



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCE

---

March 17, 2020

**TO THE ENTIRE TEXTILE INDUSTRY**

On March 15, 2020, the Governor of Puerto Rico issued Administrative Bulletin No. OE-2020-023, establishing measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Puerto Rico (the "Executive Order"), including, among other measures, the implementation of a curfew applicable to all citizens, starting at 9:00pm on Sunday, March 15, 2020, which will be in force until March 30, 2020, in accordance with the rules established in said Executive Order.

Additionally, all government operations were ordered to cease, except for those related to essential services. All businesses in Puerto Rico were also ordered to shutdown operations at 6:00pm on March 15, 2020 until March 30, 2020, with exception of those dedicated to retail food sale by means of drive-thru, carry-out or delivery, including prepared or wholesale food, pharmaceutical drugs or medical equipment, pharmacies, supermarkets, gas stations, banking or financial institutions, elderly care centers, or those related to the distribution chains of food, medicine, medical items or fuel.

Although it was initially believed that every contractor of the United States Department of Defense (DoD) would be exempt from complying with the Executive Order, at this time the health of the people of Puerto Rico is a priority. Therefore, every textile company, without exception, must close operations immediately in order to comply with the Executive Order.

We recognize the economic impact that this unprecedented situation will have in Puerto Rico. Our commitment is to be able to provide you with the necessary assistance to restore operations after overcoming this new challenge. We will continue to keep you informed of the latest developments and recommendations.

If you have any questions, email us at [emergencias@ddec.pr.gov](mailto:emergencias@ddec.pr.gov). Likewise, if you believe your business should be exempt for reasons of health and national security, please email us a document explaining the relevant circumstances.

We express our willingness to serve as a liaison with other government agencies. We are at your service for any additional requests you may have. Our best wishes to all of you and your loved ones.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Laboy Rivera".

Hon. Manuel A. J. Laboy Rivera  
Secretary