EXECUTIVE ORDER N-77-20

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the Government Operations Agency (including the Department of General Services), and the California Health and Human Services Agency (including the Department of Public Health) have been working, in the exercise of their discretion, to lease or otherwise acquire and utilize property in connection with the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS it is necessary for the State to acquire and utilize additional property for use in the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; in particular, it is necessary for the State to lease or otherwise acquire up to three sites for use as laboratories to increase the capacity to test for SARS-CoV-2, and to enter into other contracts for the operation of those laboratories, thereby facilitating efforts to track and mitigate the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations as specified in this Order would prevent, hinder, or delay appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571, 8572, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1) Notwithstanding any provision of law that would otherwise regulate the State's acquisition or utilization of property, or that would otherwise affect the procedures for such acquisition or utilization, the Department of General Services and the Department of Public Health are authorized to enter into agreements, and to take such action as might be necessary or convenient to carry out such agreements, to acquire and utilize property at up to three sites (as determined by the Department of General Services and the Department of Public Health) for use as laboratories to increase the capacity to test for SARS-CoV-2. Any provision of law that would restrict, delay, or otherwise inhibit the State's acquisition or utilization of such sites is suspended. For purposes of this Order, the "acquisition" of property includes the acquisition of any property interest or right of any kind (including, but not limited to, any leasehold interest), and the "utilization" of property includes, but is not limited to, occupancy, construction, alteration, repair, and all other activities necessary to establish, maintain, and operate a laboratory at each site.

- 2) Notwithstanding Paragraph 1, the Department of General Services and the Department of Public Health are directed to use all reasonable efforts to ensure that the State's acquisition and utilization of the property specified in this Order is consistent with all laws that would otherwise apply to the State's acquisition or utilization of such property, and are further directed to prioritize efforts to ensure consistency with applicable laws that promote health, safety, and accessibility. Additionally, the Department of General Services and the Department of Public Health are specifically directed to ensure consistency with all sections of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, the California Building Standards Code, that apply to the work necessary to utilize such property, other than sections pertaining to enforcement.
- 3) Nothing in this Order shall be construed to in any way restrict any State entity's existing authority to acquire or utilize property for use in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 28th aay of August 2020.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-80-20

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as physical distancing and other public health measures undertaken in response to it, continue to affect individuals, businesses, and governmental agencies alike, with associated impacts on adherence to certain statutory and regulatory deadlines and requirements; and

WHEREAS local health officers and other public health officials protecting public health during the COVID-19 pandemic have been subject to threats and other harassment, including threats and harassment targeted at their places of residence, which threatens to chill the performance of their critical duties; and

WHEREAS many businesses have suffered financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, undermining their ability to pay rent and other expenses that have become due; and

whereas numerous local jurisdictions have determined that promoting stability amongst commercial tenancies is necessary to mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19 and conducive to public health, such as by allowing commercial establishments to decide whether and how to remain open based on public health concerns rather than economic pressures; and

WHEREAS the circumstances warranting these protections continue to exist, and are expected to continue to exist; and

WHEREAS due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it may be impossible or impracticable for lead agencies, responsible agencies, and project applicants to adhere to certain public filing and notice requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has had serious economic and other impacts on health care providers in California, and maintaining a robust system of heath care providers is an essential part of preserving public health; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Order would continue to prevent, hinder, or delay appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of Title 1, Division 7, Chapter 3.1 of the Government Code, or any other provision of law, the Secretary of State may establish procedures to allow local health officers and other public health officials (as determined by the Secretary of State) to participate in the address-confidentiality program described in that chapter and Title 2, Division 7, Chapter 11 of the California Code of Regulations (the "Safe at Home Confidential Address Program"). The establishment of these procedures shall not be subject to the Administrative Procedure Act.
- 2) The timeframe for the protections set forth in Executive Order N-28-20, Paragraph 2, extended via Executive Order N-66-20, Paragraph 21, and Executive Order N-71-20, Paragraph 3, is hereby extended through March 31, 2021, with respect to commercial evictions only.
- 3) The requirements in Corporations Code sections 20 and 600 to request and receive the consent of shareholders for meetings of shareholders to be held by electronic transmission or by electronic video screen communication are suspended as to meetings taking place after June 30, 2020.

In the event that any corporation holds a shareholder meeting by electronic transmission or by electronic video screen communication under the suspension in this Paragraph, the corporation shall afford a "reasonable opportunity to participate in the meeting" under Corporations Code section 600, subd. (e), by:

- (i) Not imposing unreasonable obligations on shareholders seeking to participate in the shareholder meeting; and
- (ii) Providing shareholders, as closely as reasonably possible, an opportunity to participate equivalent to the ability of inperson attendees at the corporation's last in-person meeting, including any ability to vote, ask questions, be heard by other shareholders, or advance proposals. In addition, if such a meeting considers any significant business transaction, controversial proposal, counter-solicitation, or other matter of a sort not considered at the last in-person meeting, the corporation shall provide as closely as reasonably possible an equivalent ability to participate as in-person attendees at the last in-person meeting to consider such a matter.
- 4) Notwithstanding the one-year period set forth in Health and Safety Code section 11362.745(a), identification cards issued under Health and Safety Code section 11362.71 (concerning identification cards for persons authorized to engage in the medical use of cannabis and their

designated primary caregivers) that would otherwise have expired on or after March 4, 2020 shall be valid through and including December 31, 2020.

- 5) The Director of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control shall have the authority to suspend, for a period of up to 30 days, the deadlines for renewing licenses upon payment of annual fees, as specified in Business and Professions Code section 24048. This authorization shall extend through December 31, 2020, and the Director shall consider funding availability in determining whether to exercise this discretion. Nothing in this paragraph shall have any impact upon relief granted pursuant to Executive Order N-40-20, Paragraph 9, and Executive Order N-66-20, Paragraph 14.
- 6) The provisions of Paragraph 8 of Executive Order N-54-20— conditionally suspending (subject to the conditions set forth in subparagraphs (a)–(c) of that paragraph) certain public filing, posting, notice, and public access requirements for projects undergoing, or deemed exempt from, California Environmental Quality Act review— are hereby extended until this Order is modified or rescinded, or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever occurs sooner. A lead agency, responsible agency, or project applicant that complies with the conditions set forth in subparagraphs (a)–(c) of Paragraph 8 of Executive Order N-54-20 shall be deemed to have fully satisfied any applicable requirements for public filing, posting, notice, and public access set forth in Public Resources Code sections 21092.3 and 21152, as well as California Code of Regulations, Title 14, sections 15062(c)(2) and (c)(4); 15072(d); 15075 (a), (d), and (e); 15087(d); and 15094(a), (d), and (e).

Nothing in this Paragraph 6 or in Paragraph 8 of Executive Order N-54-20 shall be construed to limit a lead agency's, responsible agency's, or project applicant's ability to satisfy applicable requirements for public filing, posting, notice, and public access by complying with the laws conditionally suspended by Paragraph 8 of Executive Order N-54-20. A lead agency, responsible agency, or project applicant that is able to comply with those laws (and that therefore need not avail itself of the conditional suspension set forth in Paragraph 8 of Executive Order N-54-20) may do so without further satisfying the conditions set forth in subparagraphs (a)—(c) of Paragraph 8 of Executive Order N-54-20.

- 7) The Department of Managed Health Care is authorized to take action to assess the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on health care providers and health care service plans (including, but not limited to, dental and other specialized plans) in California, including by establishing procedures to require health care service plans to furnish information related to that subject. Action taken pursuant to this Paragraph 7 shall not be subject to the Administrative Procedure Act.
- 8) As to appointments made prior to the date of this Order, the deadline specified in Government Code section 1774(b) is extended for 30 days from the date of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 23rd day of September 2020.

GAYIN NEWSOM

Governor of California

ATTEST:

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-78-20

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS the Legislature has declared its intent to protect citizens from price gouging during states of emergency, and has enacted statutes consistent with that purpose; and

WHEREAS in particular, the March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State of Emergency triggered certain protections against price gouging set forth in Penal Code section 396, and (pursuant to the Emergency Services Act) I have issued further Executive Orders extending and expanding those protections; and

WHEREAS the circumstances necessitating those protections against price gouging continue to exist, and are expected to continue to exist; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations as specified in this Order would prevent, hinder, or delay appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571, 8627, and 8665, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1) The waiver of the time limitation set forth in Penal Code section 396, subdivision (b)—as set forth in Paragraph 4 of the March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State of Emergency and Paragraph 1 of Executive Order N-44-20—is further extended such that all prohibitions against price gouging set forth that subdivision shall remain in effect through March 4, 2021.
- 2) The prohibitions set forth in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Executive Order N-44-20, prohibiting certain sales and offers of sale between April 4, 2020 and September 4, 2020, are extended to prohibit such sales and offers of sale through March 4, 2021.

