

COUNTY OF ORANGE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
PROCLAMATION OF A LCOAL EMERGENCY  
AND  
REQUEST TO THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO PROCLAIM A  
STATE OF EMERGENCY AND TAKE OTHER SPECIFIED ACTIONS

WHEREAS, in accordance with Government Code Section 8630, a local emergency may be proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange or by an official so designated by ordinance adopted by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS Section 3-1-6(a) of the Codified Ordinances of the County of Orange provides that the Director of Emergency Services shall request the Board of Supervisors to proclaim a local emergency when the Board of Supervisors is in session and the Chair of the Emergency Council is to so proclaim a local emergency when the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is not currently in session, and the Director of Emergency Services has requested that the Chair of the Emergency Management Council proclaim a local emergency; and

WHEREAS the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is seeing significant rises in respiratory illnesses across the nation, and issued a warning of a potentially severe flu season; and

WHEREAS Orange County is experiencing a high level of Respiratory Syncytial Virus and other respiratory illnesses requiring hospitalization of children exceeding the capacity and infrastructure of our designated children's hospitals; and

WHEREAS local levels of respiratory illnesses that are resulting in increased hospitalizations are expected to continue to increase for both children and adults with the onset of colder temperatures and upcoming holiday gatherings; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, there is a continued threat of circulating Respiratory

Syncytial Virus, Influenza and COVID-19 in Orange County and a threat to the public health of the County residents; and

WHEREAS, Orange County has a population of over 3 million residents, is a major tourist destination, has a high-volume airport within its jurisdiction and is a significant destination for business travel all resulting in high volumes of foreign and domestic travelers traveling into and out of the County, which has the potential to result in significant spreading of Respiratory Syncytial Virus and other respiratory illnesses; and

WHEREAS, the Health Officer of the County of Orange has determined that the County is preparing for an imminent and proximate threat to public health due to the Respiratory Syncytial Virus and other respiratory illnesses; and

WHEREAS communities within the geographic boundaries of the County of Orange have and will continue to prepare and, as necessary, take significant response actions to any developing contagion and to any other risks that may arise from introduction and possible spread of the Respiratory Syncytial Virus and other respiratory illnesses; and

WHEREAS the above-described events are creating conditions of extreme peril and such conditions are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the County, requiring the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat;

IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency exists within the geographic areas of Orange County;

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that as of this date all County departments and agencies take those actions, measures and steps deemed necessary to assure the safety and welfare of Orange County residents and property; including requesting mutual aid to the extent such aid is necessary and utilizing EOC Cal Cards and any other available funding stream to acquire resources determined by the DES or an authorized emergency purchaser as necessary to respond to this declared emergency.

ACCORDINGLY, THE CHAIR OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
HEREBY REQUESTS that the Governor declare a State of Emergency and suspend all  
applicable laws and regulations that limit hospitals and other health facilities located within the  
territorial limits of the County of Orange to respond to all Respiratory Syncytial Virus and other  
respiratory illnesses, make all relevant funds available to the County of Orange and all eligible  
community members and businesses, including not limited to, California Disaster Assistance Act  
funds and State Private Nonprofit Organizations Assistance Program funds, and request that the  
President of the United States make a Presidential Declaration of Emergency in and for the  
County of Orange and make all relevant funds available to the County of Orange and all eligible  
community members and businesses, including, but not limited to, aid provided by the Small  
Business Administration.

Date: October 31, 2022

Signed: Doug Chaffee

Doug Chaffee, Chair of the Emergency  
Management Council, County of Orange