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P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 103, *approved June 4, 2021*
Assembly, No. 5820

1 **AN ACT** concerning emergency health powers and supplementing
2 Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. All executive orders issued by the Governor prior to the
8 effective date of this act, P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
9 Legislature at this bill), that relied on the existence of the public
10 health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No.
11 103 of 2020, as extended, shall expire 30 days following the
12 effective date of this act, with the exception of the executive orders
13 listed in this section that shall remain in effect until January 1,
14 2022. The Governor shall have the ability to revoke or modify the
15 executive orders listed in this section prior to January 1, 2022.

16 (1) Executive Order No. 106 (2020)

17 (2) Executive Order No. 111 (2020)

18 (3) Executive Order No. 112 (2020)

19 (4) Executive Order No. 123 (2020)

20 (5) Executive Order No. 127 (2020)

21 (6) Executive Order No. 150 (2020)

22 (7) Executive Order No. 159 (2020)

23 (8) Executive Order No. 170 (2020)

24 (9) Executive Order No. 178 (2020)

25 (10) Executive Order No. 207 (2020)

26 (11) Executive Order No. 229 (2021)

27 (12) Executive Order No. 233 (2021)

28 (13) Executive Order No. 237 (2021)

29 (14) The most recent executive order containing general
30 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) mitigation measures
31 regarding face coverings, social distancing, and gatherings prior to
32 the effective date of this act, and this executive order shall not be
33 more restrictive than the recommendations provided in the federal
34 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on social
35 distancing and face coverings in response to the coronavirus disease
36 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, unless a substantial increase in
37 hospitalizations, substantially increased spot positivity, or rate of
38 transmission above 1 necessitates a modification that would be
39 more restrictive.

40

41 2. Notwithstanding the provision of section 1 of this act,
42 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature at this bill),

1 allowing Executive Order No. 112 of 2020 to remain in place until
2 January 1, 2022, any civil or criminal immunity related to the
3 COVID-19 response bestowed by either Executive Order No. 112 of
4 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of Health Executive Directive
5 No. 20-006 (Revised) as issued December 16, 2020 upon health
6 care professionals, health care facilities, health care systems,
7 modular field treatment facilities, and any other sites designated by
8 the Commissioner of the Department of Health for temporary use in
9 connection with the State's COVID-19 response, including hotels
10 and student dormitories, shall last until September 1, 2021, and then
11 expire on that date. Conduct occurring prior to September 1, 2021
12 by health care professionals, health care facilities, or health care
13 systems shall retain the civil or criminal immunity provided by
14 Executive Order No. 112 of 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of
15 Health Executive Directive No. 20-006 (Revised) as issued
16 December 16, 2020. The civil immunity bestowed upon health care
17 professionals in connection with the State's COVID-19 response by
18 P.L.2020, c.18 shall continue beyond September 1, 2021 only for
19 individuals specifically engaged in vaccinations or testing related to
20 COVID-19.

21

22 3. a. Following the termination of the public health emergency
23 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as
24 extended, the force and effect of any administrative order, directive,
25 or waiver issued by the head of a State agency that relied on the
26 existence of the public health emergency declared by the Governor
27 in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, shall expire on
28 January 11, 2022. Such administrative order, directive, or waiver
29 may be continued and may be modified by the head of a State
30 agency, unless such administrative order, directive, or waiver is
31 explicitly revoked, until January 11, 2022.

32 b. Notwithstanding subsection a. of this section, the Governor
33 shall notify the Legislature by January 1, 2022 if the Governor
34 determines that it is necessary or appropriate to continue for an
35 additional 90 days beyond January 11, 2022 any administrative
36 order, directive, or waiver issued by the head of a State agency that
37 relied on the existence of the public health emergency declared by
38 the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended.
39 The administrative orders, directives, or waivers shall be extended
40 for an additional 90 days if each House of the Legislature passes a
41 concurrent resolution to continue any such administrative order,
42 directive, or waiver. Any administrative order, directive, or waiver
43 as to which the Governor does not provide notification to the
44 Legislature or as to which both Houses of the Legislature do not
45 pass a concurrent resolution to continue shall expire on January 11,
46 2022.

47 c. Notwithstanding subsection a. of this section, the provisions
48 of any administrative order, directive, or waiver issued by the

1 Department of Health that relied on the existence of the public
2 health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No.
3 103 of 2020, as extended, governing staffing ratios, overtime, shifts,
4 and vacation time shall remain in force and effect until September
5 1, 2021, at which time all such provisions of administrative orders,
6 directives, and waivers governing staffing ratios, overtime, shifts,
7 and vacation time shall be superceded by relevant provisions of
8 laws, regulations, or collective bargaining agreements in effect on
9 that date.

10

11 4. The termination of the public health emergency declared by
12 the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended,
13 shall in no way diminish, limit, or impair the powers of the
14 Governor or the head of a State agency pursuant to the provisions of
15 the civilian defense and disaster control act P.L.1942, c.251
16 (C.App.A:9-33 et seq.). The state of emergency declared in
17 Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, pursuant to
18 P.L.1942, c.251 (C.App.A:9-33 et seq.) shall remain in effect until
19 terminated by the Governor.

20 While the state of emergency declared in Executive Order No.
21 103 of 2020 shall remain in effect, the deadlines in paragraph (1) of
22 subsection i. of section 6 of P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5) shall
23 apply to any request made under the open public records act after
24 the effective date of this act, with the exception of requests made
25 for records related to the COVID-19 response, which shall continue
26 to be governed by paragraph (2) of subsection i. of section 6 of
27 P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5).

28

29 5. Following the termination of the public health emergency
30 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as
31 extended, the Governor, Commissioner of Health, and the head of
32 any other State agency may issue orders, directives, and waivers
33 pursuant to P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et seq.) related to (1)
34 vaccination distribution, administration, and management, (2)
35 COVID-19 testing, (3) health resource and personnel allocation, (4)
36 data collection, retention, sharing, and access, (5) coordination of
37 local health departments, and (6) implementation of any applicable
38 recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
39 to prevent or limit the transmission of COVID-19, including in
40 specific settings.

41 The authority granted by this section shall last until January 11,
42 2022, unless the Governor notifies the Legislature by January 1,
43 2022 that the authority granted by this section is necessary to
44 combat the continuing threat posed by COVID-19 and should last
45 for another 90 days. In the event of such notification, the
46 Legislature shall have the authority to pass a concurrent resolution
47 to concur with the Governor's notice. If such a concurrent
48 resolution passes both Houses of the Legislature, then the authority

1 granted by this section shall continue for an additional 90 days. If
2 such a concurrent resolution does not pass both Houses of the
3 Legislature, then the authority granted by this section shall expire
4 on January 11, 2022.

5
6 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

7
8
9 STATEMENT

10
11 Under this bill, all executive orders issued by the Governor prior
12 to the effective date of this bill that relied on the existence of the
13 public health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive
14 Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, will expire 30 days following
15 the effective date of this bill, with the exception of the executive
16 orders listed below that will remain in effect until January 1, 2022.
17 The Governor will have the ability to revoke or modify the
18 following executive orders prior to January 1, 2022.

19 Executive Order No. 106 (2020)

20 Executive Order No. 111 (2020)

21 Executive Order No. 112 (2020)

22 Executive Order No. 123 (2020)

23 Executive Order No. 127 (2020)

24 Executive Order No. 150 (2020)

25 Executive Order No. 159 (2020)

26 Executive Order No. 170 (2020)

27 Executive Order No. 178 (2020)

28 Executive Order No. 207 (2020)

29 Executive Order No. 229 (2021)

30 Executive Order No. 233 (2021)

31 Executive Order No. 237 (2021)

32 The most recent executive order containing general COVID-19
33 mitigation measures regarding face coverings, social distancing, and
34 gatherings prior to the effective date of this bill and the executive
35 order cannot be more restrictive than the recommendations provided
36 in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines
37 on social distancing and face coverings in response to the COVID-
38 19 pandemic, unless a substantial increase in hospitalizations,
39 substantially increased spot positivity, or rate of transmission above
40 1 necessitates a modification that would be more restrictive.

41 Notwithstanding the provision allowing Executive Order No. 112
42 of 2020 to remain in place until January 1, 2022, any civil or
43 criminal immunity related to the COVID-19 response bestowed by
44 either Executive Order No. 112 of 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or
45 Department of Health Executive Directive No. 20-006 of 2020 upon
46 health care professionals, health care facilities, health care systems,
47 modular field treatment facilities, and any other sites designated by
48 the Commissioner of the Department of Health for temporary use in

1 connection with the State's COVID-19 response, including hotels
2 and student dormitories, will last until September 1, 2021, and then
3 expire on that date. Conduct occurring prior to September 1, 2021
4 by health care professional, health care facilities, or health care
5 systems will retain the civil or criminal immunity provided by
6 Executive Order No. 112 of 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of
7 Health Executive Directive No. 20-006 of 2020. Under the bill, the
8 civil immunity bestowed upon health care professionals in
9 connection with the State's COVID-19 response by P.L.2020, c.18
10 would continue beyond September 1, 2021 only for individuals
11 specifically engaged in vaccinations or testing related to COVID-
12 19.

13 Following the termination of the public health emergency
14 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as
15 extended, the force and effect of any administrative order, directive,
16 or waiver issued by the head of a State agency that relied on the
17 existence of public health emergency declared by the Governor in
18 Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, would expire on
19 January 11, 2022. Under the bill, such administrative orders,
20 directive, or waiver may be continued and may be modified by the
21 head of a State agency, unless such administrative order, directive,
22 or waiver is explicitly revoked, until January 11, 2022.

23 The bill provides that the Governor must notify the Legislature
24 by January 1, 2022 if the Governor determines that it is necessary
25 or appropriate to continue for an additional 90 days beyond January
26 11, 2022 any administrative order, directive, or waiver issued by the
27 head of a State agency that relied on the existence of the public
28 health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No.
29 103 of 2020, as extended. The administrative order, directive, or
30 waiver would be extended for an additional 90 days if each House
31 of the Legislature passes a concurrent resolution to continue any
32 such administrative orders, directives, or waivers. Any
33 administrative orders, directives, or waivers as to which the
34 Governor does not provide notification to the Legislature or as to
35 which both Houses of the Legislature do not pass a concurrent
36 resolution to continue would expire on January 11, 2022.

37 Under the bill, the provision of any administrative order,
38 directive, or waiver issued by the Department of Health that relied
39 on the existence of the public health emergency declared by the
40 Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended,
41 governing staffing ratios, overtime, shifts, and vacation time shall
42 remain in force and effect until September 1, 2021, at which time
43 all such provisions of administrative orders, directives, and waivers
44 governing staffing ratios, overtime, shifts, and vacation time will be
45 superseded by relevant provisions of laws, regulations, or collective
46 bargaining agreements in effect on that date.

47 The bill specifies that the termination of the public health
48 emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of

1 2020, as extended, will in no way diminish, limit, or impair the
2 powers of the Governor or the head of a State agency pursuant to
3 the provisions of the civilian defense and disaster control act
4 P.L.1942, c.251 (C.App.A:9-33 et seq.). The state of emergency
5 declared in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 pursuant to that law
6 will remain in effect until terminated by the Governor.

7 However, while the state of emergency declared in Executive
8 Order No. 103 of 2020 remains in effect, the deadlines in paragraph
9 (1) of subsection i. of section 6 of P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5) will
10 apply to any requests made under the open public records act after
11 the effective date of this bill, with the exception of requests made
12 for records related to the COVID-19 response, which will still be
13 governed by paragraph (2) of subsection i. of section 6 of P.L.2001,
14 c.404 (C.47:1A-5).

