FILED
INDEX DEPARTMENT

AUG 3 0 2022

IN THE OFFICE OF
SECRETARY OF STATE

Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation

WHEREAS, monkeypox is a rare, but potentially serious viral illness, caused by the monkeypox virus, which begins with flu-like symptoms and swelling of the lymph nodes, and progresses to a range of medical complications, including rash on the face and body; and,

WHEREAS, the monkeypox virus is transmitted to humans through close contact with an infected person or animal, or with material contaminated with the virus, such as through close contact with lesions, bodily fluids, respiratory droplets during prolonged face-to-face contact, and contaminated materials such as bedding, towels, or clothing; and,

WHEREAS, the virus can result in pain and severe complications, especially in immunocompromised persons; and,

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2022, the United States confirmed the first U.S. case of monkeypox in Massachusetts, and as of August 29, 2022, 17,432 confirmed cases have been identified throughout all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia; and,

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Public Health and Chicago Department of Public Health announced the first presumptive monkeypox case in Illinois on June 2, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2022, due to the threat of the monkeypox virus, I declared all counties in the State of Illinois as a disaster area; and,

WHEREAS, as of August 29, 2022, 1049 cases of confirmed or probable monkeypox virus have been identified in Illinois, and more cases are expected in the future; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois currently has the 6th highest number of cases in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the cases identified in Illinois are overwhelmingly in adult males; and,

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2022, the World Health Organization's Director-General declared that the global monkeypox outbreak represents a public health emergency of international concern; and,

WHEREAS, with cases of monkeypox being reported in 92 countries around the world, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is collaborating and consulting with other countries experiencing monkeypox; and,

WHEREAS, protecting the health and safety of Illinoisans is among the most important functions of State government; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois is responding to the public health disaster caused by the monkeypox virus through the testing of specimens at IDPH labs; coordination of the distribution and delivery of monkeypox vaccinations and treatment; collecting and analyzing data and sharing detailed information with local health departments, other states and the CDC on cases and exposed persons; providing guidance to healthcare professionals on diagnosis, testing, and treatment of persons with suspect monkeypox and creating public messaging on monkeypox virus so citizens can protect themselves and others from transmission with early identification, treatment, vaccination, and practicing preventative measures; and,

WHEREAS, the efforts of the State of Illinois are aimed at expanding vaccination availability for individuals at risk of infection and making testing more accessible for healthcare providers and patients across the State; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois needs to facilitate the expedient transportation of vaccines and available treatments to distribution sites around the state to provide treatment to those newly infected as quickly as possible along with reaching the most impacted populations; and,

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has sent 7,458 doses of the Jynneos monkeypox vaccine to the State of Illinois, and 20,849 to the City of Chicago, with more doses of vaccinations anticipated to be available in the near future; and,

WHEREAS, monkeypox vaccines are effective at reducing infection with the monkeypox virus both before and shortly after exposure; and,

WHEREAS, vaccination supplies are currently limited and the State must prioritize distribution of vaccine supplies to ensure that as many individuals are vaccinated as soon as possible with a first dose before individuals receive a second dose until additional supplies are available; and,

WHEREAS, despite these efforts to contain the spread of monkeypox, the virus continues to spread rapidly throughout Illinois, particularly in certain communities at high risk of transmission; and,

WHEREAS, the transmissibility of the monkeypox virus poses a serious threat of spreading within close quarter venues, such as congregate care settings, classrooms, dormitories, correctional facilities, group homes, homeless shelters, and long-term care facilities; and,

WHEREAS, institutions of higher education (IHE) can prepare by understanding the guidance on congregate settings and being sure their student health center is aware of the guidance for healthcare professionals; and,

WHEREAS, as circumstances surrounding the monkeypox virus outbreak continue to evolve, including changes in vaccine eligibility, vaccine administration techniques, and availability of supplies, the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency have already begun to focus significant resources on the response to the monkeypox virus; and,

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing facts, and considering the rapid spread of the monkeypox virus and the ongoing health impacts that will be felt by people across the State, the current circumstances in Illinois surrounding the spread of monkeypox constitute an epidemic emergency and a public health emergency under Section 4 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act (IEMA Act); and,

WHEREAS, the circumstances surrounding the monkeypox virus have resulted in occurrence or threat of widespread infection and potential loss of life under Section 4 of the IEMA Act; and,

WHEREAS, this proclamation will assist Illinois agencies in coordinating State and Federal resources, including materials needed to test for the monkeypox virus, and distribution and delivery of vaccination and treatment supplies, and increase staffing, to support the State response as well as the response of local governments to the present public health emergency; and,

WHEREAS, this proclamation will also assist Illinois agencies in coordinating State and Federal recovery funds; and,

WHEREAS, these conditions provide legal justification under Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act for the issuance of a proclamation of disaster on the basis of a public health emergency; and,

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution, in Article V, Section 8, provides that "the Governor shall have the supreme executive power, and shall be responsible for the faithful execution of the laws," and states, in the Preamble, that a central purpose of the Illinois Constitution is "provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the people";

NOW, THEREFORE, in the interest of aiding the people of Illinois and the local governments responsible for ensuring public health and safety, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, hereby proclaim as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7, I find that a disaster exists within the State of Illinois due to the public health emergency caused by the monkeypox virus and specifically declare all counties in the State of Illinois as a disaster area. The proclamation authorizes the exercise of all of the emergency powers provided in Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7, including but not limited to those specific emergency powers set forth below.

Section 2. The Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency are directed to coordinate with each other with respect to planning for and responding to the present public health emergency.

Section 3. The Illinois Department of Public Health is further directed to cooperate with the Governor, other State agencies and local authorities, including local public health authorities, in the development and implementation of strategies and plans to protect the public health by reducing and preventing the spread of the monkeypox virus in connection with the present public health emergency.

Section 4. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency is directed to implement the State Emergency Operations Plan to coordinate State resources to support local governments in disaster response and recovery operations.

Section 5. To aid with emergency purchases necessary for response and other emergency powers as authorized by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, the provisions of the Illinois Procurement Code that would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action to reduce and prevent the spread of the monkeypox virus and increase availability of vaccines and treatment are suspended to the extent they are not required by federal law. If necessary, and in accordance with Section 7(1) of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7(1), the Governor may take appropriate executive action to suspend additional statutes, orders, rules, and regulations.

Section 6. Pursuant to Section 7(3) of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7(3), this proclamation activates the Governor's authority, as necessary, to transfer the direction, personnel or functions of State departments and agencies or units thereof for the purpose of performing or facilitating emergency response programs.
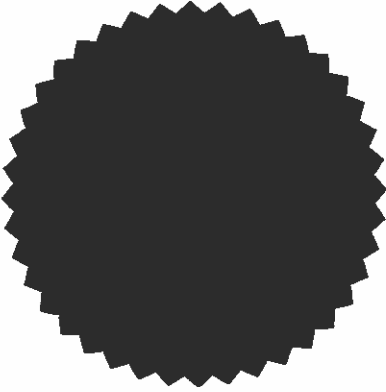
Section 7. This proclamation can facilitate requests for federal emergency and/or disaster assistance if necessary.

Section 8. This proclamation shall be effective immediately and remain in effect for 30 days.

𝕴𝖓 𝖂𝖎𝖙𝖓𝖊𝖘𝖘 𝖂𝖍𝖊𝖗𝖊𝖔𝖋, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield, this 30ᵗʰ day of August in the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and twenty-two and of the State of Illinois two hundred and four.

_____
SECRETARY OF STATE

_____
GOVERNOR