STANDING ORDER OF THE BOARD February 9, 2021

The Board of Natural Scientists ("the Board") hereby votes to issue a standing Order regarding continuing education requirements for its licensees.

On January 29, 2020, the Governor issued Exhibit Y to Emergency Order #29. That exhibit allowed licensees of all board, council, or commission listed in RSA 310-A:1-a to complete their continuing education requirements through remote instruction until 30 days after the end of the current State of Emergency. The exhibit further stated:

Notwithstanding the above, it is recognized that remote continuing education may not be available for licensees of the Board of Geologists, the Board of Natural Scientists, the Board of Septic System Evaluators, the Guardian ad Litem Board, and the Board of Family Mediators. In light of this, the abovementioned boards may choose to waive all continuing education requirements for those that renew on or before 30 days after the end of the current State of Emergency. When considering whether to waive all continuing education requirements under this provision, the boards shall consider: (a) whether there are sufficient continuing education courses available through remote instruction to allow licensees to obtain the requirement continuing education hours; and (b) whether waiving the continuing education requirements would be detrimental to public health, safety, or welfare.

The Board has determined that due to the nature of the professions governed by the Board, there are insufficient continuing education courses available through remote instruction to allow a licensee to obtain the required continuing education hours. Furthermore, the Board finds that waiving the continuing education requirements for this limited duration will not be detrimental to public health, safety, or welfare.

Therefore, the Board is waiving all continuing education requirements for licensees that are renewing during the State of Emergency and for thirty days thereafter.

Damon E. Burt

NAME, Chair Authorized Representative of the Board of Natural Scientists