

Proposed Legislative Objectives for inclusion in MMLA's submission for legislation addressing local government's authority and responses to the COVID-19 virus.

- -

During the period that the Emergency Declaration issued on March 12, 2020, as may be amended, supplemented or replaced with a further Emergency Declaration is in effect:

- a. Any requirement of a statute, ordinance, bylaw, rule, or regulation that a hearing commence within a specific period of time after the filing of any application or request for regulatory approval of a permit, license, or other approval issued by a local or regional permit granting or approval authority is hereby suspended.
- b. No permit, license, or other approval be considered granted or approved, constructive or otherwise, due to a failure of the permit granting or approval authority to act within the time required by any such statute, ordinance, bylaw, rule, or regulation, so long as the permit granting or approval authority acts within 30 days of the expiration or rescission of the declaration of emergency issued on March 12, 2020.
- c. Notwithstanding the time periods by which a permit, license or approval is to be heard and/or acted upon, any local or regional permit granting or approval authority, may, by a declaration of its chair, schedule or reschedule on one or more occasions the hearing(s) and/or decision deadlines on said permit or license.
- d. Nothing in this section shall affect the ability of a local or regional permit granting or approval authority to revoke or modify a specific permit, license, or approval or extension of a specific permit or approval under this section, when that specific permit, license, or approval or the law or regulation under which the permit or approval was issued contains language authorizing the modification or revocation of the permit or approval.
- e. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary and without limiting the foregoing, this order **[or act if legislation]** shall apply to all local boards and commissions' conduct of public hearings or otherwise acting in a quasi-judicial capacity.