This Paragraph 2 extends the duration of Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Executive Order N-44-20; it does not otherwise alter the scope of conduct prohibited by those paragraphs. Through March 4, 2021, each instance in which an item is sold or offered for sale in a manner prohibited by Paragraph 2 or Paragraph 3 of Executive Order N-44-20 shall constitute a separate violation of Executive Order N-44-20 and this Order, redressable as set forth in Paragraph 4 of Executive Order N-44-20.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 3rd day of September 2020.

AVIN NEWSON

Governor of California

ATTEST:

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-83-20

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic and the necessary physical distancing measures implemented have significantly impacted many businesses, leading to business closures, loss of employee hours or wages, and layoffs; and

WHEREAS for businesses located along state highways, the only viable additional open spaces to help implement necessary physical distancing measures may be within the state highway right-of-way; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as physical distancing and other public health measures undertaken in response to it, continue to affect individuals, businesses, and governmental agencies alike, with associated impacts on adherence to certain statutory and regulatory deadlines and requirements; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Order would prevent, hinder, or delay appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The restrictions on commercial activities on state highway specified in Streets and Highways Code section 731 are suspended for a period of 120 days to the limited extent necessary to allow commercial activities on state highway right-of-way, and only if such activities fully comply with temporary encroachment permits issued on a case-by-case basis by the Department of Transportation.

The Department of Transportation shall develop and implement a process to issue and administer temporary encroachment permits allowing commercial activities on state highway right-of-way. The development and implementation of this process shall not be subject to the Administrative Procedures Act, Government Code section 11340 et seq.

2. Paragraph 13 of Executive Order N-71-20 is withdrawn and superseded by the following text:

The deadline to pay annual fees, including any installment payments, currently due or that will become due during the proclaimed emergency, as specified in Business and Professions Code sections



19942, 19951, 19954, 19955, 19984, and any accompanying regulations is June 30, 2021; all required applications and documentation as specified in Business and Professions Code sections 19867, 19868, 19876, 19877, 19984, 19942, and any accompanying regulations are due per existing requirements or 30 calendar days from the date of this Executive Order, whichever date is later; the deadlines for submission of any application or deposit fee, as specified in Business and Professions Code sections 19951(a), 19867, 19868, 19876, 19877, 19942, 19984, and any accompanying regulations is no later than June 30, 2021 or per existing requirements, whichever date is later; the deadline for completing the annual financial reports and audited reports, as specified in section 12313 of Title 4 of the California Code of Regulations is December 31, 2020 for any card room, third-party provider of proposition player service, or tribal vendor that suspended operations due to the proclaimed emergency.

3. Paragraph 5 of Executive Order N-80-20 is withdrawn and superseded by the following text:

The Director of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control shall have the authority to suspend, for a period of up to 30 days, the deadlines for renewing licenses upon payment of annual fees, as specified in Business and Professions Code section 24048. This authorization shall extend through June 30, 2021, and the Director shall consider funding availability in determining whether to exercise this discretion. Nothing in this paragraph shall have any impact upon relief granted pursuant to Executive Order N-40-20, Paragraph 9, and Executive Order N-66-20, Paragraph 14.

- 4. In order to allow those most vulnerable to COVID-19 to self-quarantine, self-isolate, or otherwise remain in their homes to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and in order to limit the need for in-person transactions at Department of Motor Vehicle offices and thereby facilitate adherence to physical distancing guidelines, the prohibition in Vehicle Code section 12814.5(c) against renewals by mail of drivers' licenses for people 70 years of age or older, and any accompanying regulations, is waived. This waiver shall be in effect until this Order is modified or rescinded, or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever occurs sooner.
- 5. Paragraph 19 of Executive Order N-71-20 is withdrawn and superseded by the following text:

The timeframe set forth in Executive Order N-52-20, Paragraph 1, as extended via Executive Order N-69-20, Paragraph 3, is hereby extended until June 30, 2021.

6. Paragraph 20 of Executive Order N-71-20 is withdrawn and superseded by the following text:

The timeframe set forth in Executive Order N-52-20, Paragraph 2 as extended via Executive Order N-69-20, Paragraph 4, is hereby extended until June 30, 2021.

