## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Office of The Governor No. 34 FY 20/21 DATE March 4, 2021

## AN ORDER EXTENDING THE TERM OF CONDITIONAL ADULT USE MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT LICENSES

WHEREAS, I proclaimed a state of emergency on March 15, 2020 and renewed that state of emergency most recently on February 17, 2021, to authorize the use of emergency powers in order to expand and expedite the State's response to the serious health and safety risks of the highly contagious COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, 28-B M.R.S. § 205(3) limits the term of conditional adult use marijuana establishment licenses to one year, and such conditional licenses are required for a person to obtain local authorization to operate a marijuana establishment pursuant to 28-B M.R.S. § 402; and

WHEREAS, state and local COVID-19 protocols implemented to protect public health during the global pandemic have caused delays in the processing of requests for such local authorizations, and prevented many local governments from acting on such requests during the one-year conditional license term; and

WHEREAS, a governor's emergency powers expressly include the authorities to adjust time frames and certain deadlines imposed by law when necessary to mitigate an effect of the emergency pursuant to 37-B M.R.S. §742(1)(C)(13)(a) and modify or suspend the requirements for professional or occupational licensing or registration if strict compliance hinders coping with the emergency pursuant to 37-B M.R.S. §742(1)(C)(13)(c);

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, pursuant to 37-B M.R.S. Ch. 13, including but not limited to the provisions referenced above, do hereby Order as follows:

## I. ORDERS

- A. The term of conditional adult use marijuana establishment licenses issued pursuant to 28-B M.R.S. § 205 shall be extended June 30, 2021, or until the expiration date listed on the conditional adult use marijuana establishment license, whichever is later.
- B. To the extent inconsistent, 28-B M.R.S. § 205(3)(B) is hereby suspended.

## II. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Order takes effect on March 4, 2021 and shall remain in effect until amended, rescinded or until the State of Civil Emergency to Protect Public Health is terminated, whichever occurs first.

Janet T. Mills

Governor