

# On The Record

## Governor enacts additional measures to slow spread of COVID-19

Gov. Kate Brown issued Executive Order 20-12 March 23, directing everyone in Oregon to stay at home to the maximum extent possible and adding to the list of businesses that will be temporarily closed to stem the spread of COVID-19 in Oregon.

The order was effective immediately and remains in effect until ended by the governor.

Brown said the latest executive order, aimed at flattening the curve and slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, further requires social distancing measures.

“Staying home both keeps you safe from infection and ensures you do not unknowingly infect others,” said Brown, who had already enacted a number of measures specifically aimed at increasing hospital capacity, such as cutting down on non-emergency care to conserve masks, gloves and gowns.

“None of us have ever been through this before, and that means there is no way to know exactly what lies ahead,” Brown said. “We don’t know yet when this outbreak will end, or what changes this will bring for our state and for our country. But I want to make sure that we’ve

done all we can to end it as quickly as possible.”

Impact from Monday’s executive order include the following and were effective immediately:

- Prohibiting all non-essential social and recreational gatherings of individuals — regardless of size — if a distance of at least 6 feet between individuals cannot be maintained. Gatherings of members of the same residential household are permitted.

- Closure and prohibiting of shopping at specific categories of retail businesses for which close personal contact is difficult to avoid. This includes businesses such as arcades, barber shops, hair salons, gyms and fitness studios, skating rinks, theaters and yoga studios.

- A requirement that businesses not closed by the order implement social distancing policies in order to remain open. It also requires workplaces to implement teleworking and work-at-home options when possible.

- A directive that all Oregonians to stay home whenever possible. At the same time, the order allows activities outside the home when social distance is maintained.

- Closure of all play-

grounds, sports courts and skate parks, among other types of outdoor recreation facilities. Those that remain open are required to strictly adhere to social distancing guidelines.

- The adoption of new guidelines for childcare facilities, including setting limits and rules on the number of children allowed in care. It also disallows childcare groups to change participants.

- Enforcement of the executive order to include anyone not in compliance be considered an immediate danger to public health and subject to a Class C misdemeanor.

**Specific retail businesses closed by Executive Order 20-12 include:**

- Shopping: Outdoor and indoor malls and retail complexes, although individual types of businesses not subject to the measures may stay open.

- Fitness: Gyms, sports and fitness centers, health clubs and exercise studios

- Grooming: Barber shops, beauty and nail salons and non-medical wellness spas

- Entertainment: Theaters, amusement parks, arcades, bowling alleys and pool halls

Full details on all busi-

nesses listed in Executive Order 20-12 are available online at [www.govsiterequests.s3.amazonaws.com/jkAULYKcSh6D0DF8wBM0\\_EO%20-12.pdf](http://www.govsiterequests.s3.amazonaws.com/jkAULYKcSh6D0DF8wBM0_EO%20-12.pdf)

In addition to businesses, Executive Order 20-12 also orders state executive branch offices and buildings to close to the public and provide public services by phone to the extent possible.

When public services require in-person interactions, the order requires social distancing measures to be implemented and enforced. State agencies must also facilitate telework and work-at-home for state employees whenever possible.

While the order does not apply to local, federal or tribal governments, Brown strongly encouraged those governments to follow these directives.

The order also directs state agencies to close parks and other outdoor spaces where social distancing cannot be maintained — expanding on actions already taken by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

All coronavirus executive orders will be posted on the Oregon Coronavirus Information and Resources Page after they have been issued and signed.

## DEATH NOTICE

**STINGER**—Daniel V. Stinger, 90, passed away surrounded by his family on March 23, 2020. A celebration of his life will be planned for this summer.

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## State offering insurance benefits to COVID-19 related layoffs

The Oregon Employment Department provides Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits to most workers who are out of work through no fault of their own.

To receive benefits, workers must meet some requirements. In general, to claim and receive unemployment benefits for a week, workers must be available for work, able to work and actively look for work they can do.

The Employment Department has now enacted temporary rules to give more flexibility in provid-

ing unemployment benefits to COVID-19 affected workers.

Unemployment Insurance benefits are available during temporary layoffs related to COVID-19 situations. These benefits occur for employees whose employer stops operation for a short period of time, such as cleaning following a coronavirus exposure, or by government requirement.

Workers can get unemployment benefits, and do not need to seek work with other employers if their place of employment

will resume operations.

To receive benefits, affected workers must still be able to work, stay in contact with their employer, and be available to work when called back.

A full resource guide with questions and answers about specific COVID-19 coronavirus-related situations and unemployment benefits is available at [www.Oregon.gov/employ](http://www.Oregon.gov/employ).

This site also has information for filing an online claim.

The number of initial Unemployment Insurance

claims filed in Oregon rose from approximately 800 on March 16, to a total of 18,500 on March 18.

Although the COVID-19 coronavirus is causing a reduction in economic activity both nationally and in Oregon, it's too early for unemployment rate or payroll jobs numbers to show the impact of these employment disruptions.

To file an online claim for unemployment benefits, go to [Oregon.gov/employ](http://Oregon.gov/employ) or call 1-877-FILE-4-UI.

## Peace Harbor implements temperature screenings

With the number of COVID-19 cases rising in Oregon, PeaceHealth is conducting temperature screenings for all patients, visitors and caregivers as they enter PeaceHealth facilities in Oregon.

The screenings took effect at 4 p.m. on Monday, March 23. Non-contact thermometers are used at

all entry points to PeaceHealth facilities.

Any individual with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or above is not allowed to enter and is provided the appropriate instructions on seeking care.

For more information, call 541-682-1380.

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