



MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF HEALTH PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, by Proclamation dated March 14, 2020, issued by Tate Reeves, Governor of the state of Mississippi, a state of emergency was declared pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. Section 33-15-11, in order to address the outbreak of the novel coronavirus, identified as COVID-19, in the state of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Proclamation has invoked the emergency powers of the Governor pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. Section 33-15-11(c)(1) to temporarily suspend or modify any rule or regulation of a state agency which would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi State Department of Health, as an agency of the state of Mississippi wishes to comply with the Governor's proclamation and take those steps necessary to protect the public health of everyone in the state of Mississippi during this time of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that in order to receive medical care, many patients are required to travel long distances both in-state and out-of-state to see their healthcare providers; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi State Board of Health recognizes that some of the regulations which it is empowered to adopt, promulgate and enforce may need to be waived or amended during this emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that enforcement of some of the Mississippi State Department of Health Regulations may result in unnecessary hardship or difficulties during the state of emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, until action is taken by the Governor of the state of Mississippi to lift the declared state of emergency, the Mississippi State Board of Health empowers the State Health Officer to waive or amend any regulation previously adopted by the Mississippi State Board of Health when, in his judgment, it is necessary to protect and promote the health and safety of persons in the state of Mississippi.

FURTHER, the State Health Officer, upon the documentation of the need for the waiver or amendment may, in writing, waive or amend any rule or regulation promulgated by the Mississippi State Board of Health. Any such waiver or amendment shall be promptly communicated to the Board of Health via email and presented to it at the next regular meeting following such waiver or amendment.

FURTHER, except as specifically waived or amended by the State Health Officer as stated herein, all other regulations shall remain in full force and effect.

SO ORDERED AND APPROVED by the Mississippi State Board of Health, this is the 20th day of March 2020.


Tad Barham, MD, FACR, Chairman
Mississippi State Board of Health