

COVID-19 Executive Orders Affecting Business, Labor, and Housing

By: Terry Adams, Principal Analyst, Report Coordinator
Heather Poole, Associate Analyst, Report Co-Coordinator
and

Office of Legislative Research Staff

Updated October 27, 2020 | 2020-R-0109

Notice to Readers

This report provides brief summaries of the governor's COVID-19 executive orders concerning business, labor, and housing. The governor [declared](#) public health and civil preparedness emergencies on March 10, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He [renewed](#) this declaration on September 1, 2020, while also declaring new states of emergency.

The report includes all related executive orders since the governor's March 10 declaration, through October 26, 2020. Each summary indicates the Executive Order (EO) number and enactment date. Not all provisions of the orders are included. The orders are grouped by category for ease of reference.

Three additional reports summarize the governor's COVID-19 executive orders concerning (1) education and child care, (2) health and human services, and (3) state and local government and elections. All four reports are available on OLR's website: <https://www.cga.ct.gov/olr/>. The reports will be updated promptly as the governor issues new related orders. For additional OLR reports on COVID-19 related policy topics, visit the dedicated [OLR COVID-19 page](#).

Readers are encouraged to obtain the full text of the orders, and related state agency actions taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, from the governor's website: <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Pages/Emergency-Orders-issued-by-the-Governor-and-State-Agencies>.

Continuation of Orders Issued Under March 10 Declaration

On September 8, 2020, the governor issued [EO 9A](#), which reissues all executive orders made under the March 10, 2020, declaration of public health and civil preparedness emergencies (i.e., EOs 7-7000) that were unexpired and in effect as of September 8.

EO 9A establishes an expiration date of November 9, 2020, for all such orders (unless earlier modified or terminated by the governor) that were originally (1) declared effective for the duration of the emergencies and any renewal period or (2) scheduled to expire (a) on September 9 or (b) within six months of when they were issued. Orders scheduled to expire on any other specific date (e.g., October 1, November 12) remain in effect until that specific date.

EO 9A similarly establishes November 9 as the expiration date for certain orders (unless earlier modified or terminated by the issuing authority or a subsequent EO) issued by any official, agency, department, municipality, or entity pursuant to an unexpired executive order. Specifically, it applies to any order, rule, regulation, directive, or guidance that by its own terms provides that it will remain effective for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergencies.

The full text of the orders, including their original expiration dates, may be obtained from the governor's website: <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Pages/Emergency-Orders-issued-by-the-Governor-and-State-Agencies>.

Table of Contents

Business Closures and Restrictions	6
Essential and Non-Essential Businesses	6
Extension of Telecommuting Provisions.....	6
Gym, Recreation Facility, and Movie Theater Operations	6
Hairdressers, Tattoo or Piercing Parlors, and Related Businesses	7
Large Indoor Malls	7
Non-Essential Lodging Prohibition	7
OTB Facility Operations.....	8
Places of Public Amusement.....	8
Retail Operations	8
Safe Workplaces	9
Business Openings	9
DECD Authority to Allow Additional Openings	10
DECD Rules	10
Enforcement of Rules Governing Business Openings.....	10
Gym, Recreation Facility, and Movie Theater Operations	10
Hair Salons and Barbershops	11
Indoor Dining.....	11
Museums and Zoos	11
Offices.....	11
Outdoor Dining	11
Outdoor Recreation and Other Businesses.....	11
Personal Services.....	12
Places of Public Amusement.....	12
Retail and Malls	12
Temporary Lodging	12
Food and Beverage	12
Alcohol Sales by Take-Out or Delivery	12
Alcohol Served with Outdoor Dining	13
Beer or Wine Coil Cleaning Requirements	14
Curbside Pickup of Alcoholic Beverages	14
Food Trucks at Rest Areas.....	14
Limited Operations for Places that Serve Food or Alcohol.....	14

Private Club Guest Books.....	15
Restaurant Payment and Pickup Operations.....	15
Signature Requirement Suspension.....	15
Housing.....	15
Protections for Residential Renters.....	15
Temporary Mortgage Relief Program.....	17
Temporary Rental Housing Program.....	17
Insurers.....	17
Insurance Data Security Law	17
Labor.....	18
Unemployment Benefits and “Suitable Work”	18
Workers’ Compensation Deadlines and Other Requirements.....	18
Workers’ Compensation Employer Prohibitions.....	18
Workers’ Compensation Rebuttable Presumption	19
Liquor Permits	20
Approval of Provisional Permits	20
Extension and Refund of Certain Cafe Liquor Permit Fees.....	20
Extension of 30-Day Credit Period	20
Filing Requirement Waiver	21
Refunding Certain Application Fees	21
Renewal Date Extension.....	21
Temporary Closures and Permit Return	21
Meetings and Proceedings.....	21
Common Interest Community Associations	21
Nonstock Corporation Member Meetings	22
Shareholder Meetings	22
Notarization	22
DECD Bridge Loan Program	22
Remote Notarization.....	22
Shopping Bags	23
Plastic Bag Fee.....	23
Reusable Bags	23

