



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 26-066

***RENEWAL OF STATE OF EMERGENCY
LICENSED BED CAPACITY FOR NURSING FACILITIES***

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, a state of emergency was declared through Executive Order No. JML 26-055 on June 18, 2026, and JML 26-055 has been renewed and amended by JML 26-057, and JML 26-062;

WHEREAS, Tropical Storm Arthur brought widespread rainfall and severe storms across Louisiana on June 17 and 18, 2026;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has already confirmed three tornadoes during that period, and estimates that the parishes of Avoyelles and Pointe Coupee experienced record or near-record rainfalls in a twelve-hour span;

WHEREAS, many parishes have declared states of emergency and executed their emergency operations plans in order to protect drivers, control floodwaters, conduct search and rescue operations, shelter citizens, and conduct other emergency protective measures;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service reports that many rivers, including the Tchefuncte and Tangipahoa, are already at minor or major flood stage and will likely rise over the next two days, worsening the existing flood conditions; and

WHEREAS, this storm and its damage continue to pose a threat to citizens and communities across the impacted parishes and creates conditions which place lives and property in the State in jeopardy;

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana desires to promote and protect the health, safety, and well-being of all Louisiana residents, and specifically those residents in nursing facilities;

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana desires to promote and protect the health, safety, and well-being of evacuees from Tropical Storm Arthur and the associated flooding and specifically those evacuees needing nursing facility services;

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana desires to ensure the protection of such residents and evacuees in nursing facilities in times of declared emergencies;

WHEREAS, R.S. 40:2116.1(B)(1) prohibits the Department of Health from approving additional beds in nursing facilities;

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana desires that residents and evacuees in nursing facilities be able to temporarily evacuate to safe sheltering locations during an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana, recognizing the potential significance of Tropical Storm Arthur, and the potential for flooding, desires to minimize the impact of the tropical storm on the residents of nursing facilities;

WHEREAS, R.S. 29:724 authorizes the governor during a declared state of emergency to suspend the provisions of any state regulatory statute prescribing procedures for conducting state business, or the orders, rules or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provision of any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency;

NOW THEREFORE I, JEFF LANDRY, Governor of the state of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the state of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

Section 1: The provisions of La. R.S. 40:2116.1(B)(1) are hereby suspended for the purpose of allowing the Secretary of the Department of Health and the Louisiana Surgeon General, at their discretion, to establish such protocols, policies, and procedures as to allow a licensed nursing facility which accepts or receives evacuated residents to temporarily exceed its licensed bed capacity in the event of a declared emergency.

Section 2: The Secretary of the Department of Health and/or the Louisiana Surgeon General may establish such protocols, policies, and procedures without strict compliance with the requirements and provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Section 3: This Order is effective upon signature and shall be applicable from Friday, July 17, 2026, Thursday, August 6, 2026, unless amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded earlier by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 17th day of July, 2026.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jeff Landry", written over a horizontal line.

JEFF LANDRY
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Nancy Landry", written over a horizontal line.

Nancy Landry
SECRETARY OF STATE