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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 17, 2020

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**North Carolina to Close Restaurants and Bars for Dine-In Customers, Allow
Takeout and Delivery Operations to Continue**

*Forthcoming executive order will also expand unemployment insurance benefits for
workers affected by COVID-19*

Governor Roy Cooper and members of the Coronavirus Task Force are holding a media briefing today at 2 pm. At that briefing, Governor Cooper will announce a new executive order in response to COVID-19 that closes restaurants and bars for dine-in customers but allows them to continue takeout and delivery orders. The executive order will also include an expansion of unemployment insurance to help North Carolina workers affected by COVID-19.

The order is expected to be effective by 6 pm today, Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

More information about the order and other updates on North Carolina's response to COVID-19 will be available at today's media briefing. The briefing is at 2 pm at Joint Force Headquarters, 1636 Gold Star Dr, Raleigh, NC 27607. View live stream here: <https://www.ncdps.gov/storm-update>