Citati 64

7. Paragraph 21 of Executive Order N-71-20 is withdrawn and superseded by the following text:

The timeframe set forth in Executive Order N-52-20, Paragraph 3 as extended via Executive Order N-69-20, Paragraph 5, is hereby extended until June 30, 2021.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 28th day of October 2020.

GAVIN NEWSOW
Governor of California

ATTEST:

Control of the Control of

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-84-20

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic necessitates physical distancing measures and households to stay at home in order to minimize further spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the already critical housing crisis faced by Californians such that finding new housing during this time both poses health risk and is extremely burdensome, especially for migratory agricultural workers and their families; and

WHEREAS previous suspensions of certain limitations applicable to retired annuitants have bolstered state and local efforts to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and additional flexibility in this space will further enhance state and local agencies' response to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as physical distancing and other public health measures undertaken in response to it, continue to affect individuals, businesses, and governmental agencies alike, with associated impacts on adherence to certain statutory and regulatory deadlines and requirements; and

WHEREAS on November 30, 2020, the emergency temporary standard concerning COVID-19 prevention in places of employment (ETS) and codified in California Code of Regulations, Title 8, section 3205-3205.4 took effect; and

WHEREAS the ETS directed employers to exclude from the workplace for 14 days those employees who have been exposed to COVID-19, reflecting the then-current guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) on quarantining after being exposed to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS on December 14, 2020, CDPH published Updated COVID-19 Quarantine Guidance that sets forth new directives, based upon CDC guidelines, for when employees exposed to COVID-19 who are asymptomatic may discontinue quarantine; and

WHEREAS public health recommendations and the requirements of the ETS should be consistent in order to protect public health; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Order would continue to prevent, hinder, or delay appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1) Health and Safety Code section 50710.1, subdivision (c), paragraph (8), and any related implementing regulations, are suspended to the limited extent that they:
 - a. Prevent a migrant farm labor center assisted by the Department of Housing and Community Development from operating for more than 275 days in a calendar year in order to protect the health and safety of existing tenants during the COVID-19 pandemic; or
 - b. Prevent existing tenants of such a center who need to continue occupying the center for health and safety reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic from occupying the center for more than 275 days in a calendar year.
- 2) If health and safety reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic warrant extending an occupancy period as permitted under paragraph 1 of this Order, the following requirements shall also be suspended:
 - a. The petition and notice requirements in Health and Safety Code section 50710.1, subdivision (c), paragraph (3).
 - b. The requirement in Health and Safety Code section 50710.1, subdivision (c), paragraph (4) to request an extended occupancy period, and for the Department to notify the entity operating the migrant farm labor center and residents of its final decision no later than seven days prior to the center's scheduled opening or closing date.
 - c. The notice requirement in Health and Safety Code section 50710.1, subdivision (c), paragraph (7).
- 3) The eligibility requirement of Health and Safety Code section 50710.3, subdivision (a), and any related implementing regulations, for a migratory agricultural worker to have resided outside a 50-mile radius of the migrant farm labor center for at least three months out of the preceding six-month period shall be suspended for workers who do not satisfy the eligibility requirements because they needed to continue occupying a migrant farm labor center for health and safety reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 4) The reinstatement and work hour limitations in Government Code section 21221, subdivision (h) (including, in particular, the limitation that a retiree may only be appointed to a vacant position once) are suspended as applied to retired persons whom the relevant state or

