ORDER

Whereas, on March 10, 2020, Governor Ned Lamont (the Governor), in response to the global pandemic of 2019 Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), declared a public health and civil preparedness emergency throughout the State of Connecticut pursuant to Sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the Connecticut General Statutes, to remain in effect through September 9, 2020, unless sooner terminated by the Governor; and

Whereas, the Governor’s Executive Order 7K, dated March 23, 2020, authorized the Commissioner of Public Health (the Commissioner) to temporarily waive, modify or suspend any regulatory requirements adopted by the Commissioner or any Boards or Commissions under Chapters 368a, 368d, 368v, 369 to 381a, inclusive, 382a, 383 to 388, inclusive, 398 to 399, inclusive, 400a, 400c and 474 of the Connecticut General Statutes as the Commissioner deems necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the public health; and

Whereas, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is waiving requirements related at 42 CFR 483.90, specifically the following: Provided that the state has approved the location as one that sufficiently addresses safety and comfort for patients and staff, CMS is waiving requirements under § 483.90 to allow for a non-SNF building to be temporarily certified and available for use by a SNF in the event there are needs for isolation processes for COVID-19 positive residents, which may not be feasible in the existing SNF structure to ensure care and services during treatment for COVID-19 are available while protecting other vulnerable adults.

Now, Therefore, in an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the public health, and in accord with the authority set forth above, unless sooner modified or terminated by me or unless the Governor sooner repeals or modifies the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency, I hereby order that, effective immediately:

Regulation of Connecticut State Agencies is hereby modified to permit the Department of Public Health (Department) to authorize a licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home to provide services for COVID-19 positive residents under its existing license in a building which is not physically connected to its originally licensed facility provided that the licensee enters into a consent order with the Department that shall include but not be limited to (i) requirements that said building, equipment and staff sufficiently addresses safety and
needs of its residents and staff and (ii) specifies the additional number of beds permitted in said building.

Ordered this 11th day of April 2020

Reneé D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH
Commissioner