Capitol Building, Room 241 South Topeka, KS 66612



Phone: (785) 296-3232 GOVERNOR, KANSAS, GOV

## GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-12**

Drivers' license and vehicle registration and regulation during public health emergency

WHEREAS, securing the health, safety, and economic well-being of residents of the State of Kansas is this Administration's top priority;

WHEREAS, Kansas is facing a crisis—the pandemic and public health emergency of COVID-19—resulting in illness, quarantines, school closures, and temporary closure of businesses resulting in lost wages and financial hardship to Kansas citizens;

WHEREAS, the United States Departments of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 beginning January 27, 2020, with now more than 40,000 cases of the illness and more than 400 deaths as a result of the illness across the United States;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared a pandemic on March 11, 2020;

WHEREAS, a State of Disaster Emergency was proclaimed for the State of Kansas on March 12, 2020;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the ongoing COVID-19 a pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia pursuant to Section 50 l (b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5121-5207 (the "Stafford Act");

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States pursuant to Sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. § 1601, et seq. and consistent with Section 1135 of the Social Security Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 1320b-5), declared a national emergency that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency beginning March 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, the ability of Kansas citizens and workers—such as delivery drivers, public transportation drivers, and ordinary citizens—to drive as needed to respond to or deal with the COVID-19 pandemic is essential to efforts to secure and promote the safety and protection of the civilian population; and

WHEREAS, this Administration will do whatever it can to assist Kansans in these challenging times, including providing grace periods regarding drivers' license and vehicle registrations through the Kansas Department of Revenue Division of Vehicles to avoid immediate danger to the health, safety, and welfare of Kansans.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Kansas, including the authority granted me by K.S.A 48-924 and K.S.A 48-925, in order to mitigate the effects of the spread of COVID-19 I hereby direct and order the following:

- 1. The Kansas Department of Revenue Division of Vehicles ("Division of Vehicles") shall extend vehicle registration renewal deadlines for State based passenger vehicles, motorcycles, trucks and trailers. A vehicle registrant will not be charged with late fees or interest on delinquent vehicle registration, if the registrant does not file within the registrant's normal month renewal period.
- 2. The Division of Vehicles shall extend truck, truck tractor, and trailer registration renewal deadlines for State-based International Registration Plan ("IRP") registrants. A State-based IRP registrant will not be charged with late fees or interest on delinquent vehicle registration.
- 3. The Division of Vehicles shall extend any temporary, state sixty-day permits for recently purchased vehicles. Kansas residents who have purchased a new or used vehicle on or after January 1, 2020, and are operating with a valid sixty-day permit, may continue to use such temporary tag beyond the sixty-day period and the permit shall continue to authorize road use while this order is in effect.
- 4. The Division of Vehicles shall extend the terms of drivers' licenses and identification cards for all Kansas residents with State driver's licenses that expired beginning on March 12, 2020, and who are not able to renew at a State driver's license examination office due to the State's COVID-19 response.
- 5. All law enforcement agencies or officers shall use their discretion in deciding whether to enforce laws related to expired drivers' licenses and should consider the State of Disaster Emergency when reviewing credentials issued by the State of Kansas, as the Division of Vehicles will not indicate in its system that such drivers' credentials are or will be expired while the State of Disaster Emergency remains in effect.
- 6. All driver's license renewals and vehicle registrations extended by this Executive Order must be completed within 60 days of the expiration of this order.
- 7. No other laws or regulations relating to license and vehicle registration and regulation are affected by this order.
- 8. This order supersedes any contrary order by any local health department regarding drivers' licenses or vehicle registrations and should be read in conjunction with previous executive orders responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Any contrary provision in previous orders is superseded by this order.

This document shall be filed with the Secretary of State as Executive Order No. 20-12. It shall become effective immediately and remain in force until the statewide State of Disaster Emergency proclaimed on March 12, 2020, relating to COVID-19 expires.

THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

BY THE GOVERNOR

DATED

3.23.2020

Secretary of State

Assistant Secretary of State

FILED

MAR 2 3 2020

SCOTT SCHWAB SECRETARY OF STATE