Business Closures and Restrictions

This section summarizes executive orders that close or restrict certain business operations. Sections summarizing provisions that have been entirely repealed or superseded appear in gray. For information on executive orders allowing certain businesses to reopen, **see Business Openings**.

Essential and Non-Essential Businesses

EO 7X:

- Generally required, through May 20, non-essential businesses and nonprofits to reduce their in-person workforce by 100%
- Allowed non-essential (1) retailers to be staffed onsite if they offered only remote ordering and delivery or curbside pickup and (2) businesses and nonprofits to allow staff and third parties onsite to the minimum extent necessary to provide security, maintenance, mail and package receipt, and other services the Department of Economic Community Development (DECD) deemed necessary
- Required DECD to determine which businesses are essential and allowed businesses to request to be deemed essential
- Extended previous orders' duration ([EO 7H](#), § 1, Mar. 20, 2020; [EO 7J](#), § 1, Mar. 22, 2020; [EO 7X](#), § 3, Apr. 10, 2020; [DECD Business Exemptions Guidance](#), Mar. 22, 2020)
- Repealed by [EO 7PP](#); see **Business Openings** for orders allowing certain businesses to reopen

Extension of Telecommuting Provisions

EO 7ZZ:

- Generally requires businesses and nonprofits to employ work from home or telecommuting procedures to the maximum extent possible
- Extends previous orders' duration ([EO 7H](#), § 1, Mar. 20, 2020; [EO 7X](#), § 3, Apr. 10, 2020; [EO 7PP](#), § 1b, May 18, 2020; [EO 7ZZ](#), § 10, Jun. 16, 2020)

Gym, Recreation Facility, and Movie Theater Operations

EO 7PP:

- Prohibited gyms; sports, fitness, and recreation facilities; and movie theaters from operating until June 20

- Extended previous orders' duration ([EO 7D](#), § 4, Mar. 16, 2020; [EO 7X](#), § 3, Apr. 10, 2020; [EO 7PP](#), § 4, May 18, 2020)
- **Repealed by [EO 7ZZ](#); see [Business Openings](#)** for new order concerning gym, recreation facility, and movie theater operations

Hairdressers, Tattoo or Piercing Parlors, and Related Businesses

EO 7TT:

- Prohibited barbers, hairdressers, and similar providers from operating in public settings through May 31
- Prohibited nail technicians, electrologists, estheticians, eyelash technicians, and tattoo and piercing providers from operating in public settings
- Modified a previous order ([EO 7G](#), § 4, Mar. 19, 2020; [EO 7TT](#), § 1, May 29, 2020)
- **Repealed by [EO 7ZZ](#); see [Business Openings](#)** for modified orders concerning these businesses

Large Indoor Malls

EO 7X:

- Closed specified large shopping malls, including indoor common areas and the stores, pharmacies, restaurants, and other establishments in them without their own external entrance through May 20
- Allowed essential mall-based businesses to remain open if they use only their own external entrances and exits
- Extended previous orders' duration ([EO 7E](#), § 1, Mar. 18, 2020; [EO 7H](#), § 1, Mar. 20, 2020; [EO 7X](#), § 3, Apr. 10, 2020)
- **Repealed by [EO 7PP](#); see [Business Openings](#)** for modified order concerning malls

Non-Essential Lodging Prohibition

EO 7T:

- Generally prohibited non-essential lodging in hotels, motels, short-term rentals, and other similar businesses, except for certain places rented for more than 31 days

- Allowed these businesses to provide lodging only to (1) health care workers, first responders, and other specified workers in certain businesses; (2) vulnerable populations; (3) certain Connecticut residents (e.g., those who are self-isolating); and (4) those receiving specialized medical care or with extenuating circumstances ([EO 7T](#), § 1, Apr. 2, 2020)
- Repealed by [EO 7ZZ](#); see **Business Openings** for new order concerning lodging

OTB Facility Operations

EO 7ZZ:

- Closes Off-Track Betting (OTB) facilities through July 20
- Extends previous orders' duration ([EO 7D](#), § 3, Mar. 16, 2020; [EO 7X](#), § 3, Apr. 10, 2020; [EO 7PP](#), § 4, May 18, 2020; [EO 7ZZ](#), § 9, Jun. 16, 2020)

Places of Public Amusement

EO 7PP:

- Closed indoor and outdoor places of public amusement (e.g., amusement parks, aquariums, arcades, bowling alleys) through June 20, except those explicitly permitted to open (**see Business Openings**)
- Excluded public parks and open recreation areas
- Extended previous orders' duration ([EO 7E](#), § 2, Mar. 18, 2020; [EO 7X](#), § 3, Apr. 10, 2020; [EO 7PP](#), § 1, May 18, 2020)
- Repealed by [EO 7AAA](#); see **Business Openings** for new order concerning places of public amusement

Retail Operations

EO 7X:

- Required, through May 20, retail establishments that were allowed to remain open to (1) take appropriate and reasonable actions to ensure customers maintain six feet of distance between one another (including when in line to enter) and (2) if practicable, use touchless payment options
- Required these establishments to take additional protective measures developed by DECD in consultation with the Department of Public Health (DPH), which were mandatory statewide and superseded and preempted any current or future municipal order

- Made firearms transactions appointment-only through May 15
- Extended previous orders' duration ([EO 7N](#), § 3, Mar. 26, 2020; [EO 7S](#), § 1, Apr. 1, 2020; [DECD Implementation Order](#), Apr. 1, 2020; [EO 7X](#), § 3, Apr. 10, 2020)
- **Repealed by [EO 7PP](#); see [Business Openings](#)** for new order concerning retail establishments

EO 7BB:

- Required DECD to revise its [Essential Safe Store Rules](#) to include face covering requirements ([EO 7BB](#), § 1, Apr. 17, 2020)
- [Essential Safe Store Rules](#) **superseded** by DECD's [Sector Rules for Retail and Malls](#) referenced in [EO 7PP](#); **see [Business Openings](#)** for more information

Safe Workplaces

EO 7V:

- Requires each workplace in the state to take additional protective measures to reduce the transmission risk of COVID-19
- Requires the DECD commissioner, in consultation with the DPH commissioner, to issue legally binding statewide rules setting out these measures; the rules supersede and preempt any current or future municipal order ([EO 7V](#), § 1, Apr. 7, 2020; [DECD Implementation Order](#), Apr. 7, 2020)
- **See [Business Openings](#)** for information on how these rules interact with [EO 7PP](#)

EO 7BB:

- Requires DECD to revise its [Safe Workplace Rules for Essential Employees](#) to include face covering requirements ([EO 7BB](#), § 1, Apr. 17, 2020)
- **See [Business Openings](#)** for revised order concerning face covering requirements

Business Openings

This section summarizes executive orders that allow certain businesses to reopen. For information about the orders that closed or restricted business operations, please **see [Business Closures and Restrictions](#)** or **[Food and Beverage](#)**, as appropriate.

DECD Authority to Allow Additional Openings

EO 7PP:

- Allows the DECD commissioner, without additional executive orders, to amend any [Sector Rules](#) to include additional businesses or business types and provide effective dates for when these entities may reopen ([EO 7PP](#), § 1f, May 18, 2020)

DECD Rules

EO 7PP:

- Specifies that DECD's (1) [Safe Workplace Rules for Essential Employers](#) remain in effect for any essential businesses not subject to DECD's Sector Rules and (2) Sector Rules apply to any business permitted to reopen ([EO 7PP](#), § 1g, May 18, 2020; [DECD Sector Rules](#), May 8, 2020; [DECD Safe Workplace Rules for Essential Employers](#), Apr. 7, 2020)

EO 7NNN:

- Requires the DECD commissioner to establish updated face covering requirements by updating the [Sector Rules](#), [Safe Workplace Rules for Essential Employers](#), and other rules issued pursuant to previous EOs ([EO 7NNN](#), § 1b, Aug. 14, 2020)

Enforcement of Rules Governing Business Openings

EO 7PP:

- Makes it a public nuisance to violate DECD's [Sector Rules](#) on the reopening of various businesses
- Authorizes local or district health directors to order the closure of “public health facilities” that do not comply with the sector rules; term includes hair and nail salons and similar establishments, tattoo or piercing establishments, restaurants, and any locations licensed for on-premises alcohol consumption
- Requires the public health commissioner to designate to municipal employees or officials the authority over these public nuisances by entities, other than public health facilities; the municipal chief executive officer selects these employees or officials, who cannot be local or district health directors or their staff; authorizes these designees to order the closure of entities that do not comply with the sector rules ([EO 7PP](#), § 2, May 18, 2020)