15 Following the termination of the public health emergency
16 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as
17 extended, the Governor, Commissioner of Health, and the head of
18 any other State agency may issue orders, directives, and waivers
19 pursuant to the emergency health powers law, P.L.2005, c.222
20 (C.26:13-1 et seq.), related to (1) vaccination distribution,
21 administration, and management, (2) COVID-19 testing, (3) health
22 resource and personnel allocation, (4) data collection, retention,
23 sharing, and access, (5) coordination of local health departments,
24 and (6) implementation of any applicable recommendations of the
25 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to prevent or limit the
26 transmission of COVID-19, including in specific settings. The
27 authority granted above will last until January 11, 2022, unless the
28 Governor notifies the Legislature by January 1, 2022 that the
29 authority granted is necessary to combat the continuing threat posed
30 by COVID-19 and should last for another 90 days. In the event of
31 such notification, the Legislature will have the authority to pass a
32 concurrent resolution to concur with the Governor. If such a
33 concurrent resolution passes both Houses of the Legislature, then
34 the authority granted will continue for an additional 90 days. If
35 such a concurrent resolution does not pass both Houses of the
36 Legislature, then the authority granted would expire on January 11,
37 2022.

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41

42 Provides for termination of public health emergency declared by
43 Governor to address COVID-19 pandemic, except certain executive
44 orders, directives, and powers will remain in effect temporarily.

ASSEMBLY, No. 5820

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 1, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman CRAIG J. COUGHLIN

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTI

District 31 (Hudson)

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

SYNOPSIS

Provides for termination of public health emergency declared by Governor to address COVID-19 pandemic, except certain executive orders, directives, and powers will remain in effect temporarily.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/3/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning emergency health powers and supplementing
2 Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. All executive orders issued by the Governor prior to the
8 effective date of this act, P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
9 Legislature at this bill), that relied on the existence of the public
10 health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No.
11 103 of 2020, as extended, shall expire 30 days following the
12 effective date of this act, with the exception of the executive orders
13 listed in this section that shall remain in effect until January 1,
14 2022. The Governor shall have the ability to revoke or modify the
15 executive orders listed in this section prior to January 1, 2022.

16 (1) Executive Order No. 106 (2020)

17 (2) Executive Order No. 111 (2020)

18 (3) Executive Order No. 112 (2020)

19 (4) Executive Order No. 123 (2020)

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28 (13) Executive Order No. 237 (2021)

29 (14) The most recent executive order containing general
30 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) mitigation measures
31 regarding face coverings, social distancing, and gatherings prior to
32 the effective date of this act, and this executive order shall not be
33 more restrictive than the recommendations provided in the federal
34 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on social
35 distancing and face coverings in response to the coronavirus disease
36 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, unless a substantial increase in
37 hospitalizations, substantially increased spot positivity, or rate of
38 transmission above 1 necessitates a modification that would be
39 more restrictive.

40

41 2. Notwithstanding the provision of section 1 of this act,
42 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature at this bill),
43 allowing Executive Order No. 112 of 2020 to remain in place until
44 January 1, 2022, any civil or criminal immunity related to the
45 COVID-19 response bestowed by either Executive Order No. 112 of
46 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of Health Executive Directive
47 No. 20-006 (Revised) as issued December 16, 2020 upon health
48 care professionals, health care facilities, health care systems,

1 modular field treatment facilities, and any other sites designated by
2 the Commissioner of the Department of Health for temporary use in
3 connection with the State's COVID-19 response, including hotels
4 and student dormitories, shall last until September 1, 2021, and then
5 expire on that date. Conduct occurring prior to September 1, 2021
6 by health care professionals, health care facilities, or health care
7 systems shall retain the civil or criminal immunity provided by
8 Executive Order No. 112 of 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of
9 Health Executive Directive No. 20-006 (Revised) as issued
10 December 16, 2020. The civil immunity bestowed upon health care
11 professionals in connection with the State's COVID-19 response by
12 P.L.2020, c.18 shall continue beyond September 1, 2021 only for
13 individuals specifically engaged in vaccinations or testing related to
14 COVID-19.

15

16 3. a. Following the termination of the public health emergency
17 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as
18 extended, the force and effect of any administrative order, directive,
19 or waiver issued by the head of a State agency that relied on the
20 existence of the public health emergency declared by the Governor
21 in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, shall expire on
22 January 11, 2022. Such administrative order, directive, or waiver
23 may be continued and may be modified by the head of a State
24 agency, unless such administrative order, directive, or waiver is
25 explicitly revoked, until January 11, 2022.

26 b. Notwithstanding subsection a. of this section, the Governor
27 shall notify the Legislature by January 1, 2022 if the Governor
28 determines that it is necessary or appropriate to continue for an
29 additional 90 days beyond January 11, 2022 any administrative
30 order, directive, or waiver issued by the head of a State agency that
31 relied on the existence of the public health emergency declared by
32 the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended.
33 The administrative orders, directives, or waivers shall be extended
34 for an additional 90 days if each House of the Legislature passes a
35 concurrent resolution to continue any such administrative order,
36 directive, or waiver. Any administrative order, directive, or waiver
37 as to which the Governor does not provide notification to the
38 Legislature or as to which both Houses of the Legislature do not
39 pass a concurrent resolution to continue shall expire on January 11,
40 2022.

41 c. Notwithstanding subsection a. of this section, the provisions
42 of any administrative order, directive, or waiver issued by the
43 Department of Health that relied on the existence of the public
44 health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No.
45 103 of 2020, as extended, governing staffing ratios, overtime, shifts,
46 and vacation time shall remain in force and effect until September
47 1, 2021, at which time all such provisions of administrative orders,
48 directives, and waivers governing staffing ratios, overtime, shifts,

1 and vacation time shall be superceded by relevant provisions of
2 laws, regulations, or collective bargaining agreements in effect on
3 that date.

4
5 4. The termination of the public health emergency declared by
6 the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended,
7 shall in no way diminish, limit, or impair the powers of the
8 Governor or the head of a State agency pursuant to the provisions of
9 the civilian defense and disaster control act P.L.1942, c.251
10 (C.App.A:9-33 et seq.). The state of emergency declared in
11 Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, pursuant to
12 P.L.1942, c.251 (C.App.A:9-33 et seq.) shall remain in effect until
13 terminated by the Governor.

14 While the state of emergency declared in Executive Order No.
15 103 of 2020 shall remain in effect, the deadlines in paragraph (1) of
16 subsection i. of section 6 of P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5) shall
17 apply to any request made under the open public records act after
18 the effective date of this act, with the exception of requests made
19 for records related to the COVID-19 response, which shall continue
20 to be governed by paragraph (2) of subsection i. of section 6 of
21 P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5).

22
23 5. Following the termination of the public health emergency
24 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as
25 extended, the Governor, Commissioner of Health, and the head of
26 any other State agency may issue orders, directives, and waivers
27 pursuant to P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et seq.) related to (1)
28 vaccination distribution, administration, and management, (2)
29 COVID-19 testing, (3) health resource and personnel allocation, (4)
30 data collection, retention, sharing, and access, (5) coordination of
31 local health departments, and (6) implementation of any applicable
32 recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
33 to prevent or limit the transmission of COVID-19, including in
34 specific settings.

35 The authority granted by this section shall last until January 11,
36 2022, unless the Governor notifies the Legislature by January 1,
37 2022 that the authority granted by this section is necessary to
38 combat the continuing threat posed by COVID-19 and should last
39 for another 90 days. In the event of such notification, the
40 Legislature shall have the authority to pass a concurrent resolution
41 to concur with the Governor's notice. If such a concurrent
42 resolution passes both Houses of the Legislature, then the authority
43 granted by this section shall continue for an additional 90 days. If
44 such a concurrent resolution does not pass both Houses of the
45 Legislature, then the authority granted by this section shall expire
46 on January 11, 2022.

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48 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

Under this bill, all executive orders issued by the Governor prior to the effective date of this bill that relied on the existence of the public health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, will expire 30 days following the effective date of this bill, with the exception of the executive orders listed below that will remain in effect until January 1, 2022. The Governor will have the ability to revoke or modify the following executive orders prior to January 1, 2022.

- Executive Order No. 106 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 111 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 112 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 123 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 127 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 150 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 159 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 170 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 178 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 207 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 229 (2021)
- Executive Order No. 233 (2021)
- Executive Order No. 237 (2021)

The most recent executive order containing general COVID-19 mitigation measures regarding face coverings, social distancing, and gatherings prior to the effective date of this bill and the executive order cannot be more restrictive than the recommendations provided in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on social distancing and face coverings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, unless a substantial increase in hospitalizations, substantially increased spot positivity, or rate of transmission above 1 necessitates a modification that would be more restrictive.

Notwithstanding the provision allowing Executive Order No. 112 of 2020 to remain in place until January 1, 2022, any civil or criminal immunity related to the COVID-19 response bestowed by either Executive Order No. 112 of 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of Health Executive Directive No. 20-006 of 2020 upon health care professionals, health care facilities, health care systems, modular field treatment facilities, and any other sites designated by the Commissioner of the Department of Health for temporary use in connection with the State's COVID-19 response, including hotels and student dormitories, will last until September 1, 2021, and then expire on that date. Conduct occurring prior to September 1, 2021 by health care professional, health care facilities, or health care systems will retain the civil or criminal immunity provided by Executive Order No. 112 of 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of Health Executive Directive No. 20-006 of 2020. Under the bill, the civil immunity bestowed upon health care professionals in

1 connection with the State's COVID-19 response by P.L.2020, c.18
2 would continue beyond September 1, 2021 only for individuals
3 specifically engaged in vaccinations or testing related to COVID-
4 19.

5 Following the termination of the public health emergency
6 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as
7 extended, the force and effect of any administrative order, directive,
8 or waiver issued by the head of a State agency that relied on the
9 existence of public health emergency declared by the Governor in
10 Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, would expire on
11 January 11, 2022. Under the bill, such administrative orders,
12 directive, or waiver may be continued and may be modified by the
13 head of a State agency, unless such administrative order, directive,
14 or waiver is explicitly revoked, until January 11, 2022.

15 The bill provides that the Governor must notify the Legislature
16 by January 1, 2022 if the Governor determines that it is necessary
17 or appropriate to continue for an additional 90 days beyond January
18 11, 2022 any administrative order, directive, or waiver issued by the
19 head of a State agency that relied on the existence of the public
20 health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No.
21 103 of 2020, as extended. The administrative order, directive, or
22 waiver would be extended for an additional 90 days if each House
23 of the Legislature passes a concurrent resolution to continue any
24 such administrative orders, directives, or waivers. Any
25 administrative orders, directives, or waivers as to which the
26 Governor does not provide notification to the Legislature or as to
27 which both Houses of the Legislature do not pass a concurrent
28 resolution to continue would expire on January 11, 2022.

29 Under the bill, the provision of any administrative order,
30 directive, or waiver issued by the Department of Health that relied
31 on the existence of the public health emergency declared by the
32 Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended,
33 governing staffing ratios, overtime, shifts, and vacation time shall
34 remain in force and effect until September 1, 2021, at which time
35 all such provisions of administrative orders, directives, and waivers
36 governing staffing ratios, overtime, shifts, and vacation time will be
37 superceded by relevant provisions of laws, regulations, or collective
38 bargaining agreements in effect on that date.

39 The bill specifies that the termination of the public health
40 emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of
41 2020, as extended, will in no way diminish, limit, or impair the
42 powers of the Governor or the head of a State agency pursuant to
43 the provisions of the civilian defense and disaster control act
44 P.L.1942, c.251 (C.App.A:9-33 et seq.). The state of emergency
45 declared in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 pursuant to that law
46 will remain in effect until terminated by the Governor.

47 However, while the state of emergency declared in Executive
48 Order No. 103 of 2020 remains in effect, the deadlines in paragraph

1 (1) of subsection i. of section 6 of P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5) will
2 apply to any requests made under the open public records act after
3 the effective date of this bill, with the exception of requests made
4 for records related to the COVID-19 response, which will still be
5 governed by paragraph (2) of subsection i. of section 6 of P.L.2001,
6 c.404 (C.47:1A-5).

