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GOVERNOR WOLF ISSUES IMMEDIATE CLOSURE ORDER FOR PENNSYLVANIA BUSINESSES THAT ARE NOT LIFE SUSTAINING

March 19, 2020

On Thursday, March 19, 2020, Governor Wolf issued an Order pursuant to his disaster emergency powers, directing the immediate closure of all businesses that are not life sustaining.

The Order provides as follows:

Section 1: Prohibition on Operation of Businesses that are Not Life Sustaining

- No person or entity shall operate a place of business in the Commonwealth that is not a life sustaining business regardless of whether the business is open to members of the public. This prohibition does not apply to virtual or telework operations (e.g., work from home), so long as social distancing and other mitigation measures are followed in such operations.
- Life sustaining businesses may remain open, but they must follow, at a minimum, the social distancing practices and other mitigation measures defined by the Centers for Disease Control to protect workers and patrons. A list of life sustaining businesses that may remain open is accessible [here](#).
- Enforcement actions will be taken against non-life sustaining businesses that are out of compliance effective March 21, 2020, at 12:01 a.m.

Section 2: Prohibition Against Dine-in Facilities Including

- All restaurants and bars previously have been ordered to close their dine-in facilities to help stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Businesses that offer carry-out, delivery, and drive-through food and beverage service may continue, so long as social distancing and other mitigation measures are employed to protect workers and patrons.
- Enforcement actions will be taken against businesses that are out of compliance effective March 19, 2020, at 8 p.m.

The BCGL Team is available to answer any questions you may have about the Governor's closure order and its impact on your business.