Gym, Recreation Facility, and Movie Theater Operations

EO 7ZZ:

- Allows gyms; sports, fitness, and recreation facilities; and movie theaters to operate in accordance with DECD's sector rules for [sports and fitness facilities](#) or [indoor recreation venues](#), as appropriate ([EO 7ZZ](#), § 7, Jun. 16, 2020)

Hair Salons and Barbershops

EO 7TT:

- Allows hair salons and barbershops to operate in accordance with DECD's [Sector Rules for Hair Salons and Barbershops](#) (EO 7TT, § 1, May 29, 2020)

Indoor Dining

EO 7ZZ:

- Allows indoor dining in accordance with DECD's [Sector Rules for Restaurants](#) (EO 7ZZ, § 4, Jun. 16, 2020)

Museums and Zoos

EO 7PP:

- Allows museums and zoos to reopen subject to DECD's [Sector Rules for Museums and Zoos](#) (EO 7PP, § 1d, May 18, 2020)

Offices

EO 7PP:

- Allows offices to reopen pursuant to DECD's [Sector Rules for Offices](#)
- Supersedes a previous order's on-site staffing provisions (EO 7PP, § 1b, May 18, 2020)

Outdoor Dining

EO 7PP:

- Allows eating establishments and places serving alcohol for on-premises consumption to serve food outdoors in accordance with the outdoor dining provisions in [EO 7MM](#), DECD's [Sector Rules for Restaurants](#), and any EO on selling or serving alcohol
- Allows alcohol sales with the sale of food only in accordance with [EO 7MM](#) (EO 7PP, § 1a, May 18, 2020)
- See **Food and Beverage** for more information

Outdoor Recreation and Other Businesses

EO 7PP:

- Allows any business covered by DECD's [Sector Rules for General Business](#) to reopen

- Allows DECD to amend this list of covered business types from time to time ([EO 7PP](#), § 1e, May 18, 2020)

Personal Services

EO 7ZZ:

- Allows cosmeticians, nail technicians, electrologists, estheticians, eyelash technicians, and tattoo and piercing providers to operate in accordance with DECD's [Sector Rules for Personal Services](#) ([EO 7ZZ](#), § 6, Jun. 16, 2020)

Places of Public Amusement

EO 7AAA:

- Allows places of public amusement to operate in accordance with DECD's [Sector Rules for Amusement Parks](#)
- Modifies a previous order ([EO 7ZZ](#), § 8, Jun. 16, 2020; [EO 7AAA](#), § 1, Jun. 17, 2020)

Retail and Malls

EO 7PP:

- Allows retail establishments and malls to operate in accordance with DECD's [Sector Rules for Retail and Malls](#) ([EO 7PP](#), § 1c, May 18, 2020)

Temporary Lodging

EO 7ZZ:

- Allows hotels and other commercial lodging, including timeshares or multi-unit lodging that operate like hotels or employ staff on-site, to operate in accordance with DECD's [Sector Rules for Hotels/Lodging](#) ([EO 7ZZ](#), § 1, Jun. 16, 2020)

Food and Beverage

Alcohol Sales by Take-Out or Delivery

EO 7ZZ:

- Allows sales of sealed alcohol containers by (1) restaurant, cafe, or tavern liquor permittees for pickup with the sale of food and (2) manufacturer permittees for off-premises consumption
- Allows (1) the above permittees to deliver alcoholic beverages directly to consumers under the same conditions as for pickup and (2) manufacturer permittees for cider and apple brandy and eau-de-vie to open for pickup or delivery

- Allows club, nonprofit club, or golf country club permittees to deliver or offer pickup of food and alcohol to their members under the same conditions as restaurants
- Allows hotel liquor permittees to sell alcoholic beverages for pickup or delivery consistent with the same requirements as other permittees under prior EOs and DECD's [Sector Rules for Restaurants](#)
- Allows permittees to sell mixed drinks in closed or sealed containers if (1) their permit allows them to sell mixed drinks, (2) all other sale conditions meet prior EO requirements, and (3) the sale is consistent with local or municipal open container ordinances or other requirements
- Modifies previous orders ([EO 7G](#), § 3, Mar. 19, 2020; [Department of Consumer Protection \(DCP\) Implementation Order](#), Mar. 19, 2020; [EO 7T](#), § 2, Apr. 2, 2020; [DCP Implementation Order](#), Apr. 2, 2020; [EO 7MM](#), § 4, May 12, 2020; [EO 7PP](#), § 5, May 18, 2020; [EO 7ZZ](#), § 5, Jun. 16, 2020)

