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June 5, 2020

Dear Governor Murphy,

Re: Providing Guidance on Pools and Water Activities for Camps

As New Jersey begins to slowly reopen its doors for business, many families across the Garden State will need to rely on summer camps to care for their children as parents return to work. While the business community is appreciative that camps will be able to open this year, a major concern has been raised by camp operators throughout the state.

Executive Order No. 149 fails to address concerns about the full scope of camp operations, some of which are currently prohibited; specifically public recreational bathing facilities. These include pools, and water activities that are synonymous with summer camp program operations. We understand that the pending guidance will not allow these activities. Pools provide relief from the heat and the absence of this activity is a health and safety concern for campers.

Authorizing camps to open without their pools is an impossibility. Specific safeguards camps already have in place to adhere to anticipated guidance from the Department of Health include:

- Controlled pool environments with scheduled swim times for specific camper groups with staff ratios.
- Staff supervision of campers, as per youth camp regulations and anticipated guidance.

Camps are unable to plan on opening and scheduling their programming that includes pool and water activities without a guarantee now that they can fully operate. These businesses also require pools to open immediately as they are used the entire month of June for staff training and Red Cross certifications for lifeguards. Other northeast states that have already authorized the reopening of camps have authorized pools and water activities. New York's guidance is not yet out, but it is expected to include pools, as well.

As the July 6<sup>th</sup> start date for camps looms, the business community is urging the state of New Jersey for an immediate clarification in the Department of Health's camp guidance, or an amendment to Executive Order No. 149 to specifically authorize "pools, water activities and other traditional activities associated with a summer camp program to be permitted." Until then, these businesses are unable to move forward with hiring staff, background checks, training, programming changes, bus schedules & accommodations, parent information, and other items that are critical to the operations of these establishments.

We must re-emphasize that without these activities, most of our camps will remain closed, and consequently, New Jersey businesses will face challenges bringing employees back to work when businesses reopen.

Respectfully,

African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey, Inc.  
American Camp Association NY/NJ  
American Council of Engineering Companies of New Jersey  
American Physical Therapy Association of New Jersey  
Bernards Township Regional Chamber of Commerce  
BioNJ  
Burlington County Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Cape May County Chamber of Commerce  
Capital Region Minority Chamber of Commerce  
Chamber of Commerce of Greater Philadelphia  
Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey  
Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey  
CrossState Credit Union Association  
Early Childhood Education Advocates  
Eastern Monmouth County Chamber of Commerce  
Employers Association of NJ  
Fuel Merchants Association of NJ  
Garden State Pharmacy Owners, Inc.  
Global Business Alliance  
Gloucester County Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Toms River Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce  
HealthCare Institute of New Jersey  
Hoboken Chamber of Commerce  
Home Care & Hospice Association of New Jersey  
Home Health Services Association of New Jersey  
Hudson County Chamber of Commerce  
Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce  
Insurance Council of New Jersey  
International Health, Racquet and Sportsclub Association  
Mahwah Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Marine Trades Association of New Jersey  
Meadowlands Chamber  
Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Monmouth-Ocean Development Council  
Morris County Chamber of Commerce  
NAIOP - NJ  
National Federation of Independent Business  
New Jersey Asphalt Pavement Association  
New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies

New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons  
New Jersey Builders Association  
New Jersey Business & Industry Association  
New Jersey Campground Owners and Outdoor Lodging Association  
New Jersey Chamber of Commerce  
New Jersey Child Care Association  
New Jersey Civil Justice Institute  
New Jersey Coalition of Automotive Retailers  
New Jersey Concrete and Aggregate Association  
New Jersey Dental Association  
New Jersey Gasoline-Convenience-Automotive Association  
New Jersey Hotel and Lodging Industry Association  
New Jersey Independent Electrical Contractors Association  
New Jersey LGBT Chamber of Commerce  
New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program, Inc.  
New Jersey Motor Truck Association  
New Jersey Pharmacists Association  
New Jersey Podiatric Medical Society  
New Jersey Restaurant & Hospitality Association  
New Jersey Retail Merchants Association  
New Jersey Salon and Spa Coalition  
New Jersey Self Insurers Association  
New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants  
New Jersey State Funeral Directors Association  
New Jersey Tech Council  
New Jersey Tourism Industry Association  
New Jersey Utilities Association  
New Jersey State Veterans Chamber of Commerce  
New Jersey Warehousemen & Movers Association  
New York Shipping Association, Inc.  
Newark Regional Business Partnership  
North Jersey Jewish Business Alliance  
Ocean City Chamber of Commerce  
Princeton Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Recreational Fishing Alliance  
Somerset County Business Partnership  
Southern Ocean County Chamber of Commerce  
Sussex County Chamber of Commerce  
The United Boatmen of N.J  
Union Township Chamber of Commerce

Cc: New Jersey Legislature