Office of
The Governor

No. 53-A FY 19/20
DATE May 26, 2020

AN ORDER AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER 53 FY 19/20

WHEREAS, I proclaimed a state of emergency on March 15, 2020 and renewed states of emergency on April 14, 2020 and May 13, 2020 to authorize the use of emergency powers in order to expand and expedite the State's response to the serious health and safety risks of the highly contagious COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2020 I issued Executive Order 53 FY 19/20 (corrected) (hereafter Executive Order 53) that, for the reasons and upon the authorities stated therein, adjusted certain matters relating to municipalities and the Office of Secretary of State; and

WHEREAS, it is now desirable to amend that Order in order to make it more effective and efficient;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, pursuant to 37-B M.R.S. Ch. 13, including but not limited to the authorities cited in Executive Order 53, do hereby Order as follows:

I. ORDER

Section I (A) Executive Order 53 is repealed and replaced with the following:

A. Vehicle Registration. A vehicle required to be registered in this State after purchase or transfer of ownership or for which a registration expires or has expired must be registered within a deadline established by the municipal officers of the municipality in which the vehicle owner resides, or no later than 30 days after the termination of the state of civil emergency due to the COVID virus, whichever is sooner, provided:

1. The municipality in which vehicle excise tax must be paid in accordance with 29-A M.R.S. §409 and 36 M.R.S. §1482 and §1484 is accepting such payments online, by mail, by telephone, or in the municipal office during this state of emergency, and the municipality is also able to complete vehicle registrations; and

2. The municipal officers of the municipality have given reasonable notice to the public of the start date of the municipality's ability to collect tax and process registrations, the methods by which tax collection and registrations may be processed, and the deadline for compliance by vehicle owners.

For purposes of this section "vehicle" includes without limitation a motor vehicle, all-terrain vehicle, watercraft, snowmobile and trailer, and "registration" includes temporary registrations.

Municipalities and the Bureau of Motor Vehicles shall further encourage and publicize the use of Rapid Renewal online registration renewal.

To effectuate this section, pertinent provisions of law that provide to the contrary, including but not limited to PL 2019, Ch. 617, Pt. F, 29-A M.R.S. Ch. 5 and Executive Order 18 FY 19/20 §§G and H, are suspended as applied to this section. This section shall take effect on May 26, 2020.

II. OTHER PROVISIONS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 53

All other provisions of Executive Order 53 remain in effect.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Order is May 26, 2020.

Janet T. Mills
Governor