

Executive Order No. 2017-27

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2017, I issued Executive Order No. 2017-23, ordering a mandatory medical evacuation, effective 2:00 p.m., September 7, 2017, of healthcare facilities in stated zones within several counties; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2017, I issued Executive Order No. 2017-24, rescinding the mandatory medical evacuation, effective 2:00 p.m., September 8, 2017, for the counties of Charleston, Dorchester, Berkeley, Georgetown, and Horry; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 2017-24 did not rescind the mandatory medical evacuation of healthcare facilities in Beaufort County (all Zones), Colleton County (Zones A, B), and Jasper County (Zones A, B) as set forth in Executive Order No. 2017-23, and these counties initiated processes to facilitate evacuation prior to Hurricane Irma's impact or requested an exemption to shelter in place pursuant to the Department of Health and Environmental Control's (Department) Critical Data Sheet (CDS); and

WHEREAS, the foregoing decisions were made due to the force of Hurricane Irma and the imminent threat to the safety, security, and welfare of the residents and patients of coastal healthcare facilities and deemed necessary for the preservation of life or other emergency mitigation, response, or recovery; and

WHEREAS, it has been made known to me by the Department that the effects of Hurricane Irma and the conditions throughout the counties of Beaufort, Colleton, and Jasper no longer pose an imminent threat to the life, health, safety, or welfare of patients and residents of these healthcare facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of South Carolina and pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of this State and the powers conferred upon me therein, I hereby rescind the mandatory medical evacuation order for the counties of Beaufort, Colleton, and Jasper, effective 9:15 a.m., September 12, 2017.

FURTHER, nothing in this Order prohibits local officials from restricting access to areas of danger to ensure the welfare and safety of healthcare facility patients, residents, and visitors during the recovery period.

FURTHER, all healthcare facilities in the counties of Beaufort, Colleton, and Jasper should still monitor the weather and exercise due caution to ensure that safe conditions continue to exist for residents, patients, and visitors.

This Order is effective immediately. Further proclamations and directives deemed necessary to ensure the fullest protection of life and property during this State of Emergency shall be issued orally by me and thereafter reduced to writing within the succeeding 24-hour period.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH
CAROLINA, THIS 12th DAY OF
SEPTEMBER, 2017.**

**HENRY MCMASTER
Governor**