

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 35-20

By the Governor

WHEREAS, a State of Emergency was declared on the Sixteenth Day of March, Two Thousand Twenty for all counties in West Virginia (the "State of Emergency Declaration"), to allow agencies to coordinate and create necessary measures to prepare for and respond to the outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus now known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 6 of the Code of West Virginia authorizes the Governor, among other things, to enforce all laws and rules relating to the provision of emergency services and to assume direct operational control of any or all emergency service forces and helpers in the State, to use available resources of the State and of its political subdivisions that are reasonably necessary to cope with the emergency, and to perform and exercise other functions, powers, and duties that are necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 27-20 previously ordered that all individuals who reside or work in nursing homes throughout the State be tested for the COVID-19 virus, and that local health departments and other county or city agencies throughout the State provide any and all assistance and/or resources requested to conduct such testing; and

WHEREAS, individuals in assisted living residences, under W. Va. Code §16-5D-1 *et seq.*, and residential care communities, under W. Va. Code §16-5N-1 *et seq.*, throughout the State are some of the most vulnerable in our population and any instance of the COVID-19 virus at such a facility presents a serious issue that must be immediately identified and responded to; and

DONE at the Capitol in the City of
Charleston, State of West Virginia, this Sixth
day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two
Thousand Twenty in the One Hundred Fifty-
seventh year of the State.



By the Governor

James E. Cantwell
GOVERNOR

Mac Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE