To: Constituents and Members of the Public

From: Dr. April L. Osborn, Executive Director

Date: June 6, 2017

RE: GOVERNOR DOUG A. DUCEY’S EXECUTIVE ORDER 2017-02

Arizona Governor Doug A. Ducey issued Executive Order 2017-02 relating to “Internal Review of Administrative Rules; Moratorium to Promote Job Creation and Customer Service-Oriented Agencies.”

The Order specifically states, “All directors of state agencies subject to this Order shall engage their respective regulated or stakeholder communities to solicit comment on which rules the regulated community believes to be overly burdensome and not necessary to protect consumers, public health or public safety.”

To comply with the Governor’s Executive Order and in the spirit of encompassing the Governor’s desire to promote job creation and customer service-oriented agencies, the Commission is encouraging all constituents and members of the public to carefully review the current rules and provide feedback on the rules that may be “overly burdensome, antiquated, contradictory, redundant, and nonessential regulations”.

A copy of the Governor’s Executive Order 2017-02 follows. A copy of the rules related to the Commission’s statutory duties is on the Commission’s website www.highered.az.gov.

We welcome your feedback. Any comments can be sent to Michelle Sarumova at msarumova@azhighered.gov.
Internal Review of Administrative Rules; Moratorium to Promote Job Creation and Customer-Service-Oriented Agencies

WHEREAS, burdensome regulations inhibit job growth and economic development;

WHEREAS, job creators and entrepreneurs are especially hurt by red tape and regulations;

WHEREAS, all government agencies of the State of Arizona should promote customer-service-oriented principles for the people that it serves;

WHEREAS, each State agency should undertake a critical and comprehensive review of its administrative rules and take action to reduce the regulatory burden, administrative delay, and legal uncertainty associated with government regulation;

WHEREAS, overly burdensome, antiquated, contradictory, redundant, and nonessential regulations should be repealed;

WHEREAS, Article 5, Section 4 of the Arizona Constitution and Title 41, Chapter 1, Article 1 of the Arizona Revised Statutes vests the executive power of the State of Arizona in the Governor;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Arizona hereby declare the following:

1. A State agency subject to this Order, shall not conduct any rulemaking except as permitted by this Order.

2. A State agency subject to this Order, shall not conduct any rulemaking, whether informal or formal, without the prior written approval of the Office of the Governor. In seeking approval, a State agency shall address one or more of the following as justification for the rulemaking:

   a. To fulfill an objective related to job creation, economic development, or economic expansion in this State.
   b. To reduce or ameliorate a regulatory burden while achieving the same regulatory objective.
   c. To prevent a significant threat to the public health, peace or safety.
   d. To avoid violating a court order or federal law that would result in sanctions by a court of the federal government against an agency for failure to conduct the rulemaking action.
   e. To comply with a federal statutory or regulatory requirement if such compliance is related to a condition for the receipt of federal funds or participation in any federal program.
   f. To comply with a state statutory requirement.
   g. To fulfill an obligation related to fees or any other action necessary to implement the State budget that is certified by the Governor’s Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting.
h. To promulgate a rule or other item that is exempt from Title 41, Chapter 6, Arizona Revised Statutes, pursuant to section 41-1005, Arizona Revised Statutes.

i. To address matters pertaining to the control, mitigation, or eradication of waste, fraud, or abuse within an agency or wasteful, fraudulent, or abusive activities perpetrated against an agency.

j. To eliminate rules that are antiquated, redundant or otherwise no longer necessary for the operation of state government.

3. All directors of state agencies subject to this Order shall engage their respective regulated or stakeholder communities to solicit comment on which rules the regulated community believes to be overly burdensome and not necessary to protect consumers, public health, or public safety. Each agency shall submit a report regarding the aforementioned information to the Governor’s Office no later than September 1, 2017.

4. For the purposes of this Order, the term “State agencies,” includes without limitation, all executive departments, agencies, offices, and all state boards and commissions, except for: (a) any State agency that is headed by a single elected State official, (b) the Corporation Commission and (c) any board or commission established by ballot measure during or after the November 1998 general election. Those State agencies, boards and commissions excluded from this Order are strongly encouraged to voluntarily comply with this Order in the context of their own rulemaking processes.

5. This Order does not confer any legal rights upon any persons and shall not be used as a basis for legal challenges to rules, approvals, permits, licenses or other actions or to any inaction of a State agency. For the purposes of this Order, “person,” “rule,” and “rulemaking” have the same meanings prescribed in Arizona Revised Statutes Section 41-1001.

6. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2017.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

[Signature]

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Eleventh day of January in the Year Two Thousand Seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-First.

ATTEST: [Signature]

Secretary of State