



**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 17-22**

***EMERGENCY TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSURE
REQUIREMENTS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS
AND MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS AND PERSONNEL LICENSED
OUT-OF-STATE***

- 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 for the entire state through Proclamation Number 104 JBE 2017 due to the effects of Tropical Storm Harvey;
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, R.S. 29:760, *et seq.*, a state of public health emergency was declared to exist in the entire State of Louisiana by Proclamation Number 105 JBE 2017;
- WHEREAS,** Tropical Storm Harvey has caused significant flooding that is currently straining and is expected to continue straining medical infrastructure throughout the state;
- WHEREAS,** such flooding poses a threat to citizens and communities across Louisiana and creates conditions which place lives and property in a state of jeopardy;
- WHEREAS,** many citizens have suffered or will suffer injury and/or illness;
- WHEREAS,** there is a need to immediately supplement the number of licensed Emergency Medical Technicians, including the designations of Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced EMT, Paramedic, EMT-Basic (EMT-B), EMT-Intermediate (EMT-I), and EMT-Paramedic (EMT-P), currently available to the State to respond to this emergency in order to serve those who might be affected by it;
- WHEREAS,** Emergency Medical Technicians, including the designations of Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced EMT, Paramedic, EMT-Basis (EMT-B), EMT-Intermediate (EMT-I), and EMT-Paramedic (EMT-P), licensed in states other than Louisiana are available to provide medical aid and assistance to those persons affected by this emergency;
- WHEREAS,** the number of medical professionals and personnel currently available to the State to respond to this emergency are insufficient and there is a need to immediately supplement their number in order to serve those affected by this disaster;
- WHEREAS,** Louisiana Revised Statute 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;

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Department of Health and the State Health Officer have requested that the Louisiana state statutes, laws, rules, and regulations related to licensing of Emergency Medical Technicians, including designations of Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced EMT, Paramedic, EMT-Basic (EMT-B), EMT-Intermediate (EMT-I), and EMT-Paramedic (EMT-P), medical professionals and personnel be temporarily suspended for those such persons duly licensed to practice in other states who wish to provide their services in Louisiana to those persons needing medical services as a result of this emergency; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statute 29:766 authorizes the Governor, during a declared state of public health emergency, to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing procedures for the conducting of state business, or the orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provisions 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, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, 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 Louisiana state licensure laws, rules, and regulations regarding the licensure of Emergency Medical Technicians, including designations of Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced EMT, Paramedic, EMT-Basic (EMT-B), EMT-Intermediate (EMT-I), and EMT-Paramedic (EMT-P) are hereby temporarily suspended for Emergency Medical Technicians duly licensed to practice in other states who wish to provide their services to those persons needing services as a result of or in connection with this declared emergency. An individual currently licensed and in good standing as an Emergency Medical Technician, including designations of Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced EMT, Paramedic, EMT-Basic (EMT-B), EMT-Intermediate (EMT-I), and EMT-Paramedic (EMT-P), in another state may practice in Louisiana, subject to the following conditions, qualifications, and parameters:

- A. The individual must be duly licensed and in good standing in another state.
- B. The individual must practice in good faith and within the scope of practice limitations set forth in La. R.S. 29:788.
- C. The individual must cease practicing in Louisiana upon the termination or rescission of this Order or of the declared state of emergency cited herein, or any extension thereof.

SECTION 2: The Louisiana state licensure laws, rules, and regulations for medical professionals and personnel are hereby suspended for those medical professionals and personnel from other states or other countries offering medical services in Louisiana to those needing medical services as a result of or in connection with this disaster, provided that said out-of-state or out-of-country medical professionals and personnel possess a current medical license in good standing in their respective state or country of licensure, practice in good faith and within the scope of practice limitations set forth in La. R.S. 29:788, and cease practicing in Louisiana upon the termination or rescission of this Order or of the declared states of emergency cited herein, or any extensions thereof.

SECTION 3: All out-of-state Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced EMT, Paramedic, EMT-Basic (EMT-B), EMT-Intermediate (EMT-I), EMT-Paramedic (EMT-P), and all out-of-state or out-of-country medical professionals and personnel offering services in the state of Louisiana by authority of this Order shall submit to the State Health Officer, or his designee at the Office of Public Health within the Louisiana Department of Health, a copy of their respective license and photo identification. Such persons shall contact the Office of Public Health, Louisiana Volunteers in Action (LAVA) program

(<https://www.lava.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.php>) at 225-354-3569, 225-354-3573 or dhhvol@la.gov.

SECTION 4: This Order is effective upon signature and shall apply retroactively from August 24, 2017, until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded 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, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 31st day of August, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John Bel Edwards", is written over a horizontal line.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY
THE GOVERNOR**

A handwritten signature in blue ink is written over a horizontal line.

SECRETARY OF STATE