

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 20-23 (Emergency Management – Extension of Executive Order 18-276)

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2018, Hurricane Michael made landfall near Mexico Beach, Florida, as a Category 5 Hurricane, ranking by pressure as the third-most intense Atlantic hurricane to ever make landfall in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the impact of Hurricane Michael is felt throughout Northwest Florida; and

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2018, Executive Order 18-276 declared a state of emergency for twenty-six counties throughout Northwest Florida due to the forecasted strength and projected path of Hurricane Michael; and

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2018, Executive Order 18-277 declared a state of emergency in nine additional counties; and

WHEREAS, I, as Governor of the State of Florida, have traveled to Northwest Florida multiple times to observe the continued impact of Hurricane Michael; and

WHEREAS, I, as Governor of the State of Florida, am committed to providing every available resource for our residents, businesses and communities in Northwest Florida to recover and rebuild; and

WHEREAS, no state of emergency declared pursuant to the Florida Emergency Management Act may continue for more than 60 days unless renewed by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, the following counties are still recovering from catastrophic storm surge, flooding, and damage caused by Hurricane Michael: Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Okaloosa, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington; and

WHEREAS, the effects of Hurricane Michael pose a continuing threat to the health, safety and welfare of the State of Florida and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Florida Constitution and by the Florida Emergency Management Act, as amended, and all other applicable laws, promulgate the following Executive Order, to take immediate effect:

Section 1. The state of emergency declared in Executive Order 18-276, amended by Executive Order 18-277, and extended by Executive Order 18-360, 19-33, 19-98, 19-134, 19-176, 19-207, and 19-261 will be extended for 60 days following the issuance of this order.

Section 2. All actions taken by the Director of the Division of Emergency Management as the State Coordinating Officer with respect to this emergency before the issuance of this Executive Order are ratified, and he is directed to continue to execute the State's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and other response, recovery and mitigation plans necessary to cope with the emergency.

Section 3. Except as amended herein, Executive Orders 18-276, 18-277, 18-360, 19-33, 19-98, 19-134, 19-176, 19-207, 19-261 and 19-262 are ratified and reaffirmed.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 24th day of January, 2020.


RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


SECRETARY OF STATE

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA