On Wednesday, March 18, 2020, New York State Governor Cuomo announced Executive Order 202.6 which directs the closure of all non-essential retail businesses to the public, with exceptions.

Hardware and building material stores have been deemed essential and are excluded from this directive. Executive Order 202.8 clarified that our wholesalers and distributors are also classified as essential. The specific language from 202.8 states:

"an entity providing essential services or functions whether to an essential business or a non-essential business shall not be subjected to the in-person work restriction, but may operate at the level necessary to provide such service or function."

Businesses and entities that provide essential services must implement rules that help facilitate social distancing of at least six feet. For Guidance on cleaning and disinfection of facilities, refer to the New York State Department of Health Interim Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection of Public and Private Facilities for COVID-19 by clicking the button at the bottom of this message.

This Order takes effect on Sunday, March 22, 2020, at 8:00 p.m., and will remain in effect until at least April 19, 2020 or until modified by the Governor.

Thank you again to everyone that participated in our action alert last week. Without your grassroots advocacy, we might not have obtained the essential services status. I'd also like to thank all of our New York State and Local Boards and the NRLA staff for their cooperation and proactive steps during this process.

Click on the buttons below to read the Governor’s executive order 202.6 on essential services or executive order 202.8 that clarified essential service status for our wholesalers and distributors. If you have any questions, please let me know. Stay safe and be healthy.

Best,

Kirk W. Ives
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