7 Following the termination of the public health emergency
8 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as
9 extended, the Governor, Commissioner of Health, and the head of
10 any other State agency may issue orders, directives, and waivers
11 pursuant to the emergency health powers law, P.L.2005, c.222
12 (C.26:13-1 et seq.), related to (1) vaccination distribution,
13 administration, and management, (2) COVID-19 testing, (3) health
14 resource and personnel allocation, (4) data collection, retention,
15 sharing, and access, (5) coordination of local health departments,
16 and (6) implementation of any applicable recommendations of the
17 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to prevent or limit the
18 transmission of COVID-19, including in specific settings. The
19 authority granted above will last until January 11, 2022, unless the
20 Governor notifies the Legislature by January 1, 2022 that the
21 authority granted is necessary to combat the continuing threat posed
22 by COVID-19 and should last for another 90 days. In the event of
23 such notification, the Legislature will have the authority to pass a
24 concurrent resolution to concur with the Governor. If such a
25 concurrent resolution passes both Houses of the Legislature, then
26 the authority granted will continue for an additional 90 days. If
27 such a concurrent resolution does not pass both Houses of the
28 Legislature, then the authority granted would expire on January 11,
29 2022.

SENATE, No. 3866

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 1, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

SYNOPSIS

Provides for termination of public health emergency declared by Governor to address COVID-19 pandemic, except certain executive orders, directives, and powers will remain in effect temporarily.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning emergency health powers and supplementing
2 Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. All executive orders issued by the Governor prior to the
8 effective date of this act, P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
9 Legislature at this bill), that relied on the existence of the public
10 health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No.
11 103 of 2020, as extended, shall expire 30 days following the effective
12 date of this act, with the exception of the executive orders listed in
13 this section that shall remain in effect until January 1, 2022. The
14 Governor shall have the ability to revoke or modify the executive
15 orders listed in this section prior to January 1, 2022.

16 (1) Executive Order No. 106 (2020)

17 (2) Executive Order No. 111 (2020)

18 (3) Executive Order No. 112 (2020)

19 (4) Executive Order No. 123 (2020)

20 (5) Executive Order No. 127 (2020)

21 (6) Executive Order No. 150 (2020)

22 (7) Executive Order No. 159 (2020)

23 (8) Executive Order No. 170 (2020)

24 (9) Executive Order No. 178 (2020)

25 (10) Executive Order No. 207 (2020)

26 (11) Executive Order No. 229 (2021)

27 (12) Executive Order No. 233 (2021)

28 (13) Executive Order No. 237 (2021)

29 (14) The most recent executive order containing general
30 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) mitigation measures
31 regarding face coverings, social distancing, and gatherings prior to
32 the effective date of this act, and this executive order shall not be
33 more restrictive than the recommendations provided in the federal
34 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on social
35 distancing and face coverings in response to the coronavirus disease
36 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, unless a substantial increase in
37 hospitalizations, substantially increased spot positivity, or rate of
38 transmission above 1 necessitates a modification that would be more
39 restrictive.

40

41 2. Notwithstanding the provision of section 1 of this act, P.L. ,
42 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature at this bill), allowing
43 Executive Order No. 112 of 2020 to remain in place until January 1,
44 2022, any civil or criminal immunity related to the COVID-19
45 response bestowed by either Executive Order No. 112 of 2020,
46 P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of Health Executive Directive No. 20-
47 006 (Revised) as issued December 16, 2020 upon health care
48 professionals, health care facilities, health care systems, modular

1 field treatment facilities, and any other sites designated by the
2 Commissioner of the Department of Health for temporary use in
3 connection with the State's COVID-19 response, including hotels
4 and student dormitories, shall last until September 1, 2021, and then
5 expire on that date. Conduct occurring prior to September 1, 2021
6 by health care professionals, health care facilities, or health care
7 systems shall retain the civil or criminal immunity provided by
8 Executive Order No. 112 of 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of
9 Health Executive Directive No. 20-006 (Revised) as issued
10 December 16, 2020. The civil immunity bestowed upon health care
11 professionals in connection with the State's COVID-19 response by
12 P.L.2020, c.18 shall continue beyond September 1, 2021 only for
13 individuals specifically engaged in vaccinations or testing related to
14 COVID-19.

15

16 3. a. Following the termination of the public health emergency
17 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as
18 extended, the force and effect of any administrative order, directive,
19 or waiver issued by the head of a State agency that relied on the
20 existence of the public health emergency declared by the Governor
21 in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, shall expire on
22 January 11, 2022. Such administrative order, directive, or waiver
23 may be continued and may be modified by the head of a State agency,
24 unless such administrative order, directive, or waiver is explicitly
25 revoked, until January 11, 2022.

26 b. Notwithstanding subsection a. of this section, the Governor
27 shall notify the Legislature by January 1, 2022 if the Governor
28 determines that it is necessary or appropriate to continue for an
29 additional 90 days beyond January 11, 2022 any administrative order,
30 directive, or waiver issued by the head of a State agency that relied
31 on the existence of the public health emergency declared by the
32 Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended. The
33 administrative orders, directives, or waivers shall be extended for an
34 additional 90 days if each House of the Legislature passes a
35 concurrent resolution to continue any such administrative order,
36 directive, or waiver. Any administrative order, directive, or waiver
37 as to which the Governor does not provide notification to the
38 Legislature or as to which both Houses of the Legislature do not pass
39 a concurrent resolution to continue shall expire on January 11, 2022.

40 c. Notwithstanding subsection a. of this section, the provisions of
41 any administrative order, directive, or waiver issued by the
42 Department of Health that relied on the existence of the public health
43 emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of
44 2020, as extended, governing staffing ratios, overtime, shifts, and
45 vacation time shall remain in force and effect until September 1,
46 2021, at which time all such provisions of administrative orders,
47 directives, and waivers governing staffing ratios, overtime, shifts,
48 and vacation time shall be superceded by relevant provisions of laws,

1 regulations, or collective bargaining agreements in effect on that
2 date.

3
4 4. The termination of the public health emergency declared by
5 the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, shall
6 in no way diminish, limit, or impair the powers of the Governor or
7 the head of a State agency pursuant to the provisions of the civilian
8 defense and disaster control act P.L.1942, c.251 (C.App.A:9-33 et
9 seq.). The state of emergency declared in Executive Order No. 103
10 of 2020, as extended, pursuant to P.L.1942, c.251 (C.App.A:9-33 et
11 seq.) shall remain in effect until terminated by the Governor.

