

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1

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3
4 A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA EXPRESSING
5 APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE TO HEALTH CARE ESSENTIAL WORKERS AND SUPPORT STAFF
6 FOR THEIR EFFORTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

7
8 WHEREAS, in 2020, Montana experienced in COVID-19 the most severe pandemic in a century; and
9 ~~WHEREAS, as of December 15, 2020, the Department of Public Health and Human Services reported~~
10 ~~that 74,040 Montanans had been sickened and 3,119 people had been hospitalized as a result of the pandemic~~
11 ~~by that point in the year; and~~

12 ~~WHEREAS, on that same date, the department reported that 826 Montanans had died from the~~
13 ~~disease; and~~

14 ~~WHEREAS, many others diagnosed with COVID-19 have suffered lingering medical issues; and~~

15 ~~WHEREAS, Montana hospitals have been at or near capacity during the pandemic; and~~

16 WHEREAS, Montana's ~~health care providers~~ ESSENTIAL WORKERS have been called upon to work under
17 conditions far more challenging and stressful than normal during this pandemic, including the fear and
18 uncertainty of a heightened risk of infection; worry that they may carry COVID-19 into their homes and infect
19 loved ones; a severely limited supply of personal protective equipment; quickly evolving public health
20 recommendations and protocols from local leadership, medical and public health experts, and political leaders;
21 unusually high and increasing demands to work longer hours as their colleagues become sick or are
22 quarantined; exposure to the physical and emotional strain ~~of treating patients during a major health crisis;~~
23 ~~providing compassionate end-of-life care to patients facing their final moments without the comfort of in-person~~
24 ~~friends or families; and balancing their commitment to help others, which likely led them to choose health care~~
25 ~~as a profession, with the understandable commitment to protect themselves and their loved ones; and~~

26 WHEREAS, our ~~health care~~ ESSENTIAL workers have stepped up in countless ways, ~~from physicians~~
27 ~~and nurses to FIRST RESPONDERS, environmental services and facilities staff, chaplains, medical technicians,~~
28 ~~and the dedicated leaders working behind the scenes; and~~

1 WHEREAS, ~~health care~~ ESSENTIAL workers have responded exceedingly well to the pandemic by
 2 showing up, putting in long hours, rapidly adapting the ways in which they ~~provide care~~ WORK, revising
 3 schedules, embracing ~~telehealth~~ CHANGES TO ACCOMMODATE VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES, and even repurposing facilities
 4 or creating improvised personal protective equipment; and

5 WHEREAS, ~~health care~~ ESSENTIAL workers have continued to demonstrate compassion and maintain a
 6 brave front despite the fears they may harbor; and

7 ~~WHEREAS, some nurses, doctors, and caregivers have paid the price of love with their own health and~~
 8 ~~death; and~~

9 ~~WHEREAS, whether they were conscious of it or not, our health care workers' choice testified to a~~
 10 ~~belief that it is better to live a shorter life serving others than a longer one resisting that call; and~~

11 ~~WHEREAS, in many communities, Montanans have stood at their windows or doorsteps to applaud~~
 12 ~~health care workers in gratitude and awe; and~~

13 ~~WHEREAS, our health care workers are the saints next door, who have awakened something~~
 14 ~~important in our hearts; and~~

15 ~~WHEREAS, as Pope Francis recently said of all health care workers, "They are the antibodies to the~~
 16 ~~virus of indifference. They remind us that our lives are a gift and we grow by giving of ourselves, not preserving~~
 17 ~~ourselves but losing ourselves in service"~~

18 WHEREAS, FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS RESOLUTION, "ESSENTIAL WORKERS" ENCOMPASSES WORKERS
 19 EMPLOYED BY ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES AND PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SERVICES AT:

20 (1) HEALTH CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH OPERATIONS, HUMAN SERVICES OPERATIONS, ESSENTIAL
 21 GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, AND ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE OPERATIONS;

22 (2) STORES THAT SELL GROCERIES AND MEDICINE, GROCERY STORES, PHARMACIES, FARM AND PRODUCE
 23 STANDS, SUPERMARKETS, CONVENIENCE STORES, AND OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN THE RETAIL SALE OF
 24 GROCERIES, CANNED FOOD, DRY GOODS, FROZEN FOODS, FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, PET SUPPLIES, FRESH
 25 MEATS, FISH, AND POULTRY, ALCOHOLIC AND NONALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, AND ANY OTHER HOUSEHOLD CONSUMER
 26 PRODUCTS, STORES THAT SELL GROCERIES, MEDICINE, INCLUDING MEDICATION NOT REQUIRING A MEDICAL
 27 PRESCRIPTION, AND ALSO THAT SELL OTHER NONGROCERY PRODUCTS, AND PRODUCTS NECESSARY TO MAINTAINING
 28 THE SAFETY, SANITATION, AND ESSENTIAL OPERATION OF RESIDENCES AND ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES AND OPERATIONS;

1 (3) OPERATIONS IN THE FOOD AND BEVERAGE INDUSTRY, MANUFACTURING, PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND
2 CULTIVATION, INCLUDING FARMING, LIVESTOCK, FISHING, BAKING, AND OTHER PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE, INCLUDING
3 CULTIVATION, MARKETING, PRODUCTION, AND WHOLESALE OR RETAIL DISTRIBUTION OF ANIMALS AND GOODS FOR
4 CONSUMPTION, LICENSED MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPENSARIES AND LICENSED CANNABIS CULTIVATION CENTERS, AND
5 BUSINESSES THAT PROVIDE FOOD, SHELTER, AND OTHER NECESSITIES OF LIFE FOR ANIMALS, INCLUDING VETERINARY
6 AND ANIMAL HEALTH SERVICES, ANIMAL SHELTERS, RESCUES, SHELTERS, KENNELS, AND ADOPTION FACILITIES, AND
7 BUSINESSES THAT PROVIDE EQUIPMENT, TRANSPORTATION, SEED, FEED, FERTILIZER, OR OTHER PRODUCTS OR
8 SERVICES CRITICAL TO FOOD AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION;

9 (4) ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE CHARITABLE AND SOCIAL SERVICES, BUSINESSES AND RELIGIOUS AND
10 SECULAR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING FOOD BANKS, WHEN PROVIDING FOOD, SHELTER, AND SOCIAL
11 SERVICES, AND OTHER NECESSITIES OF LIFE FOR ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED OR OTHERWISE NEEDY INDIVIDUALS,
12 INDIVIDUALS WHO NEED ASSISTANCE AS A RESULT OF THIS EMERGENCY, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES;

13 (5) NEWSPAPERS, TELEVISION, RADIO, AND OTHER MEDIA SERVICES;

14 (6) GAS STATIONS AND BUSINESSES NEEDED FOR TRANSPORTATION, INCLUDING GAS STATIONS AND AUTO
15 SUPPLY, AUTO REPAIR, AND RELATED FACILITIES AND BICYCLE SHOPS AND RELATED FACILITIES;

16 (7) FINANCIAL AND REAL ESTATE SERVICES AND INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING BANKS, CONSUMER LENDERS,
17 INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO PAWNBROKERS, ACCOUNTANTS, CONSUMER INSTALLMENT LENDERS AND SALES FINANCE
18 LENDERS, CREDIT UNIONS, APPRAISERS, REALTORS OR OTHERS PROVIDING REAL ESTATE SERVICES, TITLE COMPANIES,
19 FINANCIAL MARKETS, TRADING AND FUTURES EXCHANGES, AFFILIATES OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, ENTITIES THAT ISSUE
20 BONDS, RELATED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, AND INSTITUTIONS SELLING FINANCIAL PRODUCTS;

21 (8) HARDWARE AND SUPPLY STORES, INCLUDING BUSINESSES THAT SELL ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, AND
22 HEATING MATERIAL;

23 (9) IN THE CRITICAL TRADES INDUSTRY, INCLUDING BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADESMEN AND
24 TRADESWOMEN, AND OTHER TRADES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO PLUMBERS, ELECTRICIANS, EXTERMINATORS,
25 CLEANING AND JANITORIAL STAFF FOR COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL PROPERTIES, SECURITY STAFF, OPERATING
26 ENGINEERS, HVAC, PAINTING, MOVING AND RELOCATION SERVICES, AND OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS WHO PROVIDE
27 SERVICES THAT ARE NECESSARY TO MAINTAINING THE SAFETY, SANITATION, AND ESSENTIAL OPERATION OF
28 RESIDENCES, ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES, AND ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES AND OPERATIONS;

1 (10) MAIL, POST, SHIPPING, LOGISTICS, DELIVERY, AND PICKUP SERVICES, INCLUDING POST OFFICES AND
2 OTHER BUSINESSES THAT PROVIDE SHIPPING AND DELIVERY SERVICES, AND BUSINESSES THAT SHIP OR DELIVER
3 GROCERIES, FOOD, ALCOHOLIC AND NONALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, GOODS, OR SERVICES TO END USERS OR THROUGH
4 COMMERCIAL CHANNELS;

5 (11) EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PRE-K-12 SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, AND
6 UNIVERSITIES, FOR THE PURPOSES OF FACILITATING REMOTE LEARNING, PERFORMING CRITICAL RESEARCH, OR
7 PERFORMING OTHER ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS;

8 (12) LAUNDRY SERVICES, INCLUDING LAUNDROMATS, DRY CLEANERS, INDUSTRIAL LAUNDRY SERVICES, AND
9 LAUNDRY SERVICE PROVIDERS;

10 (13) RESTAURANTS FOR CONSUMPTION OFF-PREMISES, INCLUDING RESTAURANTS AND OTHER FACILITIES THAT
11 PREPARE AND SERVE FOOD, BUT ONLY FOR CONSUMPTION OFF-PREMISES, THROUGH SUCH MEANS AS IN-HOUSE
12 DELIVERY, THIRD-PARTY DELIVERY, DRIVE-THROUGH, CURBSIDE PICKUP, AND CARRY-OUT;

