## RESOLUTION R2020-<u>24</u> DECLARATION OF STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Escambia County has been informed by its emergency management staff of the imminent threat posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 and infectious diseases have the capacity to pose a significant, imminent, and dangerous threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of Escambia County, Florida, visitors and tourists in Escambia County, Florida, as well as their real and personal property; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners has met with the County Administrator, been informed of risks facing Escambia County and considered whether or not to declare a state of local emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Escambia County Code Section 37-35(a)(1), the Board of County Commissioners hereby resolves, finds, and declares:

- 1. The above recitals are true and are incorporated herein.
- A state of local emergency hereby exists in Escambia County, Florida, effective for seven (7) days beginning 2:00 p. m., central daylight time, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.
- 3. The Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, hereby waives the procedures and formalities otherwise required of Escambia County pertaining to:
  - a. Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to insure the health, safety, and welfare of the community.
  - b. Entering into contracts.
  - c. Incurring obligations.
  - d. Employment of permanent and temporary workers.
  - e. Utilization of volunteer workers.
  - f. Rental of equipment.
  - g. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities.

- h. Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.
- 4. The County Administrator, or her designee, is hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to exercise, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, such emergency powers necessary to carry out the provisions of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, including, but not limited to, the powers to direct and compel evacuation of all or part of the population from stricken or threatened areas within the County, if such action is deemed necessary to reduce the vulnerability of people in communities of Escambia County to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from the imminent threat, as well as any other powers expressly or implicitly conferred pursuant to Chapters 125 and 252, Florida Statutes, and any other provision of law or county ordinance.
- 5. The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) is hereby activated.
- 6. This authority shall extend only for the period of the state of local emergency, as determined by the County Administrator or her designee, or until further action by the Board of County Commissioners terminates such authority or declares that the state of local emergency has ended.
- This Resolution shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State upon adoption.

Adopted this 16th day of March, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Barry, Chairman

ATTEST: PAM CHILDERS Clerk of the Circuit Court

M.B. "Inthinter . buty Clerk AMBIA

Date Executed