12 While the state of emergency declared in Executive Order No. 103
13 of 2020 shall remain in effect, the deadlines in paragraph (1) of
14 subsection i. of section 6 of P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5) shall apply
15 to any request made under the open public records act after the
16 effective date of this act, with the exception of requests made for
17 records related to the COVID-19 response, which shall continue to
18 be governed by paragraph (2) of subsection i. of section 6 of
19 P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5).

20
21 5. Following the termination of the public health emergency
22 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as
23 extended, the Governor, Commissioner of Health, and the head of
24 any other State agency may issue orders, directives, and waivers
25 pursuant to P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et seq.) related to (1)
26 vaccination distribution, administration, and management, (2)
27 COVID-19 testing, (3) health resource and personnel allocation, (4)
28 data collection, retention, sharing, and access, (5) coordination of
29 local health departments, and (6) implementation of any applicable
30 recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
31 to prevent or limit the transmission of COVID-19, including in
32 specific settings.

33 The authority granted by this section shall last until January 11,
34 2022, unless the Governor notifies the Legislature by January 1, 2022
35 that the authority granted by this section is necessary to combat the
36 continuing threat posed by COVID-19 and should last for another 90
37 days. In the event of such notification, the Legislature shall have the
38 authority to pass a concurrent resolution to concur with the
39 Governor's notice. If such a concurrent resolution passes both
40 Houses of the Legislature, then the authority granted by this section
41 shall continue for an additional 90 days. If such a concurrent
42 resolution does not pass both Houses of the Legislature, then the
43 authority granted by this section shall expire on January 11, 2022.

44
45 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

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Under this bill, all executive orders issued by the Governor prior to the effective date of this bill that relied on the existence of the public health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, will expire 30 days following the effective date of this bill, with the exception of the executive orders listed below that will remain in effect until January 1, 2022. The Governor will have the ability to revoke or modify the following executive orders prior to January 1, 2022.

- Executive Order No. 106 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 111 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 112 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 123 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 127 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 150 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 159 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 170 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 178 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 207 (2020)
- Executive Order No. 229 (2021)
- Executive Order No. 233 (2021)
- Executive Order No. 237 (2021)

The most recent executive order containing general COVID-19 mitigation measures regarding face coverings, social distancing, and gatherings prior to the effective date of this bill and the executive order cannot be more restrictive than the recommendations provided in the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on social distancing and face coverings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, unless a substantial increase in hospitalizations, substantially increased spot positivity, or rate of transmission above 1 necessitates a modification that would be more restrictive.

Notwithstanding the provision allowing Executive Order No. 112 of 2020 to remain in place until January 1, 2022, any civil or criminal immunity related to the COVID-19 response bestowed by either Executive Order No. 112 of 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of Health Executive Directive No. 20-006 of 2020 upon health care professionals, health care facilities, health care systems, modular field treatment facilities, and any other sites designated by the Commissioner of the Department of Health for temporary use in connection with the State’s COVID-19 response, including hotels and student dormitories, will last until September 1, 2021, and then expire on that date. Conduct occurring prior to September 1, 2021 by health care professional, health care facilities, or health care systems will retain the civil or criminal immunity provided by Executive Order No. 112 of 2020, P.L.2020, c.18, or Department of Health Executive Directive No. 20-006 of 2020. Under the bill, the civil immunity bestowed upon health care professionals in

1 connection with the State's COVID-19 response by P.L.2020, c.18
2 would continue beyond September 1, 2021 only for individuals
3 specifically engaged in vaccinations or testing related to COVID-19.

4 Following the termination of the public health emergency declared
5 by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended,
6 the force and effect of any administrative order, directive, or waiver
7 issued by the head of a State agency that relied on the existence of
8 public health emergency declared by the Governor in Executive
9 Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, would expire on January 11,
10 2022. Under the bill, such administrative orders, directive, or waiver
11 may be continued and may be modified by the head of a State agency,
12 unless such administrative order, directive, or waiver is explicitly
13 revoked, until January 11, 2022.

14 The bill provides that the Governor must notify the Legislature by
15 January 1, 2022 if the Governor determines that it is necessary or
16 appropriate to continue for an additional 90 days beyond January 11,
17 2022 any administrative order, directive, or waiver issued by the head
18 of a State agency that relied on the existence of the public health
19 emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of
20 2020, as extended. The administrative order, directive, or waiver
21 would be extended for an additional 90 days if each House of the
22 Legislature passes a concurrent resolution to continue any such
23 administrative orders, directives, or waivers. Any administrative
24 orders, directives, or waivers as to which the Governor does not
25 provide notification to the Legislature or as to which both Houses of
26 the Legislature do not pass a concurrent resolution to continue would
27 expire on January 11, 2022.

28 Under the bill, the provision of any administrative order, directive,
29 or waiver issued by the Department of Health that relied on the
30 existence of the public health emergency declared by the Governor
31 in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended, governing staffing
32 ratios, overtime, shifts, and vacation time shall remain in force and
33 effect until September 1, 2021, at which time all such provisions of
34 administrative orders, directives, and waivers governing staffing
35 ratios, overtime, shifts, and vacation time will be superceded by
36 relevant provisions of laws, regulations, or collective bargaining
37 agreements in effect on that date.

38 The bill specifies that the termination of the public health
39 emergency declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of
40 2020, as extended, will in no way diminish, limit, or impair the
41 powers of the Governor or the head of a State agency pursuant to the
42 provisions of the civilian defense and disaster control act P.L.1942,
43 c.251 (C.App.A:9-33 et seq.). The state of emergency declared in
44 Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 pursuant to that law will remain in
45 effect until terminated by the Governor.

1 However, while the state of emergency declared in Executive
2 Order No. 103 of 2020 remains in effect, the deadlines in paragraph
3 (1) of subsection i. of section 6 of P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5) will
4 apply to any requests made under the open public records act after
5 the effective date of this bill, with the exception of requests made for
6 records related to the COVID-19 response, which will still be
7 governed by paragraph (2) of subsection i. of section 6 of P.L.2001,
8 c.404 (C.47:1A-5).

