



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Transportation

Office of the Director

355 Capitol St NE

Salem, OR 97301

July 27, 2020

ATTN: Motor Carriers

COVID-19 July 27, 2020 Emergency Declaration

Whereas on March 16, 2020, after the Governor had issued her March 8, 2016 declaration of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, I issued an emergency declaration under authority of ORS 823.012 suspending certain laws (Attached).

Whereas circumstances have changed since I issued that declaration. As the State has entered the phased approach to reopening, I conclude that suspension of many of those laws no longer is necessary.

Therefore, I now:

Rescind the March 16, 2020 emergency declaration effective July 27, 2020. All size and weight requirements are in effect. The 120-day suspension period in the Federal declaration of emergency have expired as noted in guidance issued by FHWA (available on our web site: <https://www.oregon.gov/odot/pages/incident.aspx>).

Issue this emergency declaration effective July 27, 2020 suspending the following laws pursuant to the authority granted to me by ORS 823.012:

- **ORS 826.031 Registration of certain vehicles not already registered with the state.**
This suspension applies to any commercial vehicle for which a valid registration may not be obtained due to circumstances related to the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Many of our state partners have extended their registration waivers and as such, the Oregon Department of Transportation will not enforce registration of vehicles not already registered with the state.
- **ORS 825.252 Commercial vehicle safety regulations.**
This suspension is subject to the stipulations below, which are consistent with the federal declaration of emergency waivers issued by FMCSA:
 - Motor carriers or drivers currently subject to an out-of-service order are not eligible for these exemptions until their orders expire or they meet the conditions for rescission;
 - Nothing in this declaration may be construed as an exemption from the controlled substances and alcohol use and testing requirements (49 CFR Part 382), the commercial driver's license requirements (49 CFR Part 383), the financial responsibility (insurance) requirements (49 CFR Part 387), or operating authority (49 CFR Part 365);
 - The suspensions apply only to anyone transporting persons or property necessary for, responding to, and mitigating the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19);

- The suspensions do not apply to any requirement not specifically listed in this notice;
- Operators remain responsible for and nothing in this declaration excuses them from safely routing their vehicles and obtaining current information concerning hazardous road conditions prior to movement;
- Vehicles responding to emergencies are required to enter open scale facilities when a sign posted before the scale reads “All Trucks Over 20,000# GVWR Next Right” or with a GVWR of 10,000# or greater without this posted sign, unless they are operating with red warning lights or a siren or both. This is to ensure the safe operation of the highways. If stopped, drivers should inform enforcement personnel that they are responding to an emergency. Vehicles may be allowed to proceed and obtain required permits or credentials as soon as possible afterwards.

The suspensions in this declaration will remain in effect until the state of emergency is terminated as provided under ORS 401.204.



Kristopher W. Strickler
Director