such declarations and exercise of authorities pursuant thereto for the period after July 20, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 18, 2021, I renewed and issued new declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergency, which run concurrently and remain in effect through July 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**, 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 under certain circumstances 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**, 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 12 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 have determined that the majority of remaining COVID-19 Orders may be allowed to expire after July 20, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of such consultation, I have also identified a small number of unexpired COVID-19 Orders that remain critical to the protection of public health and safety and the maintenance of civil preparedness and will remain critical to ensuring an efficient and effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including but not limited to the continuation of Connecticut’s nation-leading vaccination campaign, continued provision of needed healthcare and childcare in a safe and effective manner to residents throughout the state, and mitigation of the devastating economic effects of the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, expeditious distribution of certain Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to healthcare providers remains necessary to provide healthcare to vulnerable populations and to provide compensation to healthcare providers for care already provided in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, statutory appeal and rehearing procedures for providers covered by Section 17b-11 of the Connecticut General Statutes are designed for traditional determinations of funding and compensation for certain healthcare services, and not for distribution of federal emergency relief related to COVID-19, and therefore appeal of CRF distribution decisions could delay the expeditious distribution and of CRF funds and hinder the expeditious response to the pandemic and its effects; and

**WHEREAS**, operational and safety rules for schools and child care settings remain necessary to ensure the safety of children in those settings, all of whom remain ineligible for vaccination if they are younger than 12 years; and

**WHEREAS**, maximizing the effectiveness of vaccine distribution to reach the portions of the population not yet vaccinated, and near-daily updates to information on the symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment of COVID-19 requires the ability to work with existing vaccine providers, as well as the continuous flow of new hospitals, and other healthcare professionals to procure COVID-19 related goods and services in an expedited manner that is not supported by current statutory procurement restrictions; and

**WHEREAS**, statutory restrictions on the use of commuter parking lots hinder the effective and efficient conduct of the vaccination campaign, which requires the use of several such lots in convenient locations along major transportation routes; and

**WHEREAS**, providing non-congregate housing to people experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations who might normally be housed in congregate shelters is essential to protecting these populations, who are less likely to have been vaccinated, from the increased risk of contracting COVID-19 present in congregate housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has approved extension of federal funding for such non-congregate housing provided that the state's emergency order to provide such housing remains in effect; and

**WHEREAS**, the statutory deadlines for advancing summary process of eviction through the courts may hinder the ability to provide landlords and tenants sufficient time to access available federal assistance through the UniteCT program, thereby increasing the risk of homelessness for a population less likely to have been vaccinated and therefore at greater risk of contracting, spreading, and suffering serious symptoms from COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 12A requires masks regardless of vaccination status in certain settings where the risk of COVID-19 transmission is higher or where the population within such settings faces a greater risk of severe health effects from COVID-19, and requires the Commissioner of Public Health to issue rules for the wearing of masks in such settings; and

**WHEREAS**, an effective and efficient vaccination campaign requires a comprehensive plan for funding that removes barriers to choosing to receive a vaccine, and such barriers may include out-of-pocket costs for patients; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 9Q, Section 3 provides for such comprehensive funding scheme and thereby contributes to eliminating out-of-pocket costs for vaccine recipients; and

**WHEREAS**, the original justifications for the COVID-19 Orders being extended or issued herein remain valid; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 13, 2021, I renewed through September 30, 2021 the previously mentioned emergency declarations in accordance with the requirements of Special Act 21-5; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 14, 2021, the General Assembly approved by resolution the renewal of such emergency declarations;

**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. The following Executive Orders are extended through September 30, 2021:

7P, Section 1	9Q, Section 3	12A**
7EEE, Section 1**	10, Section 4	12D
9, Section 1	11D, Sections 2 and 3**	

\*\* see sections below for modifications to these orders.

2. **Extension and Modification of Executive Order No. 7EEE, Section 1.** Executive Order No. 7EEE, Section 1 is modified to remove reference to orders that expire July 20, 2021 and therefore is replaced in its entirety by the following:

Subsection (a) of Section 17b-11 of the Connecticut General Statutes is modified to add a new subdivision (1) as follows: The Office of Policy and Management shall authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to distribute Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) funds received by the State of Connecticut under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136, to healthcare institutions or providers as designated by the Office of Policy and Management and the Commissioner of Social Services pursuant to funding distribution methodologies established by the Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation with the Office of Policy and Management, to cover necessary expenditures incurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commissioner of Social Services shall require any such healthcare institution or provider to submit reports or attestations in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner to demonstrate that such CRF funds were used for eligible expenditures incurred to respond to COVID-19 in accordance with the CRF and associated federal requirements and guidance. Notwithstanding Sections 4-168 through 4-174 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Social Services and Secretary of Policy and Management may establish additional standards or policies in connection with the distribution of CRF funds as may be deemed appropriate. CRF allocations and distribution determinations shall not be subject to any rehearing rights, reconsideration or appeal in any form or forum.

3. **Modification of Executive Order 12A.** Executive Order No. 12A is amended to clarify that, consistent with the law in effect since its issuance, any directive, rule, guidance, or order pursuant to that order shall not be included in the definition of a regulation pursuant to Section 4-166(16) of the Connecticut General Statutes.
4. **Continued Modification of Executive Order No. 11D.** As provided by Executive Order No. 12B, Section 4, Executive Order No. 11D, Sections 2 and 3 are hereby modified to require that whenever exercising the authority in either of those orders, the department

head or agency head must certify in writing to the specific reason that such exercise meets the requirement that the procurement is essential to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. **Extension of Municipal or Agency Orders.** Any unexpired order, rule, regulation, directive or guidance issued by any official, agency, department, municipality, or entity pursuant to an unexpired COVID-19 Order, which by its own terms provides that it shall remain in place for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, shall remain in effect through September 30, 2021, unless earlier modified or terminated by the issuing authority or a subsequent executive order or by the expiration of its enabling executive order.
6. **All Other Executive Orders to Expire at Midnight, July 20, 2021.** Any COVID-19 order currently in effect that is not explicitly extended or modified by this Executive Order No. 13 shall expire at midnight on July 20, 2021.

This order and the extensions of orders provided herein shall take effect immediately and remain in effect through September 30, 2021 unless earlier modified or terminated, or unless individual orders or extensions contained herein are disapproved pursuant to Special Act 21-5.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 19th day of July, 2021.



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Ned Lamont  
Governor

By His Excellency's Command



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Denise W. Merrill  
Secretary of the State