9 Following the termination of the public health emergency declared
10 by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020, as extended,
11 the Governor, Commissioner of Health, and the head of any other
12 State agency may issue orders, directives, and waivers pursuant to
13 the emergency health powers law, P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-1 et
14 seq.), related to (1) vaccination distribution, administration, and
15 management, (2) COVID-19 testing, (3) health resource and
16 personnel allocation, (4) data collection, retention, sharing, and
17 access, (5) coordination of local health departments, and (6)
18 implementation of any applicable recommendations of the Centers
19 for Disease Control and Prevention to prevent or limit the
20 transmission of COVID-19, including in specific settings. The
21 authority granted above will last until January 11, 2022, unless the
22 Governor notifies the Legislature by January 1, 2022 that the
23 authority granted is necessary to combat the continuing threat posed
24 by COVID-19 and should last for another 90 days. In the event of
25 such notification, the Legislature will have the authority to pass a
26 concurrent resolution to concur with the Governor. If such a
27 concurrent resolution passes both Houses of the Legislature, then the
28 authority granted will continue for an additional 90 days. If such a
29 concurrent resolution does not pass both Houses of the Legislature,
30 then the authority granted would expire on January 11, 2022.

Governor Murphy Signs Legislation and Executive Order Ending COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

06/4/2021

TRENTON – With all COVID-19 capacity restrictions on businesses and gathering limits having been lifted due to the continued improvement of New Jersey’s public health metrics, Governor Phil Murphy today signed legislation (A5820/S3866) enabling the end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency that has been in place since March 9, 2020. Immediately following the signing of the legislation, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 244, ending the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Under the legislation, the majority of executive orders issued pursuant to the Public Health Emergency will expire 30 days from today.

The legislation, which was negotiated with legislative leadership and sponsored by Senate President Steve Sweeney and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, allows for the termination of the Public Health Emergency while also allowing the Administration to retain the tools necessary to manage the ongoing threat posed by the pandemic. Specifically, the Administration is authorized to issue orders, directives, and waivers under the authority in the Emergency Health Powers Act that are related to vaccination efforts; testing; health resource and personnel allocation; data collection, retention, sharing, and access; coordination of local health departments; and implementation of any CDC recommendations to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. This authority lasts until January 11, 2022, and can be extended for 90 days with the passage of a concurrent resolution by the Legislature.

“Today’s lifting of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency is a clear and decisive step on the path toward normalcy,” **said Governor Murphy**. “The past 15 months have been a challenge, and I thank every New Jerseyan who stayed home, masked up, took precautions to keep this virus in check, and got vaccinated for allowing us to get to this point. I also thank the Senate President and the Speaker for working with us to responsibly end the Public Health Emergency and meet the challenges ahead.”

The legislation keeps the following 14 executive orders in place until January 1, 2022, though they can be modified or rescinded prior to that date by the Governor:

- Executive Order No. 106
- Executive Order No. 111
- Executive Order No. 112
- Executive Order No. 123
- Executive Order No. 127
- Executive Order No. 150
- Executive Order No. 159
- Executive Order No. 170
- Executive Order No. 178
- Executive Order No. 207
- Executive Order No. 229
- Executive Order No. 233
- Executive Order No. 237
- Executive Order No. 242

Further, any administrative orders, directives, or waivers that relied on the existence of the public health emergency, including Department of Health orders that govern vaccinations and testing, are extended until January 11, 2022. The Governor is authorized to seek a further 90-day extension of such orders, directives, or waivers, which can be granted by a concurrent resolution passed by the Legislature.

The legislation also states that while the State of Emergency declared in Executive Order No. 103 shall remain in effect, the previous seven-day requirement for Open Public Records Act (OPRA) responses will be restored for records unrelated to the COVID-19 response. Additionally, civil and criminal immunity given to health care professionals and facilities, including long-term care facilities, and existing waivers of regulations involving staffing ratios, overtime, shifts, and vacation time will expire on September 1, 2021. Civil immunity for health care professionals shall continue beyond September 1, 2021 only for individuals specifically engaged in vaccinations or testing related to COVID-19.

For a copy of Executive Order No. 244, click [here](#).

This Week in NJ: June 4th, 2021

06/4/2021



Governor Murphy, U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. Miguel Cardona Visit Bergenfield High School to Highlight Importance of In-Person Learning

Governor Phil Murphy and U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona visited Bergenfield High School to discuss the importance of in-person learning.

“We know that in-person learning is crucial to the academic success and social well-being of our students,” said **Governor Murphy**. “I am pleased to say that almost all of New Jersey’s students are now back in their classrooms. Bergenfield High School is a shining example of a school community that worked tirelessly to safely reopen its doors to students for five days per week, in-person learning. I thank Secretary Cardona for taking the time to visit Bergenfield High School, and look forward to continue working with him to build on our shared commitment to a high-quality education for all our students.”

“Here at this school and in this state, it is clear that children come first,” said **U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. Miguel Cardona**. “Students belong in school and that’s what we saw today. The experience for these students is more normal than it was three to four months ago, twelve months ago because of the work led by the Governor, the principal, the superintendent, the Commissioner to make sure we are keeping children first.”

[READ MORE](#)

Governor Murphy Signs Legislation and Executive Order Ending COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

With all COVID-19 capacity restrictions on businesses and gathering limits having been lifted due to the continued improvement of New Jersey's public health metrics, Governor Phil Murphy signed legislation (A5820/S3866) enabling the end of the COVID-19

Public Health Emergency that has been in place since March 9, 2020. Immediately following the signing of the legislation, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 244, ending the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Under the legislation, the majority of executive orders issued pursuant to the Public Health Emergency will expire 30 days from today.

"Today's lifting of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency is a clear and decisive step on the path toward normalcy," **said Governor Murphy**. "The past 15 months have been a challenge, and I thank every New Jerseyan who stayed home, masked up, took precautions to keep this virus in check, and got vaccinated for allowing us to get to this point. I also thank the Senate President and the Speaker for working with us to responsibly end the Public Health Emergency and meet the challenges ahead."

[READ MORE](#)

Governor Murphy, Attorney General Grewal, and Lieutenant Governor Oliver Visit the Camden County Police Department to Mark First Day of Body-Worn Camera Mandate

Governor Phil Murphy, Attorney General Grewal, and Lieutenant Governor Oliver joined federal, state, and local officials at the Camden County Police Department (CCPD) to mark the first day of a statewide body-worn camera (BWC) mandate for all uniformed patrol officers, a crucial step on the path toward cultivating trust between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve.

