

Andy Beshear Governor Jim Gray Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Chuck Wolfe 502.782.4828 Chuck.Wolfe@ky.gov

Transportation Cabinet Extends Emergency Order for Commercial Drivers Delivering Goods, Services in COVID-19 Pandemic Relief Effort

Lifting of restrictions on hours of operation extended to June 1, 2020

FRANKFORT, Ky. (April 10, 2020) – Kentucky Transportation Secretary Jim Gray today extended until June 1, 2020 an existing emergency order that temporarily lifts regulatory restrictions on motor carriers delivering goods and services critical to COVID-19 pandemic relief.

The order is in keeping with Gov. Andy Beshear's declaration of an emergency as part of a sweeping effort to protect Kentuckians and combat the spread of the novel coronavirus, known as COVID-19. Secretary Gray's original order, issued on March 13, would have expired at midnight Sunday.

"This is just one of the many steps being taken to get much-needed supplies and services deployed as quickly as possible to areas that need them most," Gov. Beshear said. "We are all pulling together. We will get through this pandemic, and we will get through it together."

"Our Cabinet is pleased to play a part in ensuring needed supplies get to Kentuckians and neighboring states as quickly as possible in the interest of public health and safety," said Secretary Gray.

Secretary Gray's emergency order will help to expedite the delivery of food, water, fuel and other supplies to affected areas. It also applies to vehicles engaged in response to the pandemic. The order temporarily relieves the drivers from maximum driving times and weigh station stops.

In addition, the order authorizes the Transportation Cabinet's Department of Vehicle Regulation to waive permit fees for overweight/over-dimensional vehicles. To ensure the safety of the traveling public, carriers must comply with safety requirements and have a copy of the order in the truck cab if operating under the authority of the official order.

A copy of the emergency order can be found <u>here</u>.

###

