

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-017

RENEWING THE STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY INITIALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-004, OTHER POWERS INVOKED IN THAT ORDER, AND ALL OTHER ORDERS AND DIRECTIVES CONTAINED IN EXECUTIVE ORDERS TIED TO THE ONGOING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

On December 31, 2019, several cases of pneumonia with an unknown cause were detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, and reported to the World Health Organization ("WHO"). The underlying virus giving rise to those reported instances of respiratory illness was later identified as a novel coronavirus disease which has been referred to as "COVID-19."

By the time the first COVID-19 cases had been confirmed in New Mexico, on March 11, 2020, COVID-19 had already spread globally and throughout the United States. At that time, more than 100,000 people had been infected globally and there were more than 1,000 cases in the United States, spread out over 39 states. The President of the United States declared a national state of emergency for COVID-19 on March 13, 2020. As of March 2, 2023, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") reported over 103.4 million people have been infected in the United States, with over 1,117,000 related deaths, and the New Mexico Department of Health has reported 669,666 positive COVID-19 cases and 9,047 related deaths in New Mexico.

Public health organizations have implemented emergency measures intended to slow the spread of COVID-19. For example, on January 20, 2020, the CDC activated its Emergency Operations Center in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern shortly thereafter. All of our sister states subsequently declared a state of emergency and implemented significant measures and deployed substantial resources to fight the spread of COVID-19; many have kept such states of emergency in place.

New Mexico has taken aggressive measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to mitigate its impacts. I have been in frequent contact with federal and state agencies and officials who are coordinating their efforts and resources to fight COVID-19. Various state agencies have been at the forefront of our State's response to COVID-19, particularly the New Mexico Department of Health. The hard work of a variety of state employees has made a difference in our fight against COVID-19. New Mexico's pandemic response saved tens of thousands of lives while ensuring the state's economy remained poised for growth.

On January 30, 2023, the Biden Administration announced its intent to end the national emergency and public health emergency declarations to the COVID-19 pandemic on May 11, 2023. It is similarly appropriate to allow New Mexico's public health emergency to expire at the end of this month. New Mexicans now have the tools needed to continue fighting COVID-19, including vaccines, testing, treatments, and other mitigation measures like masking, indoor ventilation, and social distancing. While the state of public health emergency will sunset at the end of this month, I urge all New Mexicans to continue to utilize these tools to protect themselves and their fellow community members.

Therefore, for the reasons above, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of New Mexico, hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT**:

1. In consultation with the New Mexico Department of Health, I have determined that the statewide public health emergency proclaimed in Executive Order 2020-004, and renewed in Executive Orders 2020-022, 2020-026, 2020-030, 2020-036, 2020-053, 2020-55, 2020-059, 2020-064, 2020-073, 2020-080, 2020-085, 2021-001, 2021-004, 2021-010, 2021-011, 2021-012, 2021-023, 2021-030, 2021-044, 2021-049, 2021-054, 2021-058, 2021-061, 2021-067, 2022-004, 2022-007, 2022-012, 2022-016, 2022-024, 2022-067, 2022-109, 2022-115, 2022-120, 2022-131, 2022-147, 2022-149, 2022-165, 2023-001, and 2023-017 shall be renewed and extended through March 31, 2023.

2. All other powers, directives, and orders invoked in Executive Order 2020-004 remain in effect.

3. Unless previously rescinded, all other Executive Orders with a duration that was tied to the COVID-19 public health emergency or that was not explicitly stated shall continue with the same effect,

including any orders appropriating emergency funding as well as Executive Order 2020-020. All such orders shall be automatically rescinded upon the expiration of this Order.

4. This Order supersedes any previous orders, proclamations, or directives in conflict. This Order shall take effect immediately, and shall remain in effect until March 31, 2023.

ATTEST:

/ S /
MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 3RD DAY OF MARCH 2023

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

/ S /
MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR