EIGHTEENTH EXTENSION OF THE DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT

WHEREAS, in connection with the serious public health threat from the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") that has impacted the State of Delaware, I issued a Declaration of a State of Emergency for the entire state at 3:00 p.m. on March 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, during the past several months, I have issued Twenty-Seven Modifications, including a First Revision to the 27th Modification, to the State of Emergency declaration first to protect from the spread of COVID-19 by, among others things, limiting social gatherings, closing places of public accommodation, restricting beach access, closing childcare to all but emergency child care, restricting business operations to essential businesses only with non-essential businesses either closed or remote working only, and ordering a shelter in place for all Delawareans, and then to begin to reopen the state by, among other things, requiring individuals to wear cloth face coverings both inside essential businesses and outside when social distancing is
difficult, permitting businesses and other places of public accommodation to reopen slowly, reopening the beaches, lifting the quarantine and restrictions on commercial lodgings, establishing guidelines for reopening schools and participating in sports safely and taking other measures to reopen the economy while still focused on protecting the public health, safety and welfare of Delawareans during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the State of Delaware continues to face a serious public health threat from COVID-19 and the risk to life remains; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Delaware’s emergency management statutes, a State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor may not continue for more than 30 days without being renewed; and

WHEREAS, I extended the State of Emergency for an additional 30 days on April 10, 2020, on May 8, 2020, on June 6, 2020, on July 6, 2020, on August 5, 2020 on September 3, 2020, and on October 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, I find that the conditions necessitating a State of Emergency continue to exist and require that the State of Emergency remains in effect.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN C. CARNEY, pursuant to Title 20, Chapter 31 of the Delaware Code, to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the State of Delaware, do hereby declare:

1. The State of Emergency due to COVID-19, first declared March 12, 2020 and subsequently modified as set forth above is extended, effective immediately.
2. All provisions of the State of Emergency in the Twenty-Seventh Modification currently in place, which includes the terms of the First Revision to the 27th Modification, shall remain in full force and effect until terminated in accordance with state law.

APPROVED this 30th day of October 2020 at 12:00 p.m.

Governor