

EXECUTIVE ORDER 20.4

**ASSIGNING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS RESPONSIBILITIES AND EMERGENCY FUNCTIONS TO THE STATE HEALTH OFFICER**

WHEREAS, a permanent condition of preparedness must be achieved by the State to deal with emergency situations of all kinds, including nuclear war; and

WHEREAS, the governments of the United States and of the State of Wisconsin have contracted to develop coordinated plans to this end; and

WHEREAS, the actions necessary to deal with these emergency situations are of direct concern to the departments of the State government; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance of the effectiveness of a condition of preparedness can best be accomplished through support by selected departments of the State government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WARREN P. KNOWLES, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and by the laws of the State of Wisconsin and in accord with the provisions of Chapter 22, Wisconsin Statutes, as enacted by the legislature in Chapter 528, laws of 1959, do hereby order and direct the assignment of certain emergency functions and responsibilities, over and above those previously assigned, to the State Health Officer.

**SECTION I. SCOPE**

The State Health Officer is hereby delegated the authority and responsibility for coordinating and directing all state government functions relating to health and water activities within the state during periods of national emergency provided for in the statutes cited above. Health activities include emergency public health and emergency medical care. Water activities include potable public water supplies and systems. The State Health Officer shall:

- A. Develop plans and procedures for the efficient and effective direction of all health and water activities and insure the proper allocation of all health and water resources in the state to meet the needs of civil defense, the armed forces, the supporting civil economy and the rest of the public.
- B. Develop and maintain a state of readiness in health and water activities within the state with respect to all degrees of national emergency including attack upon the United States.
- C. Be prepared to implement all plans developed under this order.
- D. Develop and maintain plans and an operational organization for and render all required administrative and logistical support to the State Health and Water Agency, provided for in Section 4, RM-2, State Plan for Emergency Management of Resources.

The State Health Officer shall develop long range programs designed to integrate the requirements for all health and water activities in the state in a national emergency. In doing so he shall:

- A. Review available federal guidance materials to assure understanding of and compatibility with national aims and especially with provisions of the National Plan for Emergency Preparedness.
- B. Establish liaison and working agreements with appropriate federal agencies.
- C. Assemble, analyze and evaluate data on health and water requirements to meet emergency needs of civil defense, military operations, the supporting civil economy and the rest of the public.
- D. Develop plans and procedures for the collection and analysis of requirements for health support and for public water system support in emergency periods.
- E. With due regard for plans developed by federal agencies assigned health and water responsibilities, be prepared to provide the administrative and logistical support required to perform the functions herein assigned and delegated.

### SECTION III. EMERGENCY FUNCTIONS

In the event of national emergency provided for by the Wisconsin statutes cited herein, the State Health Officer, making full use of the State Health and Water Agency, shall:

- A. Serve, at the pleasure of the Governor, as the Director of the State Health and Water Agency.
- B. Advise and assist the Governor in directing and coordinating health and water functions in the state in accord with the state plan for emergency management of resources.
- C. Develop policy and guidance for the health and water support agencies and industries in emergency operations with due regard to national aims in this field.
- D. Establish priorities for and make allocation of services and materials to support the essential health and water functions under jurisdiction of the state.
- E. Render all required administrative and logistical support to the State Health and Water Agency.

### SECTION IV. FUNCTIONAL GUIDANCE

The State Health Officer, in carrying out the functions outlined in this order shall be guided by the state of Wisconsin emergency plans. He shall:

- A. Ascertain requirements for all supporting resources required for carrying out the assigned responsibilities and take such actions as may be required and are within the laws of the state, to insure their availability in national emergencies.
- B. Develop such organization as may be required to perform the assigned functions, subject to the laws of the state.
- C. Provide for continuity of operation through developing lines of succession to key positions, through safeguarding of essential records, maintenance of alternate headquarters and through effective use of government resources, personnel and facilities.

**SECTION V. REDELEGATION**

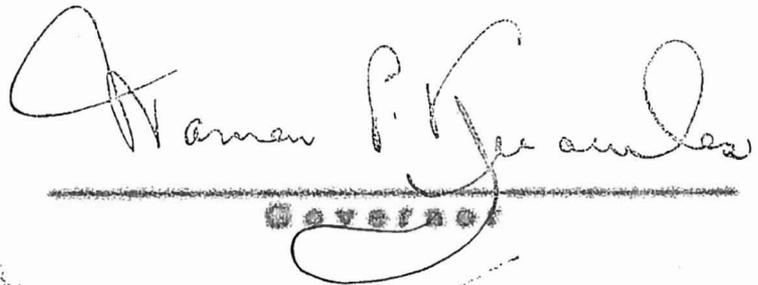
The State Health Officer is hereby authorized to redelegate the public water functions herein assigned to him, within his own department, subject to the approval of the Governor.

**SECTION VI. MEMBERSHIP ON THE RESOURCE PRIORITIES BOARD**

The Director of the State Health and Water Agency shall represent the health and water functions on the Resource Priorities Board provided for in Section 5, RM-2, State Plan for Emergency Management of Resources.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this first day of November, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-five.

By the Governor.

  
Governor

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Secretary of State