

Decree 316/2022, of 20-7-2022, extending the Government's power to establish restrictive or exceptional measures to protect public health during the pandemic situation caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.

Government

Other provisions

Decree 316/2022, of July 20, 2022

Decree 316/2022, of 20-7-2022, extending the Government's power to establish restrictive or exceptional measures to protect public health during the pandemic situation caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.

## Statement of reasons

Law 31/2021, of November 22, of consolidated text qualified as public security and the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, establish that the Government, for reasons of public health, may restrict certain behaviors and activities of the people for this purpose and as long as it is strictly proportionate.

Likewise, the Law also provides that the Government, for the same reasons, can adopt preventive and protective measures, which must always be proportional to the objectives sought.

The timeline on the extension of the Government's power to establish restrictive or exceptional measures to protect public health during the pandemic situation caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus has been as follows:

- 1. On March 24, 2021, and at the proposal of the Ministers of Health and Justice and Interior, in a Government session, it was approved to formally request the General Council for the first extension of the two (2) month period. The General Council, in the session of April 8, 2021 (Official Bulletin of the General Council of April 9, 2021), extended the Government's power to establish the restrictions and measures provided for in articles 4 of Law 30 /2018, of December 6, classified as public security and 59 of the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, with the purpose of protecting public health, for a new period of two (2) months.
- 2. On May 14, 2021, and at the proposal of the Ministers of Health and Justice and Interior, in a Government session, it was approved to formally request the General Council for the second extension, in this case for a period of one (1) month. The General Council, in its session of June 10, 2021 (Official Bulletin of the General Council of June 11, 2021), extended, for the second time, the Government's power to establish the restrictions and measures provided for in the articles 4 of Law 30/2018, of December 6, qualified as public security and 59 of the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, with the purpose of protecting public health, for a new period of one (1) month.

- 3. On June 23, 2021, and again at the proposal of the Ministers of Health and Justice and Interior, in a Government session, it was approved to formally request the General Council for a new extension, in this case for a period of two (2) months. The General Council, in its session of July 8, 2021, once again extended the Government's power to establish the restrictions and measures provided for in articles 4 of Law 30/2018, of December 6, classified as public security and 59 of the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, with the purpose of protecting public health, for a new period of two (2) months, and, on the basis of this approval, the Government, in the session of July 14, 2021, approved the new extension until September 14, 2021.
- 4. On August 18, 2021, and again at the proposal of the Ministers of Health and Justice and Interior, in a Government session, it was approved to formally request the General Council for a new extension, in this case for a period of two (2) months. The General Council, in its session of August 25, 2021, once again extended the Government's power to establish the restrictions and measures provided for in articles 4 of Law 30/2018, of December 6, classified as public security and 59 of the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, with the purpose of protecting public health, for a new period of two (2) months, and, on the basis of this approval, the Government, in session of September 15, 2021, approved the new extension until November 15, 2021.
- 5. On October 12, 2021, and again at the proposal of the Ministers of Health and Justice and Interior, in a Government session, it was approved to formally request the General Council for a new extension, in this case for a period of two (2) months. The General Council, in the session of November 11, 2021, once again extended the Government's power to establish the restrictions and measures provided for in articles 4 of Law 30/2018, of December 6, classified as public security and 59 of the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, with the purpose of protecting public health, for a new period of two (2) months, and, on the basis of this approval, the Government, in extraordinary session of November 12, 2021, approved the new extension until January 12, 2022.
- 6. On December 1, 2021, and again at the proposal of the Ministers of Health and Justice and Interior, in a Government session, it was approved to formally request the General Council for a new extension, in this case for a period of two (2) months. The General Council, in the session of December 16, 2021, once again extended the Government's power to establish the restrictions and measures provided for in articles 4 of Law 30/2018, of December 6, qualified as public security and 59 of the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, with the purpose of protecting public health, for a new period of two (2) months, and, on the basis of this approval, the Government, in session of on January 5, 2022, it approved the new extension until March 12, 2022 by virtue of Decree 6/2022, of January 5, 2022.
- 7. On February 21, 2022, and again at the proposal of the Ministers of Health and Justice and Interior, in a Government session, it was approved to formally request the General Council for the new extension, in this case for a period of two (2) months. The General Council, in the session of March 10, 2022, once again extended the Government's power to establish the restrictions and measures provided for in articles 4 of Law 31/2021, of November 22, consolidated text classified as security public and 59 of the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, with the purpose of protecting public health, for a new period of two

- (2) months, and, on the basis of this approval, the Government, in the session of March 11, 2022, approved the new extension until May 11, 2022 by virtue of Decree 90/2022, of March 11, 2022.
- 8. Finally, on April 11, 2022, and again at the proposal of the Ministers of Health and Justice and Interior, in a Government session, it was approved to formally request the General Council for the new extension, in this case for a period of two (2) months. The General Council, in its session of April 21, 2022, once again extended the Government's power to establish the restrictions and measures provided for in articles 4 of Law 31/2021, of November 22, consolidated text qualified as public security and 59 of the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, in order to protect public health, for a new period of two (2) months, and, on the basis of this approval, the Government , in the session of May 11, 2022, approved the new extension until July 11, 2022 by virtue of Decree 194/2022, of May 11, 2022.

Although the health and epidemiological situation is evolving favorably, in the coming months it is necessary to continue to have mechanisms in place to introduce preventive measures to minimize the transmission of the virus in the event of the appearance of new variants that may produce a more serious disease or that may escape of immunity produced by vaccines.

The faculty, however, to establish preventive and protective measures within the framework of exceptional circumstances such as those generated by the health crisis caused by SARS-CoV-2, once the legally established deadlines have expired, requires the favorable agreement of the General Council.

In the session of the General Council on June 30, 2022, it was agreed, in response to the request requested by the Executive on June 15, 2022, to approve the extension of the Government's power to establish restrictions and measures provided for in article 4 of Law 31/2021, of November 22, of consolidated text qualified as public security and in article 59 of the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, for a new period of two (2) months.

This faculty, without prejudice to the established measures, enables subsequent modifications that may be determined during the extension period, which is expected to be, at the most, up to an additional month.

For everything that has been presented, at the proposal of the Ministers of Health and Justice and Interior, the Government, in the session of July 20, 2022, approves this Decree with the following content:

Single item. Extension of the Government's power to establish restrictive or exceptional measures to protect public health during the pandemic situation caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus

- 1. The Government's power to establish the restrictions and measures provided for in articles 4 of Law 31/2021, of November 22, consolidated text qualified as public security and 59, is extended until September 11, 2022 of the General Health Law of March 20, 1989, with the aim of protecting public health.
- 2. The measures that are in force continue to be applied, which may be revised depending on the evolution of the epidemiological situation.

Final provision

This Decree enters into force on the same day it is published in the Official Gazette of the Principality of Andorra.

Which is made public for general knowledge.

Andorra la Vella, July 20, 2022

Xavier Espot Zamora

Head of Government