

# STATE OF FLORIDA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 18-17

(Emergency Management – Extension of Executive Order 17-259)

**WHEREAS**, on September 18, 2017, Hurricane Maria became a Category 5 Hurricane upon its first landfall on Dominica; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 20, 2017, Hurricane Maria made landfall near Yabucoa, Puerto Rico as a Category 4 Hurricane; and

**WHEREAS**, the damage caused by Hurricane Maria is catastrophic, leaving millions of families without shelter, electricity or clean water; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 37,000 Puerto Ricans displaced by Hurricane Maria have visited the state's Multi-Agency Resource Center for assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 2, 2017, I issued Executive Order 17-259 declaring a state of emergency for every county in Florida due to the efforts required to assist the people of Puerto Rico; and

**WHEREAS**, I have issued a subsequent executive order extending the declaration of a state of emergency under the Florida Emergency Management Act, including Executive Order 17-304, which extended the state of emergency through January 27, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, no state of emergency declared pursuant to the Florida Emergency Management Act may continue for more than 60 days unless renewed by the Governor; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida remains committed to helping every family recover from this devastating storm; and

**WHEREAS**, the effects of Hurricane Maria pose a continuing threat to the health, safety and welfare of the State of Florida, its residents, and the families who evacuated from Puerto

Rico.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT**, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Florida Constitution and by the Florida Emergency Management Act, as amended, and all other applicable laws, promulgate the following Executive Order, to take immediate effect:

Section 1. The state of emergency declared in Executive Order 17-259 and extended by Executive Order 17-304 will be extended for 60 days following the issuance of this order.

Section 2. All actions taken by the Director of the Division of Emergency Management as the State Coordinating Officer with respect to this emergency before the issuance of this Executive Order are ratified, and he is directed to continue to execute the State's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and other response, recovery, and mitigation plans necessary to cope with the emergency.

Section 3. Except as amended herein, Executive Orders 17-259 and 17-304 are ratified and reaffirmed.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 25th day of January 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott", written over a horizontal line.

RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Ritzman", written over a horizontal line.

SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED  
2018 JAN 25 PM 1:36  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA