



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR**

Executive Order 2017-03

An order suspending licensing requirements for United States Department of Veterans Affairs physicians due to flooding at the Manchester, NH Veterans Affairs Medical Center

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (the "USDVA") employs numerous physicians at its Manchester, NH Veterans Affairs Medical Center located at 718 Smyth Rd, Manchester, NH (the "Manchester VAMC"); and

WHEREAS, certain physicians and physician assistants employed at the Manchester VAMC hold licenses from states or countries other than New Hampshire, but are permitted by the USDVA to practice at the Manchester VAMC; and

WHEREAS, the Manchester VAMC is currently experiencing extensive flooding that has necessitated the relocation of VAMC patients and medical services to other licensed medical facilities within the state of New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire licensing requirements for nurses do not apply to nurses employed by a federal agency, but no similar exemption exists for physicians and physician assistants; and

WHEREAS, many New Hampshire licensed medical facilities have policies in place to allow for emergency credentialing of physicians and other medical personnel; and

WHEREAS, under New Hampshire RSA 329:21, VIII, licensing requirements for physicians do not apply to cases of emergency; and

WHEREAS, I find that the Manchester VAMC is in a state of emergency due to extensive flooding, and that cases involving relocated Manchester VAMC patients constitute cases of emergency under New Hampshire RSA 329:21, VIII;

NOW, THEREFORE I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, by the authority vested in me by Part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order, effective immediately, that:

1. New Hampshire state licensure laws, rules and regulations for physicians and physician assistants are hereby suspended for those physicians and physician assistants from other states or countries who are employed by the USDVA and who, due to the emergency situation stemming from extensive flooding at the Manchester VAMC, are offering medical services to patients of the Manchester VAMC at licensed medical facilities outside of the Manchester VAMC, provided that said physicians and physician assistants are acting within the scope of their employment at the VAMC and possess a current medical license in good standing in their respective state or country of licensure.
2. The Acting Director of the Manchester VAMC shall submit to the Executive Director of the New Hampshire Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, or designee, a list of all out-of-state or out-of-country physicians and physician assistants offering services in the state of New Hampshire by authority of this order.
3. Nothing in this order shall be construed to preempt or supplant an individual licensed medical facility's policies regarding the emergency credentialing of physicians, physician assistants, or any other medical personnel.
4. This order shall remain in effect for a period of 240 days.

Given under my hand and seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord, this 14th day of August, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and seventeen, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty-one.


GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE