

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS on March 1, 2023, and March 8, 2023, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in 34 counties, cumulatively, as a result of a series of ongoing winter storms that initially struck California beginning in late February and continue to significantly impact the proclaimed counties, as well as additional new counties across California; and

WHEREAS on March 9, 2023, I requested a Presidential Emergency Declaration, which was issued forthwith, for direct federal assistance to make federal resources available to meet the State's critical emergency protection requirements; and

WHEREAS in response to these storms, multiple swift water rescue task forces, aviation search and rescue, high water vehicles, evacuation equipment, fire engines, and hand crews have been strategically prepositioned and deployed for emergency response; sandbags have been distributed; and shelters have been opened for displaced individuals; and

WHEREAS these storms continue to damage and force the closure of federal and state highways and roads, and have also damaged and continue to threaten critical infrastructure, levees, homes, and buildings; and

WHEREAS the closure or evacuation of health and other care facilities will increase pressure on those facilities that continue to provide much needed care; and

WHEREAS it is forecasted that storms related to the ongoing atmospheric river systems threaten California, bringing heavy precipitation, tornado warnings, new record flood peaks, downed trees, and widespread power outages; and

WHEREAS due to the sustained force and longevity of these storms, there are multiple cumulative and compounding effects which have already strained local and state resources; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist due to these storms; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by these storms, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8625, I find that local authority is inadequate to cope with the magnitude of the damage caused by these storms; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of these storms.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code section 8625, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist in Calaveras, Del Norte, Glenn, Kings, San Benito, and San Joaquin counties.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All operative provisions contained in my March 1, 2023, and March 8, 2023, State of Emergency proclamations are hereby incorporated and applicable, as appropriate, to Calaveras, Del Norte, Glenn, Kings, San Benito, and San Joaquin counties as a result of the storms identified in this and the previous Proclamation.
2. Health and Safety Code sections 103525.5 and 103625, and Penal Code section 14251, requiring the imposition of fees are hereby suspended with regard to any request for copies of certificates of birth, death, marriage, and dissolution of marriage records, by any individual who lost such records as a result of the storms and in the counties identified in this proclamation and my proclamations on March 1, 2023, and March 8, 2023. Such copies shall be provided without charge.
3. In order to ensure hospitals, clinics, and other health facilities remain open, the Director of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) may waive any of the licensing requirements of chapters 1, 2, 8, and 8.5 of division 2 of the Health and Safety Code and accompanying regulations with respect to any hospital, clinic, other health facility, home health agency, or hospice agency identified in Health and Safety Code sections 1200, 1250, 1727, or 1746 that is impacted by these storms. Any waiver shall include alternative measures that, under the circumstances, will allow the facilities to remain open while protecting public health and safety. Any health facilities or agencies being granted a waiver shall be established and operated in accordance with their disaster and mass casualty plan or emergency preparedness plan. Any waivers granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be posted on the CDPH website and shall be in effect only so long as necessary to address the direct impacts of the storms, and in the counties, identified in this proclamation and my proclamations on March 1, 2023, and March 8, 2023.
4. In order to directly respond to the needs of impacted adult and senior care facilities, child care facilities, children's residential facilities, resource family homes, home care organizations and other similar care facilities and care providers within the State Department of Social Services' (CDSS) jurisdiction, the Director of CDSS may waive any provisions of the Family Code, Health and Safety Code or Welfare and Institutions Code, and accompanying regulations or written directives, with respect to the use, licensing, certification, registration or approval of care providers, facilities or homes within CDSS jurisdiction set forth in the California Community Care Facilities Act (Health and Safety Code section 1500 et seq.), Child Care Provider Registration (Health and Safety Code section 1596.60 et seq.), the California Child Day Care Facilities Act (Health and Safety Code section 1596.70 et seq.),

Residential Care Facilities for Persons With Chronic Life-Threatening Illness (Health and Safety Code section 1568.01 et seq.), the California Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly Act (Health and Safety Code section 1569 et seq.), Continuing Care Contracts (Health and Safety Code section 1770 et seq.), the Home Care Services Consumer Protection Act (Health and Safety Code section 1796.10 et seq.), and the Resource Family Approval Program (Welfare and Institutions Code section 16519.5 et seq.). Any waivers granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be posted on the CDSS website and shall be in effect only so long as necessary to address the direct impacts of the storms, and in the counties, identified in this proclamation and my proclamations on March 1, 2023, and March 8, 2023.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Proclamation.

This Proclamation is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 12th day of March 2023.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, Ph.D.
Secretary of State