

State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PO BOX 360 TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360

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PHILIP D. MURPHY Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER Lt. Governor JUDITH M. PERSICHILLI, RN, BSN, MA Commissioner

EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE NO. 22-002

Rescinding ED No. 20-006 (Implementation of Allocation Policies)

WHEREAS, Coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19") is a contagious, and at times fatal, respiratory disease caused by the respiratory illness caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Philip D. Murphy issued Executive Order No. 103, declaring the existence of a Public Health Emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:13-1 et seq., and a State of Emergency, pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> App A:9-33 et seq., in the State of New Jersey for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Emergency was extended multiple times by Governor Murphy pursuant to various Executive Orders; and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2021, Governor Murphy signed Assembly Bill No. 5820 into law as P.L.2021, c.103, and issued Executive Order No. 244, which terminated the Public Health Emergency declared in Executive Order No. 103 (2020); and

WHEREAS, P.L.2021, c.103 sought to enable the State to bring an end to its prior Public Health Emergency while still allowing for an orderly continuation of the Administration's ability to order certain public health measures relating to COVID-19, including but not limited to vaccine distribution, administration, and management, COVID-19 testing, health resource and personnel allocation, data collection, and implementation of recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") to prevent or limit the transmission of COVID-19, including in specific settings; and

WHEREAS, P.L.2021, c.103 explicitly maintained the State of Emergency declared in Executive Order No. 103 (2020), and stated it would in no way diminish, limit, or impair the powers of the Governor to respond to any of the threats presented by COVID-19 pursuant to the Disaster Control Act; and

WHEREAS, in addition to leaving the prior State of Emergency in effect, nothing in P.L.2021, c.103 prevented the Governor from declaring any new public health emergency under the Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et seq., should the evolving circumstances of COVID-19 require such a declaration; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2022, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 280, declaring the existence of a new Public Health Emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et seq., and continuing the State of Emergency declared in Executive Order No. 103 (2020) pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. App. A:9-33 et seq., in the State of New Jersey due to the surge of cases and hospitalizations tied to the new variants of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2022, Governor Murphy also issued Executive Order No. 281, which extended various Executive Orders and State Agency waivers and directives to ensure that the State continued to have the necessary resources in place to respond to the new variants of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on February 10, 2022, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 288, which declared that the Public Health Emergency declared in Executive Order No. 280 (2022) continued to exist; and

WHEREAS, through Executive Order No. 288 (2022), Governor Murphy declared all Executive Orders issued and actions taken by any Executive Branch department and agency, in whole or in part in response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, remained in full force and effect; and

WHEREAS, because of the progress the State made and the decisive decrease in key statistics, such as the number of hospitalized patients in the State, the number of daily positive COVID-19 cases, spot positivity, and the rate of transmission, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 292, which lifted the Public Health Emergency declared in Executive Order No. 280 (2022); and

WHEREAS, under Executive Order No. 292, the Governor found it critical to continue the Executive Orders and Administrative Orders, Directives, and Waivers issued in response to the COVID-19 Emergency to ensure that an orderly transition to the next phase of the State's COVID-19 recovery was done in a measured and thoughtful manner and, consequently, ordered that all actions taken by any Executive Branch departments and agencies in whole or in part to respond to the Public Health Emergency presented by the COVID-19 outbreak, and extended pursuant to Executive Order No. 281 (2022) and attached in the Appendix thereto, including but not limited to any Administrative Orders, Directives, and Waivers, remained in full force and effect pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. App. A:9-33 et seq, until revoked or modified by the department or agency head, or until the State of Emergency is no longer in effect, whichever is sooner; and

WHEREAS, given the progress the State has made with respect to combatting COVID-19, and after careful review of existing Executive Directives issued by the Department of Health, it is appropriate to rescind Executive Directive No. 20-006 at this time, as authorized by Executive Order No. 292.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUDITH PERSICHILLI, Commissioner of the Department of Health, hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT** the following:

- 1. The following Executive Directive (ED) is hereby **rescinded**:
 - ED No. 20-006 Implementation of Allocation Policies

Although the above-listed ED is no longer in effect, businesses must continue to follow applicable laws, regulations, and Executive Orders, and are encouraged to follow applicable guidance documents issued by the Department of Health. Businesses are strongly encouraged to consult available public health protocols for best practices.

This Directive shall take effect immediately.

Date: August 18, 2022

Judith M. Perichille

Judith M. Persichilli, R.N., B.S.N., M.A. Commissioner