


State of Iowa
Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER FORTY-FOUR

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services has issued a national refugee policy and the United States Department of Health and Human Services has issued a declaration of public health emergency both of which concern how states are to respond to individuals displaced as a result of the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, Iowans this week join people across the nation in feeling an urgent need to reach out to those in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi whose lives have been turned upside down in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. A disaster of this magnitude erases state borders and calls on us all to act as a single community and do what we can to help;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas J. Vilsack, Governor of the State of Iowa, by the authority vested in me by the laws and the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and acting under the disaster emergency powers granted to me under Chapter 29C of the Iowa Code, do hereby order and direct as follows:

- I. The Iowa Department of Human Services shall comply with all directives of the federal government arising out of the declared federal public health emergency insofar as those directives concern public welfare programs administered by the Department of Human Services.
- II. Any person who evacuates from a Hurricane Katrina presidential declared disaster area, to the State of Iowa shall be deemed to be a resident of the State of Iowa for purposes of establishing eligibility for the food stamp, family investment and Medicaid programs, notwithstanding any law or rule to the contrary.
- III. The Department of Human Services shall process applications from persons described in the above paragraph in an expedited and flexible manner.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 2nd day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand five.



THOMAS J. VILSACK
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



Chester J. Culver
Secretary of State