

Title: COVID-19 Public Health Emergency:  
State of Emergency

Policy No. I.D.1

Issued: 03-13-2020  
Ratified: 05-27-2020  
Extended: 11-18-2020

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1. §519 – *State of Emergency* references the state statute authorizing the governor to declare a state of emergency following a natural disaster. It does not reference the statute authorizing the governor to declare a state of emergency for a public health emergency.
  2. The Board President interpreted the rule to apply to the COVID-19 public health emergency, but only with reference to the authority for dispensing emergency prescriptions in Paragraph A.1. In the absence of need for authorizing pharmacists to practice in a declared disaster area, the interpretation did not extend to Paragraph A.2 of the rule.
  3. During their August 13, 2020 meeting, the Board approved *Regulatory Proposal 2020-J ~ Emergency Dispensing*, which incorporates the addition of the specific law relative to the declaration of public health emergencies. During their subsequent November 17, 2020 meeting, the Occupational Licensing Review Commission authorized the initiation of *Regulatory Project 2020-12 ~ State of Emergency*.
  4. During their November 18, 2020 meeting, the Board voted to continue this interim policy until the earlier of (1) the conclusion of the public health emergency, or (2) the date of promulgation of the rule change in *Regulatory Project 2020-12 ~ State of Emergency*.