

# STATE OF INDIANA

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT INDIANAPOLIS

EXECUTIVE ORDER 21-26

**FOR: NINETEENTH 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 forth in Executive Orders 20-17, - 25, -30, -34, -38, -41, -44, -47, -49, -52, 21-03, -05, -08, -11, -14, -16, -18 and 22;

**WHEREAS,** Executive Order 21-22, issued on August 30, 2021, and effective August 31, 2021, is the most recent renewal of the state of disaster emergency and is currently set to expire on September 30, 2021;

**WHEREAS,** as of the date of this Executive Order, the virus remains in every county throughout Indiana with over 959,000 confirmed cases and over 15,000 deaths;

**WHEREAS,** our vaccination program and efforts continue with over 3.2 million Hoosiers fully vaccinated out of 5.7 million eligible. However, only 55.6% of eligible Hoosiers are fully vaccinated;

**WHEREAS,** throughout the Hoosier state, we continue to experience a significant and serious number of new confirmed cases and hospitalizations and tragically, continued deaths daily from COVID-19 that is based on a surge driven by the Delta variant which is much more transmissible, demonstrated by a 7-day average positivity rate of 2.1% three months ago, 6.3% two months ago, 10.5% a month ago and is 9.8% now;

**WHEREAS,** for the week ending September 11, 2021, 1,701 of the 1,721 new COVID-19 patients admitted to the hospital were unvaccinated; 306 of 315 COVID-19 patients admitted to intensive care units (ICU) were unvaccinated; and 218 of 246 COVID-19 deaths were unvaccinated individuals;

**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, -25, -30, -34, -38, -41, -44, -47, -49, -52, 21-03, -05, -08, -11, -14, -16, -18 & -22 is hereby renewed for an additional thirty (30) day period beyond its current expiration date of September 30, 2021.
2. This renewal of the COVID-19 public health emergency shall become effective on October 1, 2021, and shall now expire on October 31, 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 30<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Holcomb", written over a horizontal line.

Eric J. Holcomb  
Governor of Indiana

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Holli Sullivan".

ATTEST: Holli Sullivan  
Secretary of State