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IN SENATE

March 2, 2020

- Introduced by Sen. STEWART-COUSINS -- (at request of the Governor) -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules
- AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to issuing by the governor of any directive necessary to respond to a state disaster emergency; making an appropriation therefor; and providing for the repeal of certain provisions upon expiration thereof

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Paragraph a of subdivision 2 of section 20 of the executive 2 law, as amended by section 1 of part B of chapter 56 of the laws of 3 2010, is amended to read follows:

a. "disaster" means occurrence or imminent, impending or urgent threat
of wide spread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property
resulting from any natural or man-made causes, including, but not limited to, fire, flood, earthquake, hurricane, tornado, high water, landslide, mudslide, wind, storm, wave action, volcanic activity, epidemic,
<u>disease outbreak</u>, air contamination, terrorism, cyber event, blight,
drought, infestation, explosion, radiological accident, nuclear, chemical, biological, or bacteriological release, water contamination, bridge
failure or bridge collapse.

13 § 2. Section 29-a of the executive law, as added by chapter 640 of the 14 laws of 1978, subdivision 1 as amended by section 7 of part G of chapter 15 55 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

S 29-a. Suspension of other laws. 1. Subject to the state constitution, the federal constitution and federal statutes and regulations, the governor may by executive order temporarily suspend [specific provisions of] any statute, local law, ordinance, or orders, rules or regulations, or parts thereof, of any agency during a state disaster emergency, if compliance with such provisions would prevent, hinder, or delay action necessary to cope with the disaster or if necessary to assist or aid in coping with such disaster. The governor, by executive order, may issue

24 any directive during a state disaster emergency declared in the follow-

25 ing instances: fire, flood, earthquake, hurricane, tornado, high water,

EXPLANATION--Matter in <u>italics</u> (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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landslide, mudslide, wind, storm, wave action, volcanic activity, epidemic, disease outbreak, air contamination, terrorism, cyber event, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, radiological accident, nuclear, chemical, biological, or bacteriological release, water contamination, bridge failure or bridge collapse. Any such directive must be necessary to cope with the disaster and may provide for procedures reasonably necessary to enforce such directive. 2. Suspensions pursuant to subdivision one of this section shall be

8 2. Suspensions pursuant to subdivision one of this section shall be
9 subject to the following standards and limits, which shall apply to any
10 directive where specifically indicated:

a. no suspension <u>or directive</u> shall be made for a period in excess of thirty days, provided, however, that upon reconsideration of all of the relevant facts and circumstances, the governor may extend the suspension for additional periods not to exceed thirty days each;

b. no suspension <u>or directive</u> shall be made which [does not safeguard <u>the</u>] is not in the interest of the health [and] or welfare of the public and which is not reasonably necessary to <u>aid</u> the disaster effort;

18 c. any such suspension order shall specify the statute, local law, 19 ordinance, order, rule or regulation or part thereof to be suspended and 20 the terms and conditions of the suspension;

d. the order may provide for such suspension only under particular circumstances, and may provide for the alteration or modification of the requirements of such statute, local law, ordinance, order, rule or regulation suspended, and may include other terms and conditions;

e. any such suspension order <u>or directive</u> shall provide for the minimum deviation from the requirements of the statute, local law, ordinance, order, rule or regulation suspended consistent with the <u>goals of</u> <u>the</u> disaster action deemed necessary; and

f. when practicable, specialists shall be assigned to assist with the related emergency actions to avoid needless adverse effects resulting from such suspension.

32 3. Such suspensions <u>or directives</u> shall be effective from the time and 33 in the manner prescribed in such orders and shall be published as soon 34 as practicable in the state bulletin.

35 4. The legislature may terminate by concurrent resolution executive 36 orders issued under this section at any time.

37 § 3. The sum of forty million dollars (\$40,000,000) is hereby appropriated for transfer by the governor to the general, special revenue, 38 39 capital projects, proprietary or fiduciary funds of any agency, depart-40 ment, or authority for services and expenses related to the outbreak of 41 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Such funds shall be used for 42 purposes including, but not limited to, additional personnel, equipment and supplies, travel costs, and trainings. A portion of these funds may 43 44 be made available as state aid to municipalities for services and 45 expenses related to the outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). 46 Such funds shall be available for payment of financial assistance here-47 tofore accrued or hereafter to accrue. Any disbursements from this appropriation shall be distributed pursuant to a plan approved by the 48 49 director of the budget.

50 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately and sections one and two 51 of this act shall expire and be deemed repealed April 30, 2021.