

California Office of the Governor Governor Gavin Newsom 1303 10th Street, Suite 1173 Sacramento, CA 95814

March 20, 2020

RE: <u>Clarification of Executive Order N-33-20 for the Cannabis Industry</u>

Dear Governor Newsom,

We request clarification of your Executive Order N-33-20, specifically that cannabis-related businesses in California may continue to operate during the COVID-19 emergency as long as they abide by all recommended precautions.

Executive Order N-33-20 specifies that Californians working in certain federally-designated critical sectors may continue their work. These sectors (outlined at https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19) include Healthcare, Agriculture, and Commercial Facilities. Cannabis-related businesses fit into each of these sectors: cannabis is used medically to treat a wide range of illnesses; it is an agricultural product; and it is distributed and sold commercially through licensed manufacturing, distribution, retail, and delivery companies.

In addition, Executive Order N-33-20 states that you may designate additional sectors as critical, in consultation with the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, "to protect the health and well-being of all Californians." Millions of Californians depend on using cannabis to treat their illnesses and symptoms, and thousands more have jobs that involve the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, and sale of cannabis and cannabis products. The cannabis industry is critical to California.

Thank you for clarifying this important issue, whether formally or informally (even a tweet would be just fine!).



Sincerely,

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