Executive Order 2014-08

The Governor's Council on Infectious Disease Preparedness and Response

WHEREAS, infectious diseases are responsible for more deaths worldwide than any other single cause; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona has a responsibility to safeguard and protect the health and well-being of its citizens from the spread of infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, federal, state, and local coordination on infectious disease planning and response is critical to reducing the risk of transmission; and

WHEREAS, public health and medical preparedness and response guidelines are crucial to protect the safety and welfare of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2014, the first case of Ebola diagnosed in the United States occurred in Dallas, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Department of Health Services is currently engaged in infectious disease preparedness, including surveillance for potential Ebola cases in Arizona; and

WHEREAS, the key to sucessfully controlling an infectious disease is early detection, early infection control measures, proper case management, surveillance, treatment, and, if necessary, isolation and quarantine.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janice K. Brewer, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and Laws of the State, do hereby order as follows:

1. The Arizona Council on Infectious Disease Preparedness and Response (Council) is established.

2. Membership of the Council shall include the following individuals appointed by the Governor:

    - Two representatives from the Arizona Department of Health Services;
    - Three representatives from healthcare systems that include a tertiary care hospital;
    - One representative from a general hospital in a county with less than 500,000 persons;
    - Two representatives from a County Health Department with more than 950,000 persons;
    - One representative from a County Health Department with less than 950,000 persons;
    - One representative from the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association;
    - One representative from the Emergency Medical Services Council;
    - One representative from the Arizona Academy of Family Physicians;
    - One representative from the Arizona Medical Association;
    - One representative from the Arizona College of Emergency Physicians;
    - One representative from the Arizona Nurses Association;
    - One representative from the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs;
    - One representative from the Arizona Department of Public Safety;
    - One representative from the Arizona Department of Homeland Security;
    - One representative from a University;
    - One representative from Indian Health Services; and
    - At the sole discretion of the Governor, additional members with relevant experience.

3. The members of the Council shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

4. The Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services shall serve as Chair of the Council.

5. The Council shall:

   - Develop and implement a coordinated comprehensive plan to ensure Arizona's public health infrastructure is prepared for the potential outbreak of infectious diseases, such as the Ebola virus, influenza, Enterovirus, Tuberculosis, and other emerging infectious diseases, and can provide rapid response that effectively protects the safety and well-being of Arizonans.
     - The plan should include methods for rapidly identifying and assessing cases, protocols for providing healthcare treatment and infection control to prevent healthcare worker infections, and case contact investigations to prevent secondary infections in the community; and
   - Strengthen collaboration among healthcare organizations, medical communities, government agencies, law enforcement, non-profit organizations, and the community-at-large in order to effectively address infectious disease transmission and treatment; and
   - Serve as a reliable and transparent source of information and education for Arizona leadership and citizens; and
   - Provide a preliminary report on its findings and recommendations, including progress made on implementation of the plan and recommendations for additional needs and response activities, to the Governor by December 1, 2014. Continue to report to the Governor on a regular basis as the situation requires, and may include preliminary recommendations that require legislative action as the Council deems necessary.

6. The Council shall be staffed by the Arizona Department of Health Services.

7. The Chairperson may form an executive committee or other sub-committees as necessary.

8. The status of the Council shall be reviewed no later than September 30, 2015, to determine appropriate action for its continuance, modification or termination.

9. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

Janice K. Brewer
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-first day of October in the Year Two Thousand Fourteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirty-Ninth.

ATTEST: Ken Bennett

Secretary of State