DECLARATION AND 7TH RATIFICATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION AND REPLACEMENT HOCKLEY COUNTY, TEXAS (COVID-19)

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has been recognized globally as a respiratory virus; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to spread and to pose an increasing, imminent threat of disaster throughout Hockley County and beyond; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Hockley County Judge, Sharla Baldridge, declared a local state of disaster for public health emergency pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code, based upon the need for extraordinary measures to contain COVID-19 and to prevent its spread throughout Hockley County; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas renewed his state-wide disaster proclamation for an additional thirty (30) days certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued Executive Order GA-28, superseding Executive Order GA-26, expanding the reopening of businesses and services throughout most of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Hockley County Commissioners' Court authorized the Hockley County Judge to extend the Declaration of Local Disaster to update the restrictions set out to respond to the evolving circumstances of this outbreak; and

WHEREAS, Hockley County Judge, Sharla Baldridge has determined that, due to evolving circumstances and the issuance of Executive Order GA-28 and the desire of Hockley County Commissioners Court to continue to safely re-open businesses within Hockley County, and in accordance with the authority of the Hockley County Commissioners Court, the following order is now adopted;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY HOCKLEY COUNTY JUDGE, SHARLA BALDRIDGE, THAT:

SECTION 1. The recitals outlined above are found to be true and correct and are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2. All terms and conditions of the Governor's Executive Order GA-28 is hereby adopted by referenced and is incorporated herein as though forth fully herein. Additionally, the guidelines and recommendations provided by the Governor in conjunction with issuing Executive Order GA-28 are also adopted, to the extent it does not conflict with the Order, and all businesses, religious institutions and citizens are encouraged to review and follow said guidelines. A copy of the Executive Order GA-28 is attached hereto and incorporated herein as though set forth fully herein.

SECTION 3. All outdoor gatherings in excess of 100 people are prohibited in unincorporated areas, with a few exceptions, unless such event has been previously approved the Hockley County Judge, minimum standard health protocols as recommended by Texas Department of State Health Services are followed and they comply with any other restrictions, guidelines or protocols, established by the Hockley County Judge not inconsistent with GA-28.

SECTION 4. Nothing in this Order should be construed as preventing a private establishment of business from implementing their own restrictions or regulations in accordance appropriate minimum state health guidelines.

SECTION 5. All other terms and conditions not specifically amended by this Order or superseded by GA-28 shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. Pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this Order shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the Hockley County Clerk.

SECTION 7. In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, this Order is being issued in Hockley County's Emergency Management Plan and any person who knowingly or intentionally violates this Order commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00.

SECTION 8. This Order shall go into effect immediately upon approval and continue until amended or cancelled by the Hockley County Judge or the Hockley County Commissioners Court.

SECTION 9. That to the extent this Order conflicts with the Governor's Executive Order GA-28, Executive Order GA-28 controls and the Hockley County Judge may comport and amend this Order and any subsequent order to be consistent with Executive Order GA-28.

SECTION 10. That the Hockley County Judge is authorized to use all available resources of Hockley County reasonably necessary to comply with the Order.

Issued this St, day of July

Sharla Baldridge, Hockley County Judge

ATTEST:

Pennifer-Ralermo, Hockley County Clerk



GOVERNOR GREO ABBOTT

June 26, 2020

The Honorable Ruth R. Hughs Secretary of State State Capitol Room 1E 8 Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Secretary Hughs:

Pursuant to his powers as Governor of the State of Texas, Greg Abbott has issued the following:

Executive Order No. GA-28 relating to the targeted response to the COVID-19 disaster as part of the reopening of Texas.

The original executive order is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Davidson

Executive Clerk to the Governor

GSD/gsd

Attachment

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Executive Order

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department Austin, Texas June 26, 2020

EXECUTIVE ORDER GA 28

Relating to the targeted response to the COVID-19 disaster as part of the reopening of Texas.

WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, in each subsequent month effective through today, I have renewed the disaster declaration for all Texas counties; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Dr. John Hellerstedt, has determined that COVID-19 continues to represent a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 8,1 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; and

WHEREAS, I have issued executive orders and suspensions of Texas laws in response to COVID-19, aimed at protecting the health and safety of Texans and ensuring an effective response to this disaster; and

WHEREAS, I issued Executive Order GA-08 on March 19, 2020, mandating certain social-distancing restrictions for Texans in accordance with guidelines promulgated by President Donald J. Trump and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and

WHEREAS, I issued Executive Order GA-14 on March 31, 2020, expanding the socialdistancing restrictions for Texans based on guidance from health experts and the President; and

WHEREAS, I subsequently issued Executive Orders GA-16, GA-18, GA-21, GA-23, and GA-26 from April through early June 2020, aiming to achieve the least restrictive means of combatting the threat to public health by continuing certain social-distancing restrictions, while implementing a safe, strategic plan to Open Texas; and

WHEREAS, as Texas reopens in the midst of COVID-19, increased spread is to be expected, and the key to controlling the spread and keeping Texas residents safe is for all Texans to consistently follow good hygiene and social-distancing practices, especially those set forth in the minimum standard health protocols from DSHS; and

WHEREAS, due to recent substantial increases in COVID-19 positive cases, and increases in the COVID-19 positivity rate and hospitalizations resulting from COVID-19, targeted and temporary adjustments to the reopening plan are needed to achieve the FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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least restrictive means for reducing the growing spread of COVID-19 and the resulting imminent threat to public health, and to avoid a need for more extreme measures; and

WHEREAS, everyone must act safely, and to that end, this executive order and prior executive orders provide that all persons should follow the health protocols from DSHS, which whenever achieved will mean compliance with the minimum standards for safely reopening, but which should not be used to fault those who act in good faith but can only substantially comply with the standards in light of scarce resources and other extenuating COVID-19 circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the "governor is responsible for meeting ... the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters" under Section 418.011 of the Texas Government Code, and the legislature has given the governor broad authority to fulfill that responsibility; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with any executive order issued during the COVID-19 disaster is an offense punishable under Section 418.173 by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, and may be subject to regulatory enforcement;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, and in accordance with guidance from DSHS Commissioner Dr. Hellerstedt and other medical advisors, the Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas, the White House, and the CDC, do hereby order the following on a statewide basis effective at noon on June 26, 2020:

Every business establishment in Texas shall operate at no more than 50 percent of the total listed occupancy of the establishment; *provided, however, that*:

- 1. There is no occupancy limit for the following:
 - any services listed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) in its Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce, Version 3.1 or any subsequent version;
 - religious services, including those conducted in churches, congregations, and houses of worship;
 - c. local government operations, including county and municipal governmental operations relating to licensing (including marriage licenses), permitting, recordation, and document-filing services, as determined by the local government;
 - d. child-care services;
 - e. youth camps, including but not limited to those defined as such under Chapter 141 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, and including all summer camps and other daytime and overnight camps for youths; and
 - f. recreational sports programs for youths and adults;
- 2. Except as provided below by paragraph number 5, this 50 percent occupancy limit does not apply to outdoor areas, events, or establishments, except that the following outdoor areas or outdoor venues shall operate at no more than 50 percent of the normal operating limits as determined by the owner:
 - a. professional, collegiate, or similar sporting events;
 - b. swimming pools;
 - c. water parks;
 - d. museums and libraries;
 - e. zoos, aquariums, natural caverns, and similar facilities; and

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- f. rodeos and equestrian events;
- 3. This 50 percent occupancy limit does not apply to the following establishments that operate with at least six feet of social distancing between work stations:
 - a. cosmetology salons, hair salons, barber shops, nail salons/shops, and other establishments where licensed cosmetologists or barbers practice their trade;
 - massage establishments and other facilities where licensed massage therapists or other persons licensed or otherwise authorized to practice under Chapter 455 of the Texas Occupations Code practice their trade; and
 - other personal-care and beauty services such as tanning salons, tattoo studios, piercing studios, hair removal services, and hair loss treatment and growth services;
- 4. Amusement parks shall operate at no more than 50 percent of the normal operating limits as determined by the owner;
- 5. For any outdoor gathering in excess of 100 people, other than those set forth above in paragraph numbers 1, 2, or 4, the gathering is prohibited unless the mayor of the city in which the gathering is held, or the county judge in the case of a gathering in an unincorporated area, approves of the gathering, and such approval can be made subject to certain conditions or restrictions not inconsistent with this executive order;
- 6. For dine-in services by restaurants that have less than 51 percent of their gross receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages, the occupancy limit shall remain at 75 percent until 12:01 a.m. on June 29, 2020, at which time such restaurants may only operate at up to 50 percent of the total listed occupancy of the restaurant, subject to paragraph number 9 below;
- 7. People shall not visit bars or similar establishments that hold a permit from the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) and are not restaurants as defined above in paragraph number 6; provided, however, that the use by such bars or similar establishments of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options for food and drinks is allowed to the extent authorized by TABC;
- 8. People shall not use commercial rafting or tubing services, including rental of rafts or tubes and transportation of people for the purpose of rafting or tubing;
- 9. For any business establishment that is subject to a 50 percent "total listed occupancy" limit or "normal operating limit," and that is in a county that has filed with DSHS, and is in compliance with, the requisite attestation form promulgated by DSHS regarding minimal cases of COVID-19, the business establishment may operate at up to 75 percent of the total listed occupancy or normal operating limit of the establishment;
- For purposes of this executive order, facilities with retractable roofs are considered indoor facilities, whether the roof is opened or closed;
- Staff members are not included in determining operating levels, except for manufacturing services and office workers;
- 12. Except as provided in this executive order or in the minimum standard health protocols recommended by DSHS, found at <u>www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus</u>, people should not be in groups larger than ten and should maintain six feet of social distancing from those not in their group;
- 13. People over the age of 65 are strongly encouraged to stay at home as much as possible; to maintain appropriate distance from any member of the household who has been out of the residence in the previous 14 days; and, if leaving the

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- home, to implement social distancing and to practice good hygiene, environmental cleanliness, and sanitation;
- 14. In providing or obtaining services, every person (including individuals, businesses, and other legal entities) should use good-faith efforts and available resources to follow the minimum standard health protocols recommended by DSHS:
- 15. Nothing in this executive order or the DSHS minimum standards precludes requiring a customer to follow additional hygiene measures when obtaining services. Individuals are encouraged to wear appropriate face coverings, but no jurisdiction can impose a civil or criminal penalty for failure to wear a face covering;
- 16. People shall not visit nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, or long-term care facilities unless as determined through guidance from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). Nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, and long-term care facilities should follow infection control policies and practices set forth by HHSC, including minimizing the movement of staff between facilities whenever possible; and
- 17. For the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, public schools may resume operations for the summer as provided by, and under the minimum standard health protocols found in, guidance issued by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). Private schools and institutions of higher education are encouraged to establish similar standards. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, schools may conduct graduation ceremonies consistent with the minimum standard health protocols found in guidance issued by TEA.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the governor may by proclamation add to the list of establishments or venues that people shall not visit.

This executive order shall supersede any conflicting order issued by local officials in response to the COVID-19 disaster, but only to the extent that such a local order restricts services allowed by this executive order, allows gatherings prohibited by this executive order, or expands the list or scope of services as set forth in this executive order. Pursuant to Section 418.016(a) of the Texas Government Code, I hereby suspend Sections 418.1015(b) and 418.108 of the Texas Government Code, Chapter 81, Subchapter E of the Texas Health and Safety Code, and any other relevant statutes, to the extent necessary to ensure that local officials do not impose restrictions in response to the COVID-19 disaster that are inconsistent with this executive order, provided that local officials may enforce this executive order as well as local restrictions that are consistent with this executive order.

All existing state executive orders relating to COVID-19 are amended to eliminate confinement in jail as an available penalty for violating the executive orders. To the extent any order issued by local officials in response to the COVID-19 disaster would allow confinement in jail as an available penalty for violating a COVID-19-related order, that order allowing confinement in jail is superseded, and I hereby suspend all relevant laws to the extent necessary to ensure that local officials do not confine people in jail for violating any executive order or local order issued in response to the COVID-19 disaster.

This executive order supersedes Executive Order GA-26, but does not supersede Executive Orders GA-10, GA-13, GA-17, GA-19, GA-24, GA-25, or GA-27. This

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executive order shall remain in effect and in full force unless it is modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by the governor. This executive order may also be amended by proclamation of the governor.



Given under my hand this the 26th day of June, 2020.

Governor

KUTH R. HUGHS

Secretary of State