Important of the Initiative

On April 22, 2020, the General Assembly approved my executive amendments to House Bill 881 and Senate Bill 971 establishing a one-year period of taxation for skill games as defined by that legislation. In the furtherance of this action, additional steps are necessary to ensure the safety and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

My administration will continue to monitor implementation of this legislation and will take additional steps as necessary to ensure responsible implementation in a manner consistent with the intent of the General Assembly.

Directive to the Virginia Alcohol Beverage Authority

Therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor under Article V of the Constitution of Virginia, I direct the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority (ABC) to do all things necessary and prudent for carrying out the provisions of Chapter 1217 and Chapter 1277 of the 2020 Acts of the General Assembly, including the promulgation of emergency regulations.

In crafting these regulations, ABC shall:

1. Establish a minimum age for the play of skill games as defined by Chapter 1217 and Chapter 1277 of the 2020 Acts of the General Assembly;

2. Establish a statewide maximum number of skill games and a maximum number of skill games per truck stop and per ABC retail licensee, respectively, as defined by Chapter 1217 and Chapter 1277 of the 2020 Acts of the General Assembly;

In order to provide a full opportunity for public engagement during the development of these regulations, ABC shall maximize opportunities for public engagement, comment, and public review of draft proposed and final regulations.

**Effective Date of this Executive Directive**

This authority granted to ABC by this Executive Directive shall be effective upon its signing and shall remain in full force and effect until 11:59 p.m. on June 30, 2021.

Given under my hand and under the Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia, this 18th day of May, 2020.

Ralph S. Northam, Governor

Attest:

Kelly Thomasson, Secretary of the Commonwealth