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STATE OF CONNECTICUT BY HIS EXCELLENCY DANNEL P. MALLOY GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 28

WHEREAS, a declaration of civil preparedness emergency was issued by the Governor on October 27, 2012 due to the anticipated effects of Hurricane Sandy;

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statutes § 28-9(a), authorizes and empowers the Governor to take such steps as are reasonably necessary in light of such emergency to protect the health, safety and welfare of the people of the state, and to modify and suspend in whole or in part, any statute, regulation or requirement or part thereof, whenever the Governor is of the opinion that it is in conflict with the efficient and expeditious execution of civil preparedness functions or the protection of the public health;

WHEREAS, severe weather conditions and fallen trees resulted in widespread power outages in the state;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 20-70(b)(2), "[a]ny person who is a graduate of an approved United States physical therapist assistant school or an approved physical therapy school and who has filed an application with the [Department of Public Health] may practice as a physical therapist assistant (PTA) under the direct and immediate supervision of a licensed physical therapist in this state for a period not to exceed one hundred twenty calendar days after the date of application. If the person practicing pursuant to this subdivision fails to pass the licensure examination, all privileges under this subdivision shall automatically cease;"

WHEREAS, the 120 day temporary practice provision allows PTA licensure candidates to practice under supervision prior to taking and receiving the results of the licensing examination;

WHEREAS, PTA licensure candidates are required to pass the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy's (FSBPT) National Physical Therapist Assistant Licensing Examination. This examination is currently offered four times per calendar year and is a computer-based test that is administered through Prometric testing centers across the country on behalf of the FSBPT;

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the severe weather and widespread damage and power outages caused by the storm, the planned PTA examination scheduled for October 30, 2012 in Connecticut was canceled;

WHEREAS, due to the cancellation of the examination date, the 120 day temporary practice period for some applicants will expire before they are given the opportunity to take the examination;

WHEREAS, additional PTA examination dates will be scheduled by Prometrics between November 7 and December 6, 2012,

WHEREAS, in light of the emergency circumstances that caused the cancellation of the PTA examination, it is appropriate to extend the 120 day temporary practice provision by 30 days for those individuals that were scheduled to take the October 30, 2012 examination;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dannel P. Malloy, Governor of the State of Connecticut, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT** the suspension of the following statutes, regulations or requirements under the following conditions for the reasons stated above:

Section 20-70(b)(2) of the General Statutes is modified to permit a thirty (30) day extension of the 120 day temporary practice provision for those Connecticut PTA licensure candidates who were scheduled to take the October 30, 2012 examination to allow them to continue to practice under supervision until they are able to take and receive the results of the PTA examination. Any other restrictions on the temporary practice provisions shall remain in place, including the provision that all privileges to practice shall automatically cease if the candidate fails the examination.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon filing with office of the Secretary of State and shall be effective until December 6, 2012.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 5th day of November, 2012.

Dannel P. Malloy

Governor

By His Excellency's Order

Denise Merrill

Secretary of the State