



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS, in December 2019, several cases of pneumonia with an unknown cause were detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China and the underlying virus giving rise to those reported instances of respiratory illness was later identified as a novel coronavirus disease: COVID-19;*

*WHEREAS, soon thereafter, COVID-19 became a pandemic as it rapidly spread across Asia, Europe, and North America;*

*WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus is highly contagious and is most easily spread through person-to-person contact, some individuals who are infected can remain asymptomatic or have mild symptoms for a week or longer after infection, and COVID-19 poses a significant risk of pneumonia, organ failure, and even death for certain vulnerable populations such as the elderly and those with pre-existing conditions;*

*WHEREAS, a large enough spike in COVID-19 infections would likely have devastating effects on our State's health care system and could cause New Mexicans to lose their lives for conditions that might otherwise be alleviated with proper access to treatment;*

*WHEREAS, COVID-19's contagiousness, its ability to spread through asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic individuals, and the lack of a proven vaccine or treatment, combine to make social distancing and other measures designed to minimize person-to-person contact the most effective means to combat its spread and to mitigate its effects on the health care system and patients;*

*WHEREAS, COVID-19 has been nationally and globally recognized as a health emergency unprecedented in modern times. In late January 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. Similarly, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national state of emergency related to COVID-19;*

*WHEREAS, after less than six months, there are now nearly 8 million cases of COVID-19 and over 400,000 deaths worldwide, with more than 2 million cases and well over 100,000 deaths in the United States alone;*

*WHEREAS, a statewide public health emergency was declared in New Mexico on March 11, 2020 when the State's first cases were confirmed and continues through today, and the President approved a federal Major Disaster Declaration for the State of New Mexico on April 5, 2020;*

*WHEREAS, during the approximately three-month period in which COVID-19 has been in New Mexico, the number of confirmed cases has risen to more than 10,000 and more than 450 COVID-related deaths have been recorded by the Department of Health;*

*WHEREAS, COVID-19 has caused significant economic and social disruption in our State by affecting supply chains, altering consumer behavior, and generally slowing economic activity;*

*WHEREAS, necessary measures to slow and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, such as requiring New Mexicans to stay at home to the greatest extent possible and closing or restricting numerous businesses and events, have also had significant and lasting implications for our State's economy, society, and budget;*

*WHEREAS, unanticipated fluctuations in oil and gas prices during recent months have also altered the economic and budgetary outlook of our State;*

*WHEREAS, the recent killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery have brought nationwide and statewide attention to ongoing issues of systemic and institutional racism, the necessity of discussing certain police reforms, and the urgent need for additional police and government accountability measures; and*

*WHEREAS, it is necessary for the New Mexico State Legislature to convene at the State Capitol Building to consider a range of measures addressing impacts of the continuing public health crisis.*

*NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section 6 of the New Mexico Constitution, do hereby call the Fifty-Fourth Legislature of the State of New Mexico into Special Session at twelve o'clock p.m. (noon) on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at the State Capitol Building in Santa Fe. In accordance with Article IV, Section 6, this Special Session is called for the purpose of considering and enacting legislation concerning the following objects and no others:*

1. *An act that provides for temporary procedures for conducting the 2020 general election in light of the current pending health emergency;*

2. *An act that provides the Governor with expanded powers during the pendency of a public health emergency, including: allowing those entities licensed under the Liquor Control Act to deliver alcohol; suspending in-person requirements for notarial acts; suspending in-person requirements for the execution of wills; and suspending statutory requirements mandating in-person shareholder meetings;*

3. *An act that temporarily increases the amount of gross receipts taxes distributed to municipalities and counties and that also waives certain penalties and interest for income tax, corporate income tax, and franchise taxes;*

4. *An act that establishes the legislation titled "The Small Business Recovery Act of 2020" that: provides loans for certain small businesses; sets forth the operative terms of those loans; provides for the investment of the severance tax permanent fund in certain loans to small businesses and local governments; and allows for the investment of the severance tax permanent fund in State equity funds or New Mexico businesses;*

5. *An act that voids general fund appropriations made for certain projects; authorizes the issuance of short-term severance tax bonds, short-term supplemental severance tax bonds and state transportation project bonds; provides for certain transfers to the general fund and to the appropriation contingency fund from other funds; and repeals Sections 1 through 4 of Laws 2020, Chapter 64;*

6. *An act that reduces certain appropriations for fiscal year 2021 that were made from the general fund and which were set out in the General Appropriation Act of 2020; transfers money from certain federal allocations to the State in order to meet federal obligations for public school support; permits the Department of Finance and Administration to make certain monetary transfers to reduce operating budgets, and to reduce allotments to match appropriation reductions; appropriates legislative cash balances for the expenses of the Fifty-Fourth Legislature, First Special Session, 2020; extends the expenditure period for an appropriation for census outreach; and requires the public education department to prioritize extended learning time programs to account for lost instruction in the 2019-2020 school year;*

7. *An act that requires the State Personnel Office, in consultation with the Governor's Council on Racial Equity, to develop policies to decrease institutional racism;*

8. *An act that creates the New Mexico Civil Rights Commission, which will provide recommendations regarding the creation of a cause of action for violations of state constitutional rights, potential defenses to such claims, damages and other remedies, and the termination or limitation of forms of immunity that shield state actors from liability; and*

9. *An act that requires certain law enforcement agencies to use body-worn cameras; adopts certain policies and procedures; classifies recordings as public records; and precludes the use of certain incapacitating deadly force.*

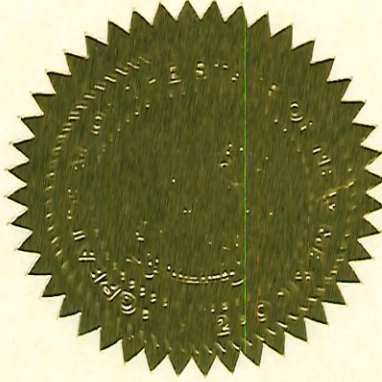
Attest:

Done at the Executive Office this  
18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2020.

*Maggie Toulouse Oliver*

Maggie Toulouse Oliver  
Secretary of State

Witness my hand and the Great Seal  
of the State of New Mexico.



*Michelle Lujan Grisham*  
Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Governor