

State of Louisiana



Executive Department

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 116 JBE 2016

STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

- WHEREAS,** pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721 *et seq.*, the Governor declared a state of emergency in Proclamation No. 111 JBE 2016, which is currently in effect;
- WHEREAS,** during this emergency, some areas of the state received tremendous amounts of rainfall, causing rivers to rise rapidly and significant localized flooding;
- WHEREAS,** tens of thousands of homes and businesses were inundated within hours, with more than a half-dozen river gauges registering record highs, in some cases by as much as six feet;
- WHEREAS,** this flooding is a public health threat to citizens and communities across southern Louisiana and creates conditions which place lives and property in the State of Louisiana in jeopardy;
- WHEREAS,** in homes and businesses that are flooded or otherwise affected by the floodwaters, mold can begin to grow within forty-eight hours from when flooding first occurs;
- WHEREAS,** exposure to mold can lead to both immediate and potentially long term health issues, and there is a need to remove mold before a home can be re-inhabited; and
- WHEREAS,** Louisiana Revised Statute 29:766 authorizes a declaration of a state of public health emergency if the conditions found in La. R.S. 29:762 have occurred or the threat thereof is imminent.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, and more specifically La. R.S. 29:724, and the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, La. R.S. 29:760 *et seq.*, and more specifically, La. R.S. 29:766, a state of public health emergency is hereby declared for the following parishes affected by the historic flooding: Acadia, Ascension, Assumption, Avoyelles, Cameron, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Evangeline, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Vermilion, Washington, West Baton Rouge and West Feliciana.

SECTION 2: This state of emergency extends from Monday, August 22, 2016 through Saturday, September 10, 2016, unless terminated sooner.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 22nd day of August, 2016.





GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY
THE GOVERNOR**



SECRETARY OF STATE