



**FILED**  
INDEX DEPARTMENT

OCT 28 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; 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 individuals who are immunocompromised; and,

**WHEREAS**, on May 17, 2022, the United States confirmed the first U.S. case of monkeypox in Massachusetts, and as of October 28, 2022, 28,087 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**, as of October 28, 2022, 1,369 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 6<sup>th</sup> highest number of cases in the United States; and,

**WHEREAS**, Illinois reported its first two deaths in October 2022 associated with monkeypox virus; 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**, 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**, on August 30, 2022, due to the continuing threat of the monkeypox virus, I declared all counties in the State of Illinois as a disaster area; and,

**WHEREAS**, on September 29, 2022, due to the continuing threat of the monkeypox virus, I declared all counties in the State of Illinois as a disaster area; and,

**WHEREAS**, on August 4<sup>th</sup>, the White House declared monkeypox a Public Health Emergency with a proclamation that extends through at least November 2, 2022; and,

**WHEREAS**, with cases of monkeypox being reported in 109 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 providing public education on the monkeypox virus so Illinois residents 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 also 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 15,298 doses of the Jynneos monkeypox vaccine to the State of Illinois and 1,500 doses to other Illinois providers with more doses of vaccinations anticipated to be available; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, vaccination supplies remain limited based on eligibility criteria 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**, there continues to be multiple complex cases (for example, cases involving youth and pregnant women; cases at colleges or universities with large numbers of exposures; cases involving travel from other States; and cases involving the reemergence of multiple symptoms following treatment with serious outcomes including hospitalization and death) which require increased IDPH and local health department resources to respond urgently; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of Illinois is committed to eradicating any inequity and increasing public education regarding access to vaccines, testing, and treatments within low-income and rural communities, and among racial and ethnic minorities; 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**, as circumstances surrounding the monkeypox virus outbreak continue to evolve, including changes in vaccine eligibility, vaccine administration techniques, and availability of supplies, IDPH and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency are continuing to focus significant resources on the response to the monkeypox virus, and these efforts must be sustained to prevent the monkeypox virus from rapidly spreading in Illinois; and,

**WHEREAS**, based on the foregoing facts, and considering the rapid spread of the monkeypox virus and the ongoing health impacts, 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 in distribution and delivery of vaccination and treatment supplies, and increasing staffing; 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.

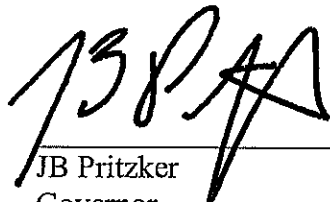
**Section 4.** The Illinois Emergency Management Agency is directed to implement the State Emergency Operations Plan to coordinate State resources to support local governments in disaster response and recovery operations.

**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.



JB Pritzker  
Governor

Date: October 28, 2022

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