

STATE OF INDIANA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT INDIANAPOLIS

EXECUTIVE ORDER 21-18

**FOR: SEVENTEENTH RENEWAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
DECLARATION FOR THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK**

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, I issued Executive Order 20-02 which declared a public health emergency exists throughout the State of Indiana as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and a confirmed report that the disease had spread to the State of Indiana;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic, and, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency with respect to this dangerous virus;

WHEREAS, Ind. Code § 10-14-3-12(a) provides that a state of disaster emergency shall continue until the Governor: (1) determines that the threat or danger has passed or that the disaster has been dealt with to the extent that emergency conditions no longer exist; and (2) terminates the state of disaster emergency by executive order or proclamation;

WHEREAS, Ind. Code § 10-14-3-12(a) also provides that a state of disaster emergency may not continue for longer than thirty (30) days unless the state of disaster emergency is renewed by the Governor;

WHEREAS, since the initial declaration of emergency I have issued subsequent Executive Orders renewing the state of disaster emergency for additional thirty (30) day periods as set for in Executive Orders 20-17, - 25, -30, -34, -38, -41, -44, -47, -49, -52, 21-03, -05, -08, -11, -14 and -16;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 21-16, issued on June 30, 2021, and became effective July 1, 2021, was the most recent renewal of the state of disaster emergency and is currently set to expire on July 31, 2021;

WHEREAS, as of the date of this Executive Order, the virus remains in every county throughout Indiana with over 768,000 confirmed cases and over 13,500 deaths;

WHEREAS, our vaccination program and efforts continue with over 2.9 million Hoosiers fully vaccinated out of 5.7 million eligible. However, only 51.5% of eligible Hoosiers are fully vaccinated. Critically, 98% of new COVID-19 cases are with unvaccinated persons;

WHEREAS, although improvements have occurred, the spread and consequences of this disease in the Hoosier state remain as demonstrated by a 7-day average positivity rate which has risen to 6.3% from 2.1% just a month ago; new confirmed cases daily; continued hospitalizations; and tragically, continued deaths daily from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, despite significant steps being taken in our State, the virus remains a threat to the health, safety and welfare of all residents of Indiana such that emergency conditions continue to exist, and efforts are needed to continue to address, control and reduce the threat posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in light of the above, it is necessary and proper to take further action to protect the health, safety and welfare of all Hoosiers in connection with COVID-19 and, specifically, to renew the state of disaster emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric J. Holcomb, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor by the Indiana Constitution and the laws of the State of Indiana, do hereby order that:

1. The declaration of a public health disaster emergency set forth in Executive Order 20-02 as renewed in Executive Orders 20-17, 20-25, 20-30, 20-34, 20-38, 20-41, 20-44, 20-47,

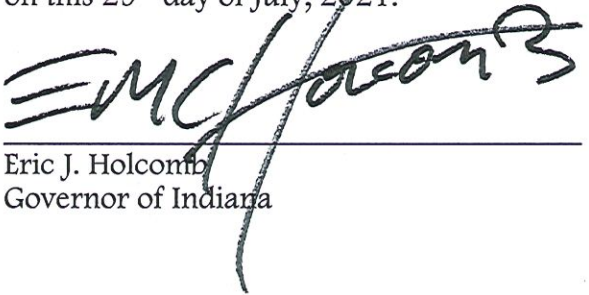
20-49, 20-52, 21-03, 21-05, -08, -11, 14 & -16 is hereby renewed for an additional thirty (30) day period beyond its current expiration date of July 31, 2021.

2. This renewal of the COVID-19 public health emergency shall become effective on August 1, 2021, and shall now expire on August 30, 2021, unless further renewed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, Eric J. Holcomb, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Indiana, on this 29th day of July, 2021.



Eric J. Holcomb
Governor of Indiana



o.s.o.

ATTEST: Holli Sullivan
Secretary of State