

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, the Governor of the State of Mississippi, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Mississippi and MCA Section 33-15-11(b)(17) (1972, as amended), declared a State of Emergency to exist in the State of Mississippi with respect to the worldwide outbreak of the novel coronavirus, identified as COVID-19; and

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to MCA Section 33-15-17(d), and such other authority vested in me, and in furtherance of the declaration of the Governor of the State of Mississippi which is attached hereto, and for the reasons set forth therein, and finding that the risk of spread of COVID-19 constitutes a public emergency in the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi, I Gene F. McGee, Mayor of the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi do hereby declare a local emergency as defined in MCA Section 33-15-5(g) to exist in the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi, and accordingly I direct that Ridgeland's Comprehensive Emergency Plan be implemented as applicable and that, subject to an order from the Governor, the power and authority derived from MCA Section 33-15-17(c) be implemented as necessary.

FURTHER, all provisions provided by Miss. Code. Ann. § 33-15-1 et seq. should be available to the Mayor and the City to ensure the protection of the life, safety, and health of the residents of the City of Ridgeland.

AND FURTHER, in accordance with MCA Section 33-15-17(d), the governing body of the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi shall review and approve or disapprove the need for continuing the local emergency at its first regular meeting following such proclamation or at a special meeting legally called for such review. Thereafter, the governing body of the City of Ridgeland shall review the need for continuing the local emergency at least every thirty (30) days until such local emergency is terminated, and shall proclaim the termination of such location emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

During the local emergency, the governing body of the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi may promulgate orders and regulations necessary to provide for the protection of life and property, including orders and regulations imposing a curfew within the designated boundaries where necessary to preserve the public order and safety. Such orders and regulations and amendments and rescissions thereof shall be in writing and shall be given widespread notice and publicity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

  
Gene F. McGee, MAYOR

Attest:

  
Paula Tierce, City Clerk



# STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1458

**WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2020, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Mississippi and Miss. Code Ann. § 33-15-11(b)(17), I issued a Proclamation declaring that a State of Emergency exists in the State of Mississippi as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 beginning on January 27, 2020, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic, and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a nationwide state of emergency due to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout the United States and Mississippi significantly impact the life and health of our people, as well as the economy of Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, the risk of spread of COVID-19 within Mississippi constitutes a public emergency that may result in substantial injury or harm to life, health, and property within Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the Mississippi State Department of Health confirmed the first presumptive case of COVID-19 in Mississippi and as of March 16, 2020, there are 12 presumptive and confirmed cases in Mississippi that have tested positive for COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance for responding to COVID-19 suggests avoiding crowds as much as possible, especially for older adults and individuals with serious chronic medical conditions, and the Mississippi State Department of Health has recommended avoiding large gatherings of more than 250 people; and

**WHEREAS**, Mississippi state agencies and governmental entities as well as school districts that have temporarily closed or are operating on limited staffing in response to COVID-19 in order to minimize the interaction and risk of possible transmission of COVID-19 between employees within governmental offices and between governmental employees and members of the public will need flexibility to meet continuity of essential operations and to address the economic impact on employees who may be asked not to report to work if their duties are not deemed essential during any period of time during the State of Emergency; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby order and direct as follows:

1. That due to the State of Emergency all State agencies, boards, commissions, Mississippi school districts, and other state entities are directed to promptly review and identify which employees perform essential duties to carry out the entity's core functions during the State of Emergency and those employees whose duties are not deemed essential during any period of time during the State of Emergency. And where feasible, as determined by the entity, if core functions and duties could be performed by essential employees from home in order to minimize the interaction and risk of possible transmission of COVID-19 between employees.
2. That during the remainder of the school year school districts immediately begin working with the Mississippi Department of Education to develop and implement distance learning or other instructional means to achieve completion of essential grade-level instruction for the 2019-2020 school year.

3. That with appropriate social distancing school districts shall, where feasible, maintain sufficient staffing for preparation and transportation in order to continue to provide free and reduced meals to eligible students within their respective districts.
4. That due to the State of Emergency and pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 25-3-92(2)(b), agencies, boards, commissions, and other state entities may grant their employees administrative leave with pay for any one or more of the following reasons as determined by the appointing authority:
  - a. The period(s) of time that the employee's employer has closed in response to COVID-19.
  - b. The period(s) of time that the employee's supervisor has determined the employee's duties are deemed non-essential during any period of time during the State of Emergency.
  - c. The period(s) of time that the employee or a member of their immediate household is placed in quarantine or isolation as a result of being diagnosed with COVID-19.
  - d. Other reasons as determined by the appointing authority in consultation with a health care professional that are necessary to prevent the risk of possible transmission of COVID-19 within the employee's workplace.
5. That all departments, commissions, agencies, institutions, and boards of the State of Mississippi or any political subdivisions thereof are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions and measures taken in response to COVID-19 during the State of Emergency.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 16th day of March, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fourth.

  
TATE REEVES  
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR



MICHAEL WATSON  
SECRETARY OF STATE