“We are witnessing a new chapter in policing in New Jersey with the reforms we are implementing in partnership with law enforcement and community leaders. And, with the body cameras we are funding, we will literally have an objective witness to how police carry out their duties,” **said Governor Murphy.** “These powerful devices have been embraced by community members and advocates calling for transparency and by police officers, who see them as a critical tool to protect and assist law enforcement with their difficult jobs. On this important day, we’re also happy to announce funding for all 487 agencies that applied for body-worn camera grants.”



[READ MORE](#)

Governor Murphy Announces Appointment of Laurie Doran as Acting Director of the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness

Governor Murphy announced the appointment of Laurie R. Doran as Acting Director of the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP), effective June 6, 2021.

“I am proud to appoint Laurie Doran to serve as Acting Director of NJOHSP,” **said Governor Murphy.** “Laurie has served our country and our state honorably for over three decades, and she could not be more qualified for this role. At the same time, our loss in Jared is the NHL’s gain. He set a standard of excellence, integrity, and honorable service that I am confident Laurie will continue to uphold. I thank him for his years of service across multiple administrations.”

[READ MORE](#)

Murphy Administration Celebrates 60th Anniversary of DEP Green Acres, Nation's Longest-running State Conservation Program

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and several partner organizations gathered at the Holly Farm tract of the Menantico Ponds Wildlife Management Area to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the DEP Green Acres Program.

"Having supported land conservation, open space stewardship, and recreational opportunities for 60 years, New Jersey's Green Acres program is a source of great pride," DEP Acting Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette said. "As one of the first state land acquisition programs, Green Acres was groundbreaking in 1961 and is now the longest-running continuous program of its kind in the country, preserving nearly 700,000 acres of land and hundreds of recreation facilities across New Jersey."



[READ MORE](#)

Statement from Governor Murphy, Senate President Sweeney, and Assembly Speaker Coughlin on the Passage of Legislation Enabling the End of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

06/3/2021

“New Jerseyans have proven their resilience over the past 15 months as our state has fought the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, we take a substantial step toward restoring normalcy to our state and to the lives of those who call New Jersey home.

“Ending New Jersey’s COVID-19 Public Health Emergency is one of the most significant steps we have taken in our recovery efforts to date. With our state’s public health metrics continuing to trend decisively in the right direction, we are confident that now is the right time to take this action, particularly as the final limits on gatherings are lifted tomorrow. With passage of this bill today and its signing tomorrow, followed by the Governor’s signing of an executive order terminating the Public Health Emergency, we will move closer to normal than at any time since March 2020.

“While we celebrate this milestone in our fight against COVID-19, we also acknowledge that the fight against this virus is not over. This legislation ensures that the Administration has the tools and flexibility necessary to continue vaccination and testing efforts, ensure protections for vulnerable populations, and oversee and coordinate the health care system to address this ongoing threat.

“By working together, we are facing the challenges ahead and meeting the needs of the over nine million residents who have bravely battled the worst pandemic in a century together.”

Governor Murphy Highlights Aspects of Legislation Allowing for the Termination of the Public Health Emergency Effective as of July 4

07/2/2021

TRENTON – Governor Phil Murphy today highlighted several aspects of legislation allowing for the termination of the Public Health Emergency effective as of July 4. On June 4, 2021, Governor Murphy signed A5820 enabling the end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency that had been in place since March 9, 2020. Immediately following the signing of the legislation, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 244 (2021), ending the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Under the legislation, the majority of executive orders issued that relied on the existence of the Public Health Emergency expire as of July 4, 2021, with exceptions specified in the legislation.

Because Executive Order No. 192 (2020) is not specified in the legislation as continuing beyond July 4, 2021, masking, social distancing, and other health and safety protocols originally set forth in Executive Order No. 192 (2020) will no longer be mandatory across businesses and facilities, regardless if they are open to the public or not. Though these protocols are no longer required by the State, employers and entities overseeing worksites and other facilities are permitted to craft more restrictive policies that require masking and social distancing, and which continue the implementation of health and safety protocols.

Per Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Order, masks are required on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations. Travelers are not required to wear a mask in outdoor areas of a conveyance. Masking requirements also remain in effect in certain state-regulated settings, including child care facilities, camps, long-term care facilities, other healthcare settings, homeless shelters, and prisons. These masking requirements, which are consistent with CDC guidance, are included in Executive Order No. 242 (2021), which remains in effect under Section 1(14) of P.L.2021, c.103.

The majority of State offices open to the public, including New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission locations, continue to require masking of staff and visitors. Individuals should review setting-specific requirements in advance of arrival.

Relevant agency directives and guidance documents can be found at the links below:

Child Care Centers: https://www.nj.gov/dcf/news/COVID_Licensed_Childcare_Guidance_052621.pdf

Summer camp: <https://nj.gov/health/legal/covid19/2021%20Youth%20Camp%20Standards%206-9-21%20Final.pdf>

Long-term care: https://www.state.nj.us/health/legal/covid19/8-20_ExecutiveDirectiveNo20-026_LTCResumption_of_Svcs.pdf and https://www.state.nj.us/health/legal/covid19/5-12-21_Memo_StandardsProtocolsVisitorsFacilityStaff.pdf

Adult Day Health Services

Facilities: <https://www.state.nj.us/health/legal/covid19/EDforAdultMedicalDayCare.pdf>

Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly: <https://www.state.nj.us/health/legal/covid19/FINALEDPACE.pdf>

Health Care Services in Office Practices: <https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/COVID19/Documents/DCA-AO-2021-11%20Superseding%20Office-Based%20Healthcare%20AO.pdf>

Homeless shelters: https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID-19_shelter_protocols.pdf

New Jersey Department of Corrections facilities: https://njdoc.gov/pdf/OffenderPublications/210423_OutdoorVisitBinder.pdf

Division of Developmental Disabilities Guidance for Residential Providers: <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/covid19-residential-visitation-guidance.pdf>