



**WEBINAR  
PRESENTATION  
April 1, 2020**

## State of Emergency and 'Stay Home, Stay Safe'

- Executive Order 2020-4 (March 10)
  - Established the State of Emergency (SOE) on March 10; 28-day limit
  - SOE enables all subsequent executive orders
  - Expires at 11:59 p.m. on April 7
  - Requires legislative action to extend the State of Emergency
  - Legislature scheduled for session April 7
- Executive Order 2020-21
  - Stay Home, Stay Safe effective March 24-April 13
  - Suspension of all activities that are not necessary to sustain or protect life
  - Intentionally left vague to allow for industry discretion

STATE  
OF  
EMERGENCY

STAY HOME,  
STAY SAFE,  
SAVE LIVES



## Emergency Changes on OMA

- MAC letter to Gov. Whitmer prior to order on March 18
- Public bodies may meet electronically with two-way communication requirements for public participation
- Notices must meet current posting requirements and posted online with additional notifications for:
  - The reason for electronic meeting
  - Procedures on how the public may participate
  - Procedures for how the public may provide input and ask questions of the public body
  - Procedures for how persons with disabilities may participate
- Votes should be taken via roll call and the agenda put online
- Closed sessions are still permissible but only for the reasons outlined in the Open Meetings Act
- Expires April 15 at 11:59 p.m. (Governor will have to extend the deadline if Stay in Place order, which expires April 13, is extended)

## Foreclosures Deadline Extension

- Effective March 18, 2020
- Extends deadline for delinquent property tax payment to avoid foreclosure
  - County office hours limited or closed
  - Limited opportunity to enter into payment arrangements
- Deadline extended from March 31 to May 29, or 30 days after the termination of the State of Emergency



## Critical Infrastructure and Essential Financial Services

- EO 2020-21 loosely defined critical infrastructure workers
  - Employers in certain fields could designate workers verbally but in writing by March 31 at 11:59 p.m.
  - Social distancing, encouragement of remote work, cleaning protocols and a form of screening
  - Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) guidance – see version 2.0 (3rd guidance document)
  - Government employees deemed critical also include those that support the business or operation of critical infrastructure workers – further guidance from the administration on county employees
  - Weekly infrastructure group calls
  - EO 2020-21 also added child-care workers, flexibility for businesses to designate their supply chain and distribution lines as critical
  - Workers and volunteers serving the economically disadvantaged or the disabled and those performing critical labor union functions
  - Effective March 24 through April 13

## Elections

- May 5 election
  - Suspends rules and procedures to allow counties and other local entities the ability to withdraw a ballot question
  - Must be done by resolution or ordinance by March 27th same day the EO was signed
  - Elections to be by absentee voter ballots issued and submitted without in-person interaction
  - Mandates at least one in-person polling location is open and available to those that cannot vote absentee for any reason such as a handicap
  - Clerks must provide absentee voter ballots to all newly registered voters between now and May 5, 2020
  - Department of State may assist clerks with:
    - *Mailing voter ballot applications*
    - *Coordination & assistance in processing ballots*
    - *Changes to election dates; and other clerk functions*

## Health Care Facilities

- Limiting access to health facilities, including nursing homes, was one of the governor's early directives
  - One of first cases detected in Washington nursing home
  - As of last week, at least 147 nursing homes across 27 states had at least one resident with COVID-19 (CMS)
- Concerns for vulnerable populations, plus staff (34 county-owned facilities have ~ 4,600 beds)
- More recent EO eases regulation to boost medical staffing capacities





## Jails and MDOC

- Establishes Temporary COVID-19 protocols for MDOC entry/transfers
- Recommends protocols and enhanced early-release for jails, lockups and juvenile detention centers
- Encourages releases of old, chronic health conditions, pregnant, medically frail or nearing release date
- Halts transfer of prisoners to DOC from jail
- Encourages release of traffic violations, failure to appear, failure to pay violations and those with behavioral health issues
- **Does NOT require jails to release individuals, but strongly encourages it**





## Public health orders

- Number of counties have issued Local Public Health Orders (LPH)
- LPH emergency orders require essential service providers and businesses to use recommended screening and social distancing
- Some variations among county order requirements and enforcement mechanisms
- Washtenaw and Ingham have been noted as good models and are recommended by MAC
- May be additional statewide guidance in coming days



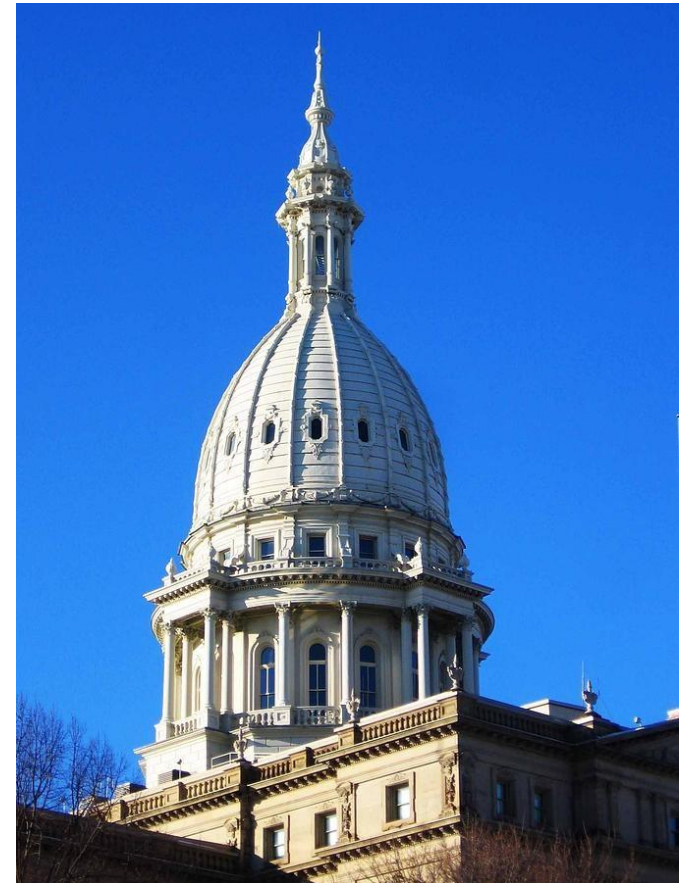
## State aid/Senate Bill 151

- Authorizes up to \$50M in federal revenues for combating virus; appropriated to departments for state and local preparedness and response
- Directs \$10M to coronavirus public health emergency line; allocated to departments for critical state and local preparedness and response activities
- Creates Coronavirus Response Fund (Treasury) & allocates \$15M to it
  - Funds to be spent upon appropriation or legislative transfer
  - Directs any unused funds not lapse into General Fund at end of FY



## State aid/House Bill 4279

- Includes \$50M GF to expand capacity of critical health care providers
- Authorizes \$40M GF to be allocated to departments for preparedness and response
  - Activities may include monitoring, laboratory testing, contact tracing, infection control, and continuation of critical state government functions. (on top of \$10M under SB 151)
- Authorizes \$35M GF for Coronavirus Response Fund to be available for subsequent needs (on top of \$15M under SB151)



- EO 2020-21 allowed for travel between residences and for outdoor recreation
  - No limits on distance to travel for outdoor recreation
- Last week the DNR closed visitor centers, indoor facilities, campgrounds, overnight lodging and shelters at all state parks to save PPE and promote social distancing
  - Tippy Dam Recreation Area in Manistee County is first state park to officially close (March 31) after DNR reported a surge in visitors that was counterproductive





## Send us your questions, concerns

- What actions are needed from Governor's Office?
- Reporting deadlines?
- Filing deadlines?