

## AN ORDER TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH

WHEREAS, I proclaimed a state of emergency on March 15, 2020 to authorize the use of emergency powers in order to expand and expedite the State's response to the threats posed by COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the State has taken many essential actions and additional actions are necessary;

WHEREAS, the immediate implementation of this Order is necessary to limit the number of common discretionary and primarily social gatherings of persons in numbers sufficiently large enough to pose a risk of transmission of COVID-19 due to their close proximity;

WHEREAS, allowing the congregation of persons, especially at restaurants and bars, constitutes an imminent health threat within the meaning of 10-144 C.M.R. Ch. 201, §6 and 10-144 C.M.R. Ch. 200, Ch. 1, §§1-2;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, pursuant to 37-B M.R.S. Ch. 13, do hereby Order as follows:

## I. ORDERS

Effective 6 P.M. March 18, 2020 and until midnight of March 31, 2020:

- A. Certain Gatherings. Gatherings of more than 10 people are prohibited throughout the State. Gatherings subject to this Order are those that are primarily social, personal, and discretionary events other than employment. Such gatherings include, without limitation, community, civic, public, leisure, and faith-based events; social clubs; sporting events with spectators; concerts, conventions, fundraisers, parades, fairs, and festivals; and any similar event or activity in a venue such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, theatre, gymnasium, fitness center or private club.
- **B. Restaurants and Bars.** All restaurants and bars shall close their dine-in facilities. Such businesses that offer carry-out, delivery, and drive-through food and beverage service may continue to do so but eating and drinking inside restaurants and bars is temporarily prohibited.

## II. EFFECTIVE DATE AND REVIEW

The effective date of this Order is March 18, 2020. This Order shall be reviewed prior to its expiration date for a determination of the need for revision and renewal.

Contraction

Janet T. Mills Governor