Alcohol Served with Outdoor Dining

EO 7WW:

- Allows alcohol permittees to serve alcohol with outdoor dining (i.e., food prepared on the premises or at a food truck adjacent to the premises) without complying with certain requirements under existing law, regulation, and practice (e.g., patio or extension of use permit)
- Allows caterer permittees and restaurant permittees for catering establishments to provide outdoor alcohol service with outdoor dining at any location allowed under their permit
- Requires permittees to comply with the following:
 - the outdoor dining requirements under § 2 of [EO 7MM](#)
 - any [DECD rules for outdoor dining](#), including social distancing
 - any municipal requirements for outdoor dining and liquor sales
 - other existing liquor laws and regulations, including the requirement that they serve only the types of alcohol authorized by their permit
- Prohibits (1) live entertainment, unless it was previously allowed or the permittee obtains permission, and (2) consumer bars

- Limits outdoor service provided by club permittees, to members and their families and guests
- Modifies a previous order ([EO 7MM](#), § 3, May 12, 2020; [EO 7WW](#), § 3, Jun. 4, 2020)

Beer or Wine Coil Cleaning Requirements

EO 7W:

- Exempts premises that normally sell beer or wine for on-premises consumption from the weekly pipeline cleaning requirement unless the permittee is selling growlers for off-premises consumption ([EO 7W](#), § 3, Apr. 9, 2020)

Curbside Pickup of Alcoholic Beverages

EO 7R:

- Allows package store and grocery store beer permittees to provide curbside pickup of alcoholic beverage sales ([EO 7R](#), § 5, Mar. 31, 2020; [DCP Implementation Order](#), Mar. 31, 2020)

Food Trucks at Rest Areas

EO 7X:

- Authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) commissioner to allow food trucks to operate at interstate highway rest areas until the end of the (1) state's declared emergencies or (2) Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) temporary suspension of commercial activity restrictions in these areas ([FHWA 05-20](#)), whichever is earlier
- Empowers the commissioner to issue any necessary implementing orders ([EO 7X](#), § 5, Apr. 10, 2020; [DOT Implementation Notice](#), Apr. 10, 2020)

Limited Operations for Places that Serve Food or Alcohol

EO 9D:

- Limits eating establishments and places serving alcohol for on-premises consumption to only serving food for off-premises consumption until May 20
- Prohibits indoor dining until June 17
- Prohibits, until November 9, permittees that primarily sell alcohol for on-premises consumption from selling alcohol without selling food

- Extends previous orders' duration ([EO 7D](#), § 2, Mar. 16, 2020; [EO 7X](#), § 3, Apr. 10, 2020; [EO 7PP](#), § 1, May 18, 2020; [EO 7ZZ](#), § 4, Jun. 16, 2020; [EO 9](#), § 2, Sept. 4, 2020; [EO 9D](#), § 1, Sept. 25, 2020)
- **See Business Openings** for modified orders allowing indoor and outdoor dining under certain conditions

Private Club Guest Books

EO 7RR:

- Waives the requirement that club, nonprofit club, and golf country club permittees maintain a guest book with information on members' guests ([EO 7RR](#), § 3, May 21, 2020)

Restaurant Payment and Pickup Operations

EO 7N:

- Requires restaurants, eating establishments, and bars selling food for off-premises consumption to limit individuals entering their premises to those picking up and paying for orders
- Requires, to the extent reasonably practical and available, establishments to use touchless or remote payment systems ([EO 7N](#), § 2, Mar. 26, 2020)

Signature Requirement Suspension

EO 7W:

- Suspends the requirement that consumers sign for alcoholic beverages at the curb or upon delivery, provided they are not intoxicated and their age is verified to be 21 or older ([EO 7W](#), § 4, Apr. 9, 2020; [DCP Implementation Order](#), Apr. 9, 2020)

Housing

Protections for Residential Renters

EO 9H:

- Prohibits landlords or their representatives from serving a notice to quit or taking other eviction actions before January 1, 2021, except for (1) serious nuisance, (2) nonpayment of rent due on or before February 29, 2020, (3) serious nonpayment of rent, or (4) the landlord's bona fide intention to use the dwelling as his or her principal residence (for the fourth reason, the order prohibits the notice to quit from being delivered during an existing lease's term)

- Defines “serious nonpayment of rent” as nonpayment for at least six months for rent due on or after March 1, 2020, excluding other charges or fees arising from the tenancy
- Requires a landlord to include with all notices to quit issued before January 1, 2021, except those for serious nuisance, a copy of the [CDC Declaration](#) (in English and Spanish), which is attached to the [CDC Order](#) “Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions to Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19” (Sept. 4, 2020)
- Requires landlords, on all notices to quit issued before January 1, 2021, for nonpayment of rent due on or before February 29, 2020, to specify the period for which rent was not paid
- Requires landlords, on all notices to quit and summary process complaints issued before January 1, 2021, for serious nonpayment of rent, to specify the amount of unpaid rent and months for which rent was not paid
- Requires landlords, on all notices to quit issued before January 1, 2021, based upon the intention to use the premises as a principal residence, to specify that reason and the lease’s expiration date
- Establishes a two-month grace period for April 2020 rent for tenants, including mobile home residents, by prohibiting landlords from (1) taking eviction action; (2) imposing late fees, interest, or penalties; (3) reporting nonpayment to a credit bureau; or (4) retaliating against tenants, provided the rent is paid within two months after its due date
- Establishes a two-month grace period for May 2020 rent if a tenant, by the ninth day after the rent is due, notifies the landlord in writing, including by email, that the tenant has become fully or partially unemployed or experienced significant loss of revenue or increase in expenses due to the pandemic, provided the rent is paid within two months after its due date
- Requires landlords, upon request by certain tenants, such as those experiencing financial hardship due to the pandemic, to (1) withdraw from escrow the security deposit amount over one month’s rent and (2) apply it toward the rent due in April, May, June, July, August, or September 2020
- Prohibits landlords from demanding that the security deposit be restored before the later of the end of the public health emergency or the rental agreement renewal or extension

- Modifies previous orders ([EO 7X](#), § 1, Apr. 10, 2020; [EO 7NN](#), § 4, May 13, 2020; [EO 7DDD](#), § 1, Jun. 29, 2020; [EO 7000](#), § 3, Aug. 21, 2020; [EO 9E](#), § 1, Sept. 30, 2020; [EO 9H](#), § 2, Oct. 20, 2020)

Temporary Mortgage Relief Program

EO 7GGG:

- Authorizes the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority chief executive officer to modify or waive statutory requirements for the Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program (EMAP) to the extent necessary to create and administer a [temporary mortgage assistance program](#) for eligible borrowers
- Requires the housing commissioner to establish eligibility criteria in consultation with the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) secretary and the governor's office
- Requires monthly reporting on the new temporary program and any modifications to or waivers of EMAP's requirements ([EO 7GGG](#), § 2, Jul. 13, 2020)

Temporary Rental Housing Program

EO 7GGG:

- Authorizes the housing commissioner to modify, waive, or exempt certain statutory provisions and related regulations to the extent necessary to create and administer a [temporary rental housing assistance program](#) for eligible tenants
- Requires the commissioner to establish eligibility criteria in consultation with the OPM secretary and the governor's office
- Requires monthly reporting on the new temporary program and any modifications to or waivers of rent bank program requirements ([EO 7GGG](#), § 1, Jul. 13, 2020)

Insurers

Insurance Data Security Law

EO 9E:

- Delays, from October 1, 2020, to February 9, 2021, implementation of the insurance data security law ([PA 19-117](#) (§ 230), as amended by [PA 19-196](#) (§ 8)), which generally requires insurers to implement an information security program and investigate and report cyber security events in a timely manner ([EO 9E](#), § 3, Sept. 30, 2020)

Labor

Unemployment Benefits and “Suitable Work”

EO 7UU:

- Temporarily expands eligibility for unemployment benefits by allowing claimants to reject an employment offer as “unsuitable” if, due to COVID-19, the employment poses an unreasonable risk to the health of a household member (current [regulations](#) allow claimants to reject offers that pose an unreasonable risk to their own health)
- Requires the labor commissioner, when determining whether the work offered to a claimant is suitable, to (1) consider the degree of risk to the claimant’s household members due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and (2) find the work unsuitable if there is an unreasonable risk to a household member (by [law](#), claimants who refuse suitable work are generally ineligible for benefits)
- Expanded eligibility applies to submitted claims covering May 17, 2020, through July 25, 2020 ([EO 7UU](#), § 2, Jun. 1, 2020)

Workers’ Compensation Deadlines and Other Requirements

EO 7K:

- Suspends all location or venue requirements, time requirements, statutes of limitations, and deadlines under the workers’ compensation laws and certain other related laws (e.g., those providing disability compensation to certain state employees or workers’ compensation benefits to volunteer firefighters)
- Suspends, for the Workers’ Compensation Commission, all time requirements and deadlines relating to the workers’ compensation law and other statutory programs and schemes that the commission administers ([EO 7K](#), § 2, Mar. 23, 2020)

Workers’ Compensation Employer Prohibitions

EO JJJ:

- Expands current law’s prohibition on employers discharging or discriminating against employees for filing workers’ compensation claims or exercising their workers’ compensation rights to additionally prohibit employers from (1) disciplining employees for taking these actions or (2) deliberately misinforming or otherwise deliberately dissuading employees from filing workers’ compensation claims
- Allows employees, as they may for violations of current law’s prohibition, to enforce the new prohibition by bringing a lawsuit in Superior Court or filing a complaint with the chairman of the Workers’ Compensation Commission ([EO 7JJJ](#), § 2, Jul. 24, 2020)

Workers' Compensation Rebuttable Presumption

EO JJJ:

- Establishes a rebuttable presumption that employees, who file workers' compensation claims for contracting COVID-19, contracted it as an occupational disease arising out of and in the course of their employment (thus, making them eligible for benefits) if they meet the following criteria:
 - Filed a claim for missing at least one day of work between March 10, 2020, and May 20, 2020, due to a COVID-19 diagnosis or symptoms that were diagnosed as COVID-19
 - Worked, at the employer's direction, outside the home during at least one of the 14 days immediately preceding the date of injury (the date of injury is the date that the employee was first unable to work or died due to a COVID-19 diagnosis or symptoms that were diagnosed as COVID-19, whichever occurred first)
 - Did not receive an offer or directive from the employer to work from home instead of from his or her place of employment
 - If the date of injury was more than 14 days after March 23, 2020, was employed by an employer deemed [essential](#) by DECD under [EO 7H](#)
 - Within three weeks of the date of injury, had the contraction of COVID-19 (1) confirmed through a positive laboratory diagnostic test or (2) diagnosed and documented by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse based on the employee's symptoms
 - Provided a copy of the positive test results or the written diagnosis to the employer or workers' compensation insurer
- Allows an employer or insurer to rebut (i.e., overcome) the presumption only by demonstrating, by a preponderance of evidence, that the claimant's employment did not cause him or her to contract COVID-19
- Specifies that employees who contract COVID-19 but are not entitled to the presumption are not precluded from filing a workers' compensation claim
- Reduces an employee's wage replacement benefit for a COVID-19 claim by the amount of paid sick leave available to the employee through the federal Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act or any other paid sick leave program specifically available in response to COVID-19 and separate from any accrued paid time off regularly available to the employee

- Starting August 1, 2020, requires the Workers' Compensation Commission to produce a monthly report on COVID-19 workers' compensation claims and provide it to the governor and the Commerce, Insurance and Real Estate, and Labor and Public Employees committees
- Requires employers and insurers to comply with any requests from the commission for information pertinent to the monthly reports ([EO 7JJJ](#), § 1, Jul. 24, 2020)

Liquor Permits

Approval of Provisional Permits

EO 7W:

- Authorizes the DCP commissioner, instead of the Liquor Control Commission, to issue 90-day provisional liquor permits, their renewals, and any follow-up review ([EO 7W](#), § 6, Apr. 9, 2020)

Extension and Refund of Certain Cafe Liquor Permit Fees

EO 9E:

- Requires DCP to (1) extend certain cafe liquor permits due to expire by February 8, 2021, to February 9, 2021, and (2) refund the permit renewal fees the permit holders paid between July 1, 2020, and February 8, 2021
- Applies to club, non-profit, and golf country club permits that existed before [PA 19-24](#)'s enactment on July 1, 2020 (PA 19-24, among other things, combined various permits for on-premises consumption into the existing cafe permit) ([EO 9E](#), § 2, Sept. 30, 2020)

Extension of 30-Day Credit Period

EO 7000:

- Generally extended, from 30 to 60 days, the maximum period after the delivery date that credit could be extended from a manufacturer, wholesaler, or other permittee to a retailer that is prohibited, by executive order, from serving alcohol for on-premises consumption
- Modified a previous order ([EO 7S](#), § 3, Apr. 1, 2020; [EO 7000](#), § 2, Aug. 21, 2020)
- **Repealed by [EO 9B](#)**; deliveries occurring under the previous orders are governed by those orders

Filing Requirement Waiver

EO 7W:

- Temporarily waives the requirement that a liquor permit be filed with the town clerk to be effective, provided the clerk's office is closed or the hours are so reduced that filing is unreasonable ([EO 7W](#), § 8, Apr. 9, 2020)

Refunding Certain Application Fees

EO 7B:

- Authorizes DCP to cancel a liquor permit and refund the application fee for people and organizations that cancel certain public outings and no longer need the permit ([EO 7B](#), § 4, Mar. 14, 2020; [DCP Implementation Order](#), Mar. 16, 2020)

Renewal Date Extension

EO 7W:

- Generally extends by four months all on-premises liquor permits that were active on March 16, 2020, when [EO 7D](#) prohibited on-premises consumption ([EO 7W](#), § 7, Apr. 9, 2020; [DCP Implementation Order](#), Apr. 9, 2020)

Temporary Closures and Permit Return

EO 7W:

- Waives the requirement that liquor permittees that closed due to [EO 7D](#) (1) notify DCP of business closures lasting 60 days or fewer or (2) return the permit to DCP if the business is closed for more than 60 days, provided they intend to reopen after [EO 7D](#) terminates ([EO 7W](#), § 5, Apr. 9, 2020)

Meetings and Proceedings

Common Interest Community Associations

EO 7HH:

- Authorizes condominiums and other common interest community associations, and their boards and committees, to conduct meetings and vote remotely (e.g., by telephone or video conferencing) or by ballot without a meeting, in accordance with procedures in existing law
- Applies despite any prohibition on, or limitation to, this practice in the association's declaration or bylaws ([EO 7HH](#), § 2, May 1, 2020)

Nonstock Corporation Member Meetings

EO 7NN:

- Authorizes nonstock corporation boards of directors to hold member meetings solely by remote communication, subject to guidelines and procedures that the board adopts
- Establishes standards by which members participating in a meeting remotely are deemed present and eligible to vote (e.g., the board must provide them a reasonable opportunity to participate)
- Overrides any contrary provision of law, regulation, or the corporation's governing documents ([EO 7NN](#), § 2, May 13, 2020)

Shareholder Meetings

EO 7I:

- Allows corporation boards of directors to hold shareholder meetings remotely using measures already specified in law, such as verifying participant identity
- Requires boards that hold remote shareholder meetings to make the list of shareholders who can vote available for inspection on a reasonably accessible electronic network starting two business days after providing the meeting notice ([EO 7I](#), § 11, Mar. 21, 2020)

Notarization

DECD Bridge Loan Program

EO 7T:

- Authorizes the DECD commissioner to accept certain nondiscrimination certifications from applicants to the department's [Recovery Bridge Loan](#) program if they are signed under penalty of false statement
- Suspends the requirement that these certifications be submitted as notarized affidavits ([EO 7T](#), § 3, Apr. 2, 2020)

Remote Notarization

EO 7ZZ:

- Allows notarial acts to be performed remotely and establishes several requirements for these notarizations, including the following:
 - The notary and the signatory must be able to communicate with each other simultaneously by sight and sound

- A signatory who is not personally known to the notary must present satisfactory identification while communicating with the notary, not merely transmit it before or after the transaction
- The notary must retain a recording of the complete notarial act for at least 10 years
- The order suspends all witness requirements for notarizations, except for those concerning a last will and testament
- Extends previous orders' duration ([EO 7K](#), § 3, Mar. 23, 2020; [EO 7Q](#), § 3, Mar. 30, 2020; [EO 7ZZ](#), § 12, Jun. 16, 2020)

Shopping Bags

Plastic Bag Fee

EO 7NN:

- Suspends the 10-cent fee on single-use plastic bags through June 30, 2020
- Requires the revenue services commissioner to issue any necessary implementing order or guidance for businesses
- Extends a previous order's duration ([EO 7N](#), § 4, Mar. 26, 2020; [EO 7NN](#), § 9, May 13, 2020)

Reusable Bags

EO 7NN:

- Prohibits retailers, through June 30, 2020, from requiring employees to bag items in customer-provided reusable bags
- Requires customers using reusable bags to bag their own items if a retail employee refuses to do so
- Extends a previous order's duration ([EO 7N](#), § 5, Mar. 26, 2020; [EO 7NN](#), § 9, May 13, 2020)