

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

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Randall W. Williams, MD, FACOG

Michael L. Parson Governor

April 3, 2020

As Director of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services ("Department"), pursuant to Executive Orders 20-02 and 20-04, I am vested with the authority to temporarily waive or suspend the operation of any statutory requirement or administrative rule, upon approval of the Office of the Governor. After consultation with and receiving approval from the Office of the Governor, I am hereby waiving the following laws in order to assist the state, and its citizens prepare and respond to COVID-19 until May 15, 2020, unless otherwise modified by the Department.

Waivers Relating to the Long Term Care Program

Section 198.026.1, RSMo, shall be waived to the extent the provisions require DHSS to send a written report of each deficiency and a written correction order to the operator or administrator by certified mail or other delivery service that provides a dated receipt of delivery to the facility address. Under this waiver, DHSS may send a written report of each deficiency and a written correction order to an email address approved of by the operator or administrator.

Section 198.026.3, RSMo, shall be waived to the extent the provisions require DHSS to send a notice of noncompliance by certified mail or other delivery service that provides a dated receipt of delivery to each person disclosed to be an owner or operator of the facility according to the most recent information or documents on file with the department. Under this waiver, DHSS may send a notice of noncompliance to an email address approved of by the owner or operator.

Section 198.026.2, RSMo, shall be waived to the extent the provisions require DHSS to conduct reinspections of long term care facilities. DHSS shall temporarily suspend the reinspection process during the declared emergency.

Section 198.525.1 RSMo, shall be waived to the extent the provisions require DHSS to inspect residential care facilities, assisted living facilities, intermediate care facilities, and skilled nursing, including those facilities attached to acute care hospitals at least twice a year. DHSS shall temporarily suspend the inspection process during the declared emergency.

Section 198.526.1, RSMo, shall be waived to the extent the provisions require DHSS to inspect all facilities licensed by DHSS at least twice a year. DHSS shall temporarily suspend the inspection process during the declared emergency.

Section 198.532.1, RSMo, shall be waived to the extent the provisions require DHSS to investigate complaints filed with DHSS. DHSS shall temporarily suspend the investigation of complaints filed with DHSS, with the exception of those necessary to maintain public health and safety and those considered to be immediate jeopardy situations, during the declared emergency period.

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Section 192.2225.1, RSMo, shall be waived to the extent the provisions require DHSS to make at least two inspections per year at adult day care programs and to investigate complaints filed with DHSS. DHSS shall temporarily suspend the investigation of complaints filed with DHSS, with the exception of those necessary to maintain public health and safety and those considered to be immediate jeopardy situations, during the declared emergency period.

Randall W. Williams, MD, FACOG

Director