

**STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
ORDER DECLARING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
2020-01**

Whereas, An outbreak of the severe respiratory disease, COVID-19, which is caused by and is transmitted by the person-to-person spread of the novel coronavirus, started in late 2019 and has currently been detected across the world, including the United States; and,

Whereas, The World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have declared the COVID-19 outbreak a public health emergency; and,

Whereas, Executive Order 2020-04 declared South Dakota to be in a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

Whereas, In South Dakota, there are positive cases of COVID-19. The further spread of the disease from exposure to the infectious virus, known as novel coronavirus, threatens widespread exposure and poses a significant risk of substantial harm and danger to public health and safety to the population of this state; and,

Whereas, a public health emergency is an occurrence or imminent threat of an illness, health condition, or widespread exposure to an infectious or toxic agent that poses a significant risk of substantial harm to the affected population.

Whereas, Governor Kristi Noem authorizes the secretary of the Department of Health to declare a public health emergency to exist in Minnehaha County, South Dakota:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KIM MALSAM-RYSDON, Secretary of the Department of Health for the State of South Dakota, by the authority vested in me by the Laws of this State, including SDCL 34-22-42, with the consent and authorization of Governor Kristi Noem, do hereby declare that a public health emergency exists within Minnehaha County, South Dakota and hereby order and direct the following:

Section 1. Nature of the Emergency: The COVID-19 pandemic is a global crisis and its impact in South Dakota is already severe and continuing to worsen. COVID-19 is caused by the person-to-person spread of the novel coronavirus and may result in severe acute respiratory disease, hospitalization, admission to an intensive care unit, and in some cases death.

Section 2. Geographic Area Subject to the Declaration: The public health emergency poses a significant risk of substantial harm to Minnehaha County, South Dakota.

Section 3. Conditions that Have Brought About the Public Health Emergency: The COVID-19 outbreak started in late 2019 and has currently been detected across the world, including the United States. At present, there is no vaccine for the virus or cure for the disease. President Trump declared a national emergency to exist beginning March 1, 2020. Governor Noem declared a state of emergency to exist in South Dakota on March 13, 2020. As of the date of this declaration, Minnehaha County, South Dakota has 352 cases confirmed by testing. Based on projections for the continued spread of the

virus, South Dakota anticipates a peak in cases by mid-June. In order to support the projections, multiple Executive Orders have been issued.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, This state of public health emergency is expected to last thirty (30) days and shall be in effect immediately until expiration on May 8, 2020, unless sooner terminated or renewed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, This state of public health emergency is being declared for the sole purpose of facilitating and enforcing public health orders by the Department of Health against individuals in Minnehaha County, South Dakota in the event such enforcement action(s) become necessary. Dated in Pierre, South Dakota this 10th day of April 2020.



Kim Malsam-Rysdon
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Secretary SD Department of Health