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COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

DECLARATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code section 101080 authorizes a local health officer to declare a local health emergency in the health officer's jurisdiction, or any part thereof, whenever the health officer reasonably determines that there is an imminent and proximate threat of the introduction of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease, chemical agent, non-communicable biologic agent, toxin, or radioactive agent;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is seeing significant rises in respiratory illnesses across the nation, and issued a warning of a potentially severe flu season;

WHEREAS, Orange County is experiencing a high level of Respiratory Syncytial Virus and other respiratory illnesses requiring hospitalization of children exceeding the capacity and infrastructure of our designated children's hospitals;

WHEREAS, local levels of respiratory illnesses that are resulting in increased hospitalizations are expected to continue to increase for both children and adults with the onset of colder temperatures and upcoming holiday gatherings;

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, there is a continued threat of circulating Respiratory Syncytial Virus, Influenza and COVID-19 in the County of Orange and a threat to the public health of the County residents;

THEREFORE, the County Health Officer hereby declares a public health emergency.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Regina Chinsio-Kwong DO', is written over a horizontal line.

Regina Chinsio-Kwong, DO
Chief Medical Officer, County Health Officer

A handwritten date '10/31/2022' in blue ink is written over a horizontal line.

Date