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TO: McHenry County Food Establishments

FROM: Melissa Adamson, Public Health Administrator
Patricia Nomm, Director of Environmental Health 

RE: Executive Order 2020-32 in Response to COVID-19

DATE: May 1, 2020

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

Effective today, Governor Pritzker has extended his executive order to prohibit the onsite consumption of foods or beverages at food establishments through May 29, 2020. We have tried to summarize the current requirements for you as follows:

All foods or beverages must be offered for consumption off-premises through delivery, drive-through, curbside pick-up or carry-out. We have received several questions regarding whether this includes outdoor patios or beer gardens or even customers consuming food or beverages in parking lots. The executive order does mean that no foods or beverages may be consumed on your premises either inside or outside.

Any individual who is over the age of two and able to medically tolerate a face covering, must wear a face covering in public indoor spaces such as stores. This includes customers that enter your food establishment to shop or to pick up carry-out orders.

As an essential business or operation, you must also provide face coverings to all employees who are unable to maintain a minimum six foot social distance at all times; and

All businesses who have employees physically reporting to a work site must also post the attached guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health and Illinois Attorney General.

In Retail Food Stores:

1. Occupancy must be capped at 50 percent of the store's capacity, or at the occupancy limits based on store square footage set by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (see attached); and
2. Aisles should be set up to be one way where practicable to maximize spacing between customers; and

3. Signage and/or public announcements must be provided for customers about social distancing requirements; and
4. The use of reusable bags must be discontinued.

Our intention is to provide you with the latest information as we understand it. As we receive additional information, we will share it with you and will post it to our website: mcdh.info. You may also find helpful information in the Business Resources section of the COVID-19 page on our website. Staff continues to be available to answer your questions related to these restrictions.

We sincerely appreciate your efforts to comply with these restrictions to protect both your staff and your customers during this very difficult time.