

COVID-19 Executive Orders Extended Through February 15, 2022

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Issue

Describe the COVID-19 executive orders (EOs) that the governor extended through February 15, 2022, and provide the procedural history of the associated emergency declarations.

Summary

On <u>September 27, 2021</u>, the governor renewed until February 15, 2022, the public health and civil preparedness emergencies, which he originally declared on March 10, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pursuant to <u>SA 21-5</u>, the governor called a special session of the legislature and both chambers passed resolutions approving the renewal (<u>HR 302 (2021)</u> and <u>SR 76 (2021)</u>).

The governor subsequently issued <u>EO 14A</u> (a revised version of <u>EO 14</u>) on September 30, 2021, which extended certain COVID-19 related executive orders through February 15, 2022. He issued two additional orders on January 6, 2022, (<u>EO 14B</u> and <u>EO 14C</u>) that amended or superseded two of the previously extended orders. Table 1 below lists the extended orders.

Extended Orders

Table 1 lists the EOs that were extended through February 15, 2022. The governor likewise extended certain agency and municipal emergency orders through this date (EO 14A, § 2). All other remaining COVID-19 orders expired on September 30, 2021 (EO 14A, § 3).

Connecticut General Assembly Office of Legislative Research Stephanie A. D'Ambrose, Director

Table 1: COVID-19 Executive Orders Extended Through February 15, 2022

Citation	Description
<u>7P</u> , § 1	 Authorizes state agencies to provide non-congregant housing for persons at risk
<u>9,</u> § 1	• Authorizes early childhood and education commissioners to issue rules regarding the operation of schools and childcare settings
<u>90</u> , § 3	 Sets out-of-network rates for COVID-19 immunizations
<u>11D</u> , §§ 2 & 3*	Modifies state contracting statutes to facilitate emergency procurement of essential goods and services
<u>12D</u>	 Modifies eviction procedures following the cessation of the eviction moratorium
<u>13A</u>	 Outlines mask requirements and clarifies that municipalities may require universal indoor wearing of them, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status
	 Moved up the effective date of a law (<u>PA 21-185</u>, § 6) requiring testing of nursing home staff for infectious diseases during outbreaks
<u>13C</u>	 Authorizes the Department of Public Health (DPH) to disclose certain immunization information to specified health care providers, including school nurses and public health authorities
<u>13E</u>	Establishes a temporary nurse aide program
<u>14B</u> (replaced <u>13F</u>) **	• Prohibits, with exceptions, long-term care facilities from employing individuals who (1) are not fully vaccinated or (2) by February 11, 2022, have not received a booster within five days of their becoming eligible under federal guidelines
<u>13G</u> (as amended by <u>14C</u>)***	 Requires, with exceptions, COVID-19 vaccinations for state employees, school employees, and childcare facility staff
	• Beginning February 11, 2022, requires, with exceptions, COVID-19 boosters for state hospital employees within five days of their becoming eligible under federal guidelines

*Amended to narrow the procurement requirements that contracting agencies may waive and add a requirement (previously required under EO 12B, § 10) that the contracting agency's head certify in writing the specific reasons a purchase is essential to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic (EO 14A, § 4)

**The new executive order replaces the previous one with identical requirements but also adds a vaccine booster requirement (EO 14B, §§ 3(b) and 4(ii))

***Amended to add a booster requirement for state hospital employees (E0 14C)

Procedural History

The governor declared public health and civil preparedness emergencies on March 10, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He renewed and issued new declarations on <u>September 1,</u> 2020, January 26, 2021, April 19, 2021, and <u>May 18, 2021</u>.

The legislature ratified the governor's first three declarations and authorized a renewal through May 20, 2021 (SA 21-2), and subsequently July 20, 2021 (SA 21-4). The legislature again extended the governor's renewal authorization, through March 1, 2022, but required that any new renewals meet durational limitations and receive approval from a majority of each chamber by resolution (SA 21- $\frac{5}{2}$).

On July 13, 2021, the governor renewed the declaration through <u>September 30, 2021</u>, and both chambers passed resolutions approving it (<u>HR 202 (2021)</u> and <u>SR 52 (2021)</u>). Most recently, on September 27, 2021, he extended the declaration through February 15, 2022; both chambers passed resolutions approving it (<u>HR 302 (2021)</u> and <u>SR 76 (2021)</u>).

Additional Resources

- OLR Reports <u>2021-R-0096</u>, <u>2021-R-0101</u>, and <u>2021-R-0141</u> provide overviews of EOs extended under the April 19, May 18, and July 12 renewals, respectively
- OLR's COVID-19 Special Reports: <u>https://www.cga.ct.gov/olr/COVID19.asp</u>
- Connecticut's COVID-19 Response website provides the full text of the EOs and related state agency actions: <u>https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Pages/Emergency-Orders-issued-by-the-Governor-and-State-Agencies</u>

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