13 (14) BUSINESSES PROVIDING SUPPLIES TO WORK FROM HOME, INCLUDING BUSINESSES THAT SELL,
14 MANUFACTURE, OR SUPPLY PRODUCTS NEEDED FOR PEOPLE TO WORK FROM HOME;

15 (15) BUSINESSES THAT PROVIDE SUPPLIES FOR ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES AND OPERATIONS, INCLUDING
16 BUSINESSES THAT SELL, MANUFACTURE, OR SUPPLY OTHER ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES AND OPERATIONS WITH THE
17 SUPPORT OR MATERIALS NECESSARY TO OPERATE, INCLUDING COMPUTERS, AUDIO AND VIDEO ELECTRONICS, AND
18 HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES; IT AND TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT; HARDWARE, PAINT, AND FLAT GLASS; ELECTRICAL,
19 PLUMBING, AND HEATING MATERIALS; SANITARY EQUIPMENT; PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS; FOOD, FOOD ADDITIVES,
20 INGREDIENTS, AND COMPONENTS; MEDICAL AND ORTHOPEDIC EQUIPMENT; OPTICS AND PHOTOGRAPHY EQUIPMENT;
21 DIAGNOSTICS, FOOD AND BEVERAGES, CHEMICALS, AND SOAPS AND DETERGENT; AND FIREARM AND AMMUNITION
22 SUPPLIERS AND RETAILERS FOR PURPOSES OF SAFETY AND SECURITY;

23 (16) TRANSPORTATION BUSINESSES, INCLUDING AIRLINES, TAXIS, TRANSPORTATION NETWORK PROVIDERS
24 SUCH AS UBER AND LYFT, VEHICLE RENTAL SERVICES, PARATRANSIT, AND OTHER PRIVATE, PUBLIC, AND COMMERCIAL
25 TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS PROVIDERS NECESSARY FOR ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES AND OTHER PURPOSES;

26 (17) HOME-BASED CARE AND SERVICES, INCLUDING HOME-BASED CARE FOR ADULTS, SENIORS, CHILDREN, AND
27 PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES, SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, OR MENTAL
28 ILLNESS, INCLUDING CAREGIVERS SUCH AS NANNIES WHO MAY TRAVEL TO THE CHILD'S HOME TO PROVIDE CARE, AND

1 OTHER IN-HOME SERVICES INCLUDING MEAL DELIVERY;

2 (18) RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES AND SHELTERS, INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES AND SHELTERS FOR ADULTS,
 3 SENIORS, CHILDREN, AND PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES, SUBSTANCE USE
 4 DISORDERS, OR MENTAL ILLNESS;

5 (19) PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INCLUDING LEGAL SERVICES, ACCOUNTING SERVICES, INSURANCE SERVICES,
 6 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, AND REAL ESTATE SERVICES INCLUDING APPRAISAL AND TITLE SERVICES;

7 (20) MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION, AND SUPPLY CHAIN FOR CRITICAL PRODUCTS AND INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING
 8 MANUFACTURING COMPANIES, DISTRIBUTORS, AND SUPPLY CHAIN COMPANIES PRODUCING AND SUPPLYING ESSENTIAL
 9 PRODUCTS AND SERVICES IN AND FOR INDUSTRIES SUCH AS PHARMACEUTICAL, TECHNOLOGY, BIOTECHNOLOGY, HEALTH
 10 CARE, CHEMICALS AND SANITIZATION, WASTE PICKUP AND DISPOSAL, AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND BEVERAGE,
 11 TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY, STEEL AND STEEL PRODUCTS, PETROLEUM AND FUEL, FOREST PRODUCTS, MINING,
 12 CONSTRUCTION, NATIONAL DEFENSE, AND COMMUNICATIONS, AS WELL AS PRODUCTS USED BY OTHER ESSENTIAL
 13 BUSINESSES AND OPERATIONS;

14 (21) CRITICAL LABOR UNION FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING LABOR UNION ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS THE
 15 ADMINISTRATION OF HEALTH AND WELFARE FUNDS AND PERSONNEL CHECKING ON THE WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF
 16 MEMBERS PROVIDING SERVICES IN ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES AND OPERATIONS;

17 (22) HOTELS AND MOTELS, TO THE EXTENT USED FOR LODGING AND DELIVERY OR CARRY-OUT FOOD SERVICES;

18 AND

19 (23) FUNERAL SERVICES, INCLUDING FUNERAL, MORTUARY, CREMATION, BURIAL, CEMETERY, AND RELATED
 20 SERVICES.

21
 22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
 23 MONTANA:

24 That, on behalf of ~~all Montana residents, the House of Representatives returns the love of Montana~~
 25 ~~health care workers by honoring the workers and offering the highest praise and deepest gratitude for their~~
 26 ~~heroic actions during this public health crisis~~ THE GRATEFUL CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, THE MONTANA
 27 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HEREBY HONORS AND SENDS GRATITUDE TO THE ~~HEALTH CARE~~ ESSENTIAL WORKERS OF
 28 MONTANA FOR THEIR SELFLESS AND COURAGEOUS ACTIONS DURING THIS PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS.

