WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (the “Tribe”) is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe with a duly-enacted Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council (the “Tribal Council”), the governing body of the Tribe, deems it essential, and is empowered, under Article VI, § 2.A. of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Constitution to promote and protect the health and general welfare of the members of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Article VI, § 2.C of the Constitution empowers the Tribal Council to establish procedures for the conduct of all Tribal government business operations; and

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe recognizes the importance of being well prepared for any emergency which may face the Tribe and for partnering with other tribal, local, county, state, and federal entities when circumstances require a coordinated response; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes the threat that the disease caused by the 2019 novel Coronavirus is a contagious, and at times fatal, respiratory disease;

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization designated the 2019 novel Coronavirus outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, United States Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the entire United States to aid the nation’s healthcare community in responding to the 2019 novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”);

WHEREAS, as of March 10th, 2020, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), there are more than 114,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide, and over 4,000 of those cases have resulted in death;

WHEREAS, as of March 10, 2020, according to the CDC, there are more than 1,600 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States, and 41 of those cases have resulted in death;
WHEREAS, as of March 13th, 2020 the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) confirmed the first positive case of the Coronavirus COVID-19 in Barnstable County

WHEREAS as of March 13th, 2020, there are 123 presumed positive cases of COVID-19 in the Commonwealth;

WHEREAS, both travel-related cases and community contact transmission of COVID-19 have been detected in the Commonwealth and such transmission is expected to continue;

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout the United States and the Commonwealth significantly affect the life and health of our people, as well as the economy, and is a disaster that impacts the health, security, and safety of the public;

WHEREAS, on March, 13th 2020, President Trump declared a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”). This increases federal support to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in its role as the lead federal agency for the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response;

WHEREAS, it is critical to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of the people of the Tribe;

WHEREAS: declaring a state of emergency will facilitate and expedite the use of Federal resources and deployment of federal and interstate resources to protect persons from the impacts of the spread of COVID-19;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Council hereby approves the issue of this proclamation that there now exists in the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe a STATE OF EMERGENCY.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Tribal Council desires to authorize the Chairman of the Tribal Council, Vice Chairwoman and Emergency Management Director to take all necessary action to ensure the implementation of the STATE OF EMERGENCY; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Chairman of the Tribal Council, or his designee, is hereby authorized to take all necessary action to ensure this proclamation of a STATE OF EMERGENCY is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until notice is given, pursuant to the judgment of the Chairman of the Tribal Council, or his designee, that the STATE OF EMERGENCY no longer exists.

All resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are repealed. This resolution is effective immediately and shall continue in effect during the entire Grant period from the date below pursuant to the authority vested in the Tribal Council pursuant to Article VI, §§ 2.A. and D of the Constitution of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.
CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned Chairperson and Secretary of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of 13 members of whom 11, constituting a quorum, considered and approved by consensus the foregoing Resolution on the 16th day of March, 2020, and that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the affirmative vote of 8 members, with 0 opposing, and with 3 not voting. This Resolution to be duly ratified at the next called, noticed and convened Tribal Council Meeting.

DATED this 16th day of March, 2020.

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Cedric Cromwell, Chairman
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

ATTEST:

Ann Marie Askew, Secretary
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council