



**ANDY BESHEAR**  
GOVERNOR

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**

**Secretary of State**  
Frankfort  
Kentucky

**2020-528**  
**June 22, 2020**

**STATE OF EMERGENCY RELATING TO**  
**KENTUCKY ELECTIONS**

**Background**

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease causing illness that can range from very mild to severe, including illness resulting in death, and many cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in the Commonwealth.

To prevent the spread of disease, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Kentucky Department for Public Health have recommended that everyone practice social distancing, meaning staying home as much as possible and otherwise maintaining six feet of distance from other individuals, to minimize the spread of the disease. Where people congregate unnecessarily, or fail to follow adequate social distancing practices, they are spreading the disease, creating scenes of an emergency.

The Kentucky Constitution and Kentucky Revised Statutes, including KRS Chapter 39A, empower me to exercise all powers necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population, including the power to suspend state statutes and regulations, and to command individuals to disperse from the scene of an emergency. Under those powers, I declared by Executive Order 2020-215 on March 6, 2020, that a State of Emergency exists in the Commonwealth.

On March 16, 2020, pursuant to KRS 39A.100(1)(I), I issued Executive Order 202-236, which delayed the elections previously scheduled for May 19, 2020, until June 23, 2020, upon the recommendation of Secretary of State Michael G. Adams. On April 24, 2020, I issued Executive Order 2020-296, which declared a different manner for holding the elections now scheduled for June 23, 2020, pursuant to KRS 39A.100(1)(I), upon the recommendation of Secretary of State Adams. Consistent with Executive Order 2020-296, on May 1, 2020, the Kentucky Board of Elections promulgated an emergency



**ANDY BESHEAR**  
**GOVERNOR**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER**

**Secretary of State**  
Frankfort  
Kentucky

**2020-528**  
**June 22, 2020**


administrative regulation providing for the manner of conducting the June 23, 2020 Elections. By Executive Order 2020-311, I approved the emergency administrative regulation, which, for the first time in the history of the Commonwealth, allows voting by no-excuse mail-in absentee ballots and no-excuse early voting. On June 22, 2020, the Kentucky Board of Elections again promulgated an emergency administrative regulation for the manner of conducting the June 23, 2020 Elections to add two provisions addressing the situation where an absentee ballot is mailed to the wrong county clerk and the situation where a person requests an absentee ballot by mail, but does not receive it before June 23, 2020.

**Order**

I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of Kentucky and KRS Chapter 39A, do hereby approve the Emergency Administrative Regulation, 31 KAR 4:191E, Procedures for June 23, 2020 Elections, promulgated by the Kentucky Board of Elections on June 22, 2020.

This Order is effective June 22, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ANDY BESHEAR, Governor  
Commonwealth of Kentucky

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHAEL G. ADAMS  
Secretary of State

RECEIVED AND FILED

DATE

6/22/2020

---

---

MICHAEL G. ADAMS

SECRETARY OF STATE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BY

*Samuel M. Burgin*