

## COVID-19: Wednesday, 4-8 Update

In an effort to help you stay informed on the federal, state, and local developments regarding COVID-19, CFCFA will be sending updates summarizing the highlights of responses from levels of government. **Please feel free to send this update to colleagues, employees, or anyone you wish to keep up to date on these pressing matters.**



**Tax & Business Impact of the CARES Act**

**April 9, 2020 | 10:30am**

presented by the experts at  
**Moss Adams LLP**

You can now apply for CARES Act Loans to help your business during these turbulent times. We know you have questions about how you can apply and make sure you have the critical funding to help you get through this crisis. Join us Thursday, while our partners at Moss Adams teach you everything you need to know to get started, and answer your most pressing questions!

[Register Here](#)

### **Governor Newsom Issues Executive Order to Protect Consumers from Price Gouging**

Governor Gavin Newsom today signed an executive order expanding consumer protection against price gouging as California continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The order generally prohibits sellers of any kind from increasing prices on food, consumer goods, medical or emergency supplies, and certain other items by more than 10 percent. The order also gives additional tools to the California Department of Justice and Attorney General's Office, among others, to take action against price gougers.

A copy of the Governor's executive order can be found [here](#), and the text of the order can be found [here](#).

## **CFCA Continues to Advocate for its Members Amid COVID-19 Crisis**

While the legislature may be temporarily shut down during this pandemic, CFCA continues to advocate on behalf of its membership. Over these past weeks, CFCA has been hard at work, joining with several considerable coalitions to fight more outrageous bills emerging in Sacramento. Two are particularly of note this week.

The first is a employment tax, which would institute a progressive tax per employee for all employers with 50 or more employees. [A copy of our coalition letter condemning that proposed bill can be found here.](#)

The second is a a 10 percent value-added tax to finance a universal basic income program in California. This proposed tax would exist on top of already existing sales, excise, and other applicable taxes. [Our coalition letter opposing this proposal can be found here.](#)

## **Expanding Local Shelter-In-Place Orders**

This week, so far nine counties and municipalities issued new and revised "shelter in place" orders that extended the prior "shelter in place" orders and implemented additional and severe restrictions on businesses and non-essential personal activities.

The following nine counties and the City of Berkeley issued new and expanded "shelter in place" orders:

- San Francisco County (order available [here](#))
- San Mateo County (order available [here](#))
- Alameda County (order available [here](#))
- Contra Costa County (order available [here](#))
- Santa Clara County (order available [here](#))
- Marin County (order available [here](#))
- City of Berkeley (order available [here](#))
- Sonoma County (order available [here](#))
- Napa County (order available [here](#))
- Sacramento County (order available [here](#))

These orders extend the time parameters of the shelter in place orders and place further limits on the activities allowed by residents, as well as mandating some new business practices, as seen in the bay. For a more complete look at these requirements, please reference [Monday's COVID-19 Update here](#).

CFCA HIGHLY RECOMMENDS you review the shelter in place orders for your local jurisdiction and ensure you remain in compliance. Many counties are enacting orders daily and there have been differences in their requirements, so it is vital to review the counties in which you reside and do business.

## **CDC Updates Face Mask Guidance**

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) on April 3 issued an [updated recommendation](#) regarding the use of face masks to help slow the spread of COVID-19. The agency now says Americans should use simple cloth face coverings as a voluntary public health measure in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, such as grocery stores, convenience stores and pharmacies, etc.

You should consider providing employees with all safety and precautionary protection that you can including gloves, and face coverings. Our preferred vendor at Cintas can help provide materials as supplies are available. Especially in California, mask supplies continue to run low. Some localities are updating requirements for essential business employee safety, so once

again, please remembers to regularly review your local shelter in place requirements.

## **Critical Infrastructure Employee Letter Template**

In an effort to prevent any employees from encountering any issues with law enforcement while attempting to perform regular job functions, CFCA has prepared a letter template for employers to use indicating their employees are exempt from local stay-at-home orders and other travel restrictions. This letter indicates your employees as working on behalf of a 'Critical Infrastructure Sector'. CFCA recommends you put the letter on your company letterhead and modify the entry fields accordingly. If you would like the template Word document, please email James Allison at [james@cfca.energy](mailto:james@cfca.energy).

[Learn More](#)

## **Show that Your Business is 'Essential'**

CFCA has produced the attached images for you to display in your business, indicating your status as 'Essential' during the statewide COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place.

The first is a notice you can display, explicitly defining your business as 'essential' as defined by Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20.

The second is a badge you can display, proudly indicating to your customers, that you are an essential business during this time of crisis.

CFCA recommends you print the badge as a 4"x4" image on a 6"x6" sticker, or 6"x6" image on an 8"x8" sticker, but no larger, otherwise, it will cause distortion.

For the notice, it is formatted for a standard 8.5"x11" sheet of paper.

If your printer requires the original .png file for the badge, please contact James Allison at [james@cfca.energy](mailto:james@cfca.energy).

[Click Here to Download the Notice](#)

[Click Here to Download the Badge](#)

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