



FILED FOR RECORD
HOPKINS COUNTY, TEXAS

2020 MAR 23 P 3:23

TRACY SMITH
COUNTY CLERK

DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, beginning in December, 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated as COVID-19, was detected in mainland China, and has since spread through the world; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic on March 11th, 2020; and

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout Hopkins County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF HOPKINS COUNTY, TEXAS:


1. That a state of disaster is declared for Hopkins County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418 of the Texas Government Code.
2. That the County's Emergency Management Plan has been implemented.
3. Pursuant to Section 418 of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of the local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
4. Pursuant to the Texas Government Code, the Hopkins County Commissioners' Court, Office of Emergency Management, and Local Health Authority strongly urges compliance with the following:

The Court adopts all measures of the March 19, 2020 Executive order of Governor Greg Abbott as attached hereto.

5. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately and continue until 11:59 P.M. on April 3, 2020, subject to extension thereafter based on recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

ORDERED this 23rd day of March, 2020.


Robert Newsom, Hopkins County Judge

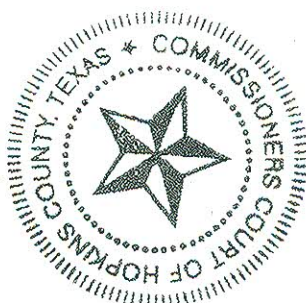

Mickey Barker, Commissioner, Pct. 1


Greg Anglin, Commissioner, Pct. 2


Wade Bartley, Commissioner, Pct. 3


Joe Price, Commissioner, Pct. 4


ATTEST: Tracy Smith, County Clerk

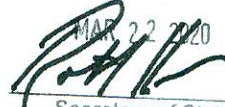




GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

March 22, 2020

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
4:30 PM O'CLOCK

MAR 22 2020

Secretary of State

The Honorable Ruth R. Hughs
Secretary of State
State Capitol Room 1E.8
Austin, Texas 78701

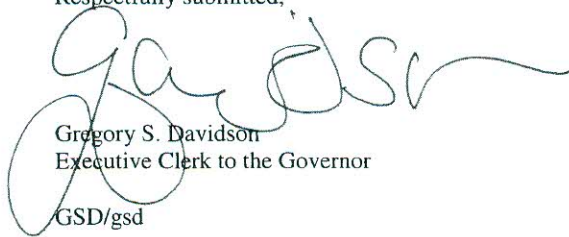
Dear Secretary Hughs:

Pursuant to his powers as Governor of the State of Texas, Greg Abbott has issued the following:

Executive Order No. GA-09 relating to hospital capacity during the COVID-19 disaster.

The original executive order is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,


Gregory S. Davidson
Executive Clerk to the Governor
GSD/gsd

Attachment

Executive Order

BY THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department
Austin, Texas
March 22, 2020

EXECUTIVE ORDER
GA 09

Relating to hospital capacity during the COVID-19 disaster.

WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of State Health Services has determined that, as of March 19, 2020, COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, I issued an executive order in accordance with the President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America, as promulgated by President Donald J. Trump and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and mandated certain obligations for Texans that are aimed at slowing the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, a shortage of hospital capacity or personal protective equipment would hinder efforts to cope with the COVID-19 disaster; and

WHEREAS, hospital capacity and personal protective equipment are being depleted by surgeries and procedures that are not medically necessary to correct a serious medical condition or to preserve the life of a patient, contrary to recommendations from the President's Coronavirus Task Force, the CDC, the U.S. Surgeon General, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and

WHEREAS, various hospital licensing requirements would stand in the way of implementing increased occupancy in the event of surge needs for hospital capacity due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the "governor is responsible for meeting . . . the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters" under Section 418.011 of the Texas Government Code, and the legislature has given the governor broad authority to fulfill that responsibility; and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.012, the "governor may issue executive orders . . . hav[ing] the force and effect of law;" and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.016(a), the "governor may suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of a state agency if strict compliance with the provisions, orders, or rules would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster;" and

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SECRETARY OF STATE
4:39 pm O'CLOCK

MAR 22 2020

WHEREAS, under Section 418.173, failure to comply with any executive order issued during the COVID-19 disaster is an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, or both fine and confinement.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, do hereby order that, beginning now and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on April 21, 2020, all licensed health care professionals and all licensed health care facilities shall postpone all surgeries and procedures that are not immediately medically necessary to correct a serious medical condition of, or to preserve the life of, a patient who without immediate performance of the surgery or procedure would be at risk for serious adverse medical consequences or death, as determined by the patient's physician;

PROVIDED, however, that this prohibition shall not apply to any procedure that, if performed in accordance with the commonly accepted standard of clinical practice, would not deplete the hospital capacity or the personal protective equipment needed to cope with the COVID-19 disaster.

At the request of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, I hereby suspend the following provisions to the extent necessary to implement increased occupancy in the event of surge needs for hospital capacity due to COVID-19:

25 TAC Sec. 133.162(d)(4)(A)(iii)(I);
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(f)(1)(A)(i)(II)-(III);
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(f)(1)(B)(i)(III)-(IV);
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(m)(1)(B)(ii);
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(t)(1)(B)(iii)-(iv);
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(t)(1)(C);
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(t)(5)(B)-(C); and
any other pertinent regulations or statutes, upon written approval of the Office of the Governor.

This executive order shall remain in effect and in full force until 11:59 p.m. on April 21, 2020, unless it is modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by me or by a succeeding governor.



Given under my hand this the 22nd day of
March, 2020.

Handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in black ink.

GREG ABBOTT
Governor

ATTESTED BY:

Handwritten signature of Ruth R. Hughes in black ink.

RUTH R. HUGHES
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
4:33 Pm O'CLOCK

MAR 22 2020