Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation

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WHEREAS the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a pandemic on 11 March 2020;

WHEREAS, under section 118 of the Public Health Act (chapter S-2.2), the Government may declare a public health emergency in all or part of the territory of Québec where a serious threat to the health of the population, whether real or imminent, requires the immediate application of certain measures provided for in section 123 of the Act to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS the pandemic constitutes a serious and real threat to the health of the population that requires the immediate application of certain measures provided for in section 123 of the Act;

WHEREAS, while the public health emergency is in effect, despite any provision to the contrary, the Government or the Minister of Health and Social Services, if the Minister has been so empowered, may, without delay and without further formality, take any of the measures provided for in subparagraphs 1 to 8 of the first paragraph of section 123 of the Act to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, the Government declared a public health emergency and took certain measures to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS the public health emergency was renewed until 29 March 2020 by Order in Council 222-2020 dated 20 March 2020, until 7 April 2020 by


WHEREAS, under section 106 of the Act mainly to establish the Centre d’acquisitions gouvernementales and Infrastructures technologiques Québec (2020, chapter 2), certain provisions providing in particular for a reorganization of the chain of
procurement of goods and services as it currently exists and the dissolution of health and social services network joint procurement groups, come into force on 1 June 2020;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 496-2020 dated 29 April 2020, the Government suspended the time limit preceding the coming into force set for 1 June 2020 of certain provisions covered by section 106 of that Act for the period of the public health emergency and to resume at the end of the emergency, except with respect to sections 19 and 20 of the Act respecting the Centre d’acquisitions gouvernementales introduced by section 1 of the Act mainly to establish the Centre d’acquisitions gouvernementales and Infrastructures technologiques Québec, and sections 8 and 9 of the Act respecting Infrastructures technologiques Québec introduced by section 2 of the Act mainly to establish the Centre d’acquisitions gouvernementales and Infrastructures technologiques Québec, as regards the appointment of the president and chief executive officer;

WHEREAS the object of the suspension is to ensure the continuity of health and social services network procurement and to prevent the risks of disruption of the health and social services offered to the population;

WHEREAS the coming into force on 1 September 2020 of the provisions covered by the suspension of the time limit, in view of the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, ensures the continuity of health and social services network procurement and prevents the risks of disruption of the health and social services offered to the population;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of Health and Social Services:

THAT the provisions of the Act mainly to establish the Centre d’acquisitions gouvernementales and Infrastructures technologiques Québec (2020, chapter 2), the coming into force of which was suspended by Order in Council 496-2020 dated 29 April 2020, come into force on 1 September 2020;

THAT that Order in Council be amended accordingly.