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**ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH
COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order No. 2022-21
Issued November 14, 2022**

Rescinding Certain Public Health Emergency Orders

On May 28, 2021, pursuant to Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, Governor Charles D. Baker declared that an emergency exists that is detrimental to the public health in the Commonwealth due to the continuing threat of COVID-19, and authorized the Commissioner, with the approval of the Public Health Council, to adopt measures to facilitate COVID-19 testing and vaccination, to mandate special measures to protect higher risk populations or to effectuate continued surveillance of COVID-19, and to respond as necessary to outbreaks of the virus as they may arise.

Consistent with the Governor's May 28, 2021 declaration, on June 9, 2021, the Public Health Council approved and authorized the Commissioner of Public Health to take such actions, incur such liabilities and establish such rules, requirements and procedures which are necessary to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the health and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth.

Having received that authorization from the Council and with the approval of the Governor, I issued various COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Orders. Where the Commonwealth has implemented a sustained, robust, and effective public health response to COVID-19, including efforts that have resulted in nation-leading rates of vaccination and access to therapeutics, and where the Legislature has also incorporated the provisions of a number of these Orders in statute, continuation of the Orders listed below is no longer necessary.

Accordingly, I hereby order that, effective at 12:01 AM on November 14, 2022, the following COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Orders shall be rescinded in full and shall have no further effect:

- a. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-01-E, issued June 14, 2021, regarding COVID-19 data reporting;
- b. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-01-G, issued June 14, 2021, prohibiting billing uninsured individuals for COVID-19 testing;
- c. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-01-H, issued June 14, 2021, regarding control of COVID-19 in long-term care facilities;
- d. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-01-I, issued June 14, 2021, regarding CLIA-waived COVID-19 testing in congregate care sites and recreational camps for children;
- e. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-01-J, issued June 14, 2021, regarding temporary laboratory licenses for COVID-19 testing;
- f. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-01-K, issued June 14, 2021, regarding reporting to the Massachusetts Immunization Information System;
- g. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-01-L, issued June 14, 2021, regarding access to certain immunization information for insurance carriers and MassHealth;
- h. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-03, issued July 30, 2021, regarding COVID-19 vaccine possession and storage in long-term care facilities and certified assisted living residences;
- i. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-04, issued August 4, 2022, requiring nursing home personnel be vaccinated against COVID-19;
- j. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-09, issued September 20, 2021, regarding COVID-19 testing for certain authorized entities;
- k. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2021-12, issued November 12, 2021, authorizing and expediting licensure for certain graduates of international medical schools;
- l. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2022-01, issued January 6, 2022, requiring certain personnel to receive a booster vaccination dose against COVID-19;
- m. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2022-04, issued January 14, 2022, expediting licensure of certain individuals eligible for physician licensure;
- n. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2022-05, issued January 14, 2022, regarding expedited credentialing and transfers of licensed staff across health care facilities;

- o. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2022-06, issued January 14, 2022, authorizing a statewide standing order for the purchase of over-the-counter COVID-19 tests;
- p. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Order 2022-09, issued January 27, 2022, expediting licensure of out of state physicians and certain retired physicians.

Any guidance or other implementation of the above rescinded Orders issued by the Department or any other agency shall likewise be withdrawn and rescinded as of 12:01 AM on November 14, 2022, and shall have no further effect.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Margret R. Cooke
Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
November 14, 2022