- local public agency determines to be engaged in (or whom the relevant state or local public agency seeks to engage in) mitigating the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 5) In order to quickly provide relief from interest and penalties for businesses impacted by the proclaimed emergency of COVID-19, the provisions of the Revenue and Taxation Code that apply to the taxes and fees administered by the Department of Tax and Fee Administration requiring a request for an extension or the filing of a statement under penalty of perjury may be suspended by the Department for a period of up to three months after the due date of the return or payment for individuals or businesses filing a return for less than \$1,000,000 in taxes or fees. This is effective after the date of this Order and shall remain effective through the reporting of taxes or fees due or the payment of taxes or fees that are due on or by April 30, 2021.
- 6) The deadline specified in Government Code section 1774(c) (related to the Senate's confirmation of an individual appointed or reappointed by the Governor to an office) is extended until April 1, 2021 for an individual appointed or reappointed to an office specified in Welfare and Institutions Code section 1718, subdivision (a).
- 7) The exclusion periods required in California Code of Regulations, Title 8, section 3205(c)(10) and the periods for which a worker shall not return to work specified in section 3205(c)(11) shall be suspended to the extent that they exceed the longer of:
 - a. Any applicable quarantine or isolation period recommended by the CDPH, including in the December 14, 2020 Updated COVID-19 Quarantine Guidelines; or
 - Any applicable quarantine or isolation period recommended or ordered by a local health officer who has jurisdiction over the workplace.
- 8) The suspension in paragraph 7 shall not apply where an employer prevents a worker who returns to work earlier than permitted under the ETS as enacted on November 30, 2020 from satisfying any of the conditions specified by the CDPH or a local health officer that are applicable to the periods specified in Paragraph 7, subparagraphs (a) or (b) above.
- 9) If the Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA)'s enforcement of the exclusion periods required in California Code of Regulations, Title 8, section 3205(c)(10) or the periods for which a worker shall not return to work specified in section 3205(c)(11) changes, Cal/OSHA shall promptly provide public notice of the change, including through posting notice on its web page regarding the ETS,

https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/ETS.html.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 14th day of December 2020.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-02-21

WHEREAS on March 4, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS throughout that State of Emergency, it has been of paramount importance that California's health care system be able to respond to the threat posed by COVID-19, and to maintain capacity and resilience in the face of increased demands imposed in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS to that end, throughout the State of Emergency, California health care professionals and providers have responded to state and local officials' requests to render care in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic (including, but not limited to, by rendering care pursuant to applicable state waivers, and as contemplated by other applicable state directives and guidance); and

WHEREAS California's health care system and other institutions throughout the State must now additionally work to vaccinate Californians against COVID-19 as swiftly as possible, and the State has requested that health care professionals and providers render services to that end; and

WHEREAS Government Code section 8659 confers immunity from liability, as set forth in that section, on health care professionals and providers who render services during a state of emergency at the express or implied request of state or local officials; and

WHEREAS such immunity advances the State's interest in maximizing the number of health care professionals and providers who continue to respond to state and local officials' calls to render services in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic, and clarity regarding the existence of this immunity will further advance that state interest; and

WHEREAS health care professionals and providers who render services during an emergency should not be subject to discipline for performing their duties consistent with standards of care prevailing during the emergency, and boards, bureaus, and committees responsible for professional discipline should ensure that such professionals' and providers' actions are assessed in the context of the standards of care, including any state waivers or health orders, in effect during an emergency, rather than with the benefit of hindsight; and

WHEREAS boards, bureaus, and committees responsible for professional discipline should likewise ensure that such discipline does not chill or otherwise frustrate the State's emergency response, particularly in the context of efforts to vaccinate Californians against COVID-19 as swiftly as possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567 and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:



IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1) Pursuant to Government Code section 8659, any health care professional or provider identified in that section (including, but not limited to, any physician of any kind; any pharmacist; any dentist; or any registered nurse, nurse practitioner, or any other nurse of any kind)—or any person (including, but not limited to, any pharmacy technician) subject to the supervision or otherwise following the instructions of such health care professional or provider, consistent with applicable state directives and guidance (including, but not limited to, any applicable state waivers)—who participates in the State's vaccine administration program shall be covered by the liability protections specified in Government Code section 8659, to the extent that the administered vaccines have been authorized for use under federal law.
- 2) With respect to any disciplinary proceedings or investigations related to vaccine administration, boards, bureaus, and committees within the Department of Consumer Affairs that regulate health care professionals or providers shall prioritize the investigation of complaints against licensees who have allegedly engaged in the diversion of COVID-19 vaccine or vaccine-administration supplies provided by the federal government, in violation of applicable federal requirements, for financial gain.
- 3) Nothing in this Order shall be construed to restrict, diminish, or otherwise limit any other immunity that would otherwise be available to any person under any applicable provision of law. In light of the emergency that currently exists throughout the State, and the urgent need to address that emergency by vaccinating Californians against COVID-19 as swiftly as possible, such immunities may include (but need not be limited to) immunities conferred by state law—including, but not limited to, Business and Professions Code section 2395 and Health and Safety Code section 1799.106—in connection with emergency services or care at the scene of an emergency.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 27th day of January 2021.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

Carrieris) 64

JAMES SCHWAB
Acting Secretary of State