



STATE OF TENNESSEE
EXECUTIVE ORDER
BY THE GOVERNOR
No. 83
AN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE CONTINUED RESPONSE TO COVID-19
WHEREAS, hospitalizations are increasing as COVID-19 variants continue to increase positive case rates and burden the health care system; and
WHEREAS, the reinstatement of certain regulatory flexibilities is necessary to support adequate capacity within the health care system; and
WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines are widely available and effective, and widespread vaccination is the best tool to combat COVID-19 and ensure social, economic, and educational stability, and all eligible persons are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated against COVID-19;
NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, in order to facilitate regulatory flexibility in the healthcare system, economic and other recovery, and maintenance of federal compliance and eligibility, do hereby declare and recognize a continuing state of emergency and hereby order the following:

EO 83: The Brutality of Good Intentions

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(In concert with the CDC's Shielding Approach to prevent COVID-19 infections, Tennessee's Gov. Bill Lee signed Executive Order 83, a sweeping emergency preparedness plan that ignores most of what we have learned since the inception of the Wuhan virus. While appropriate to assume Gov. Lee's best intentions, his bewildering ignorance of science, human nature, and the consequences of irrational actions, his willingness to adhere to a faltering political narrative, places the health, security, and well-being of Tennesseans at risk; and is a lesson for all Americans to the dangers of insulated high office.)

Point to remember!

To win support, politicians often explain the consequences of their laws and actions in narrow terms, but in practice interpret them broadly enough to enable the power needed to meet their changing objectives. That is why it is wise to look at the good and the potential bad in all government actions.

For sources used below see article: *Gov. Lee's EO 83, Unjustified, Irresponsible, Dangerous*

Gov. Lee EO 83 extends his emergency powers based on 2 verifiably false statements.

One: That "increasing case rates burden the health care system."

(Positive PCR tests do not represent active infectious COVID cases. If the system is overloaded, it is likely other ailments. COVID fatalities globally and in the US are generally decreasing.)

Two: "Widespread vaccination is the best tool to combat COVID-19."

(There are no trial results to indicate how well the vaccines do or do not fight COVID. Recent data from highly vaccinated regions indicate vaccinations may be causing increased variants and that natural immunity and early treatment are superior to risky vaccines.)

Sections 1, 3 Relaxes requirements for out of state healthcare providers, retired medical professionals, and practical nursing graduates without examinations to practice medicine in TN:

Unnecessarily lowers care standards and increases health risks for hospitalized patients. Families face the risk insurers will refuse to cover care delivered by provisionally licensed and non-certified providers.

Sections 5, 7 Behavioral health inpatient psychiatric, residential, and crisis care staffing flexibility. Healthcare student staffing flexibility in inpatient and psychiatric and behavioral health settings...

With suicides, depression, and drug-related incidents near the top causes of death in the US, patients need increased, not reduced behavioral care standards. A careless statement by an inexperienced student can cause additional trauma and weeks or months of professional therapy.

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Section 8 National and State Guard members to provide COVID-19 testing and vaccine distribution.

The 2020 COVID crisis was based on the false assumption that a positive PCR test was a “case.” In addition, vaccines increasingly appear to do more harm than good. Gov. Lee has learned nothing in the past 18 months and is placing the entire state population at health and economic risk by using the National Guard to accelerate testing and use of a vaccine that increasingly leads to more infections and death.

Calling up the Guard Services is serious. Once under the Governor’s control, what other orders concerning COVID may be instituted? What will it mean for citizens who refuse vaccines and testing? What if those citizens are classified as mental health risks or a danger to society? What role could the Guard then play?

Section 13 Allows hospitals and nursing homes to temporarily establish hospital, nursing homes, home-based, and diagnostic services at ANY location to respond to COVID AND subsequent orders concerning COVID.

This gives liberal authority to legally establish with minimum oversight the very types of nursing homes that led to increased deaths in New York and New Jersey. Is this what Tennesseans deserve?

Section 18 Temporary quarantine and isolation facilities may be constructed.

Quarantining and masking reduces exposure to Vitamin D one of the major contributing causes of COVID deaths, while weakening your immune system to fight COVID and its variants. Quarantining children at a time their immune systems are developing could have severe adverse lifetime consequences.

Throughout his EO, Gov. Lee refers to “subsequent orders.” What happens if people refuse to go into quarantine? What role might the National Guard play? What happens if people decide to leave isolation facilities or speak out publicly against them?

Sections 19, 20,21 Inspections of mental health and substance abuse facilities, health care licensing, inspections and investigations; and inspections of health care facilities are suspended.

Results in reductions in the quality of the facilities housing physically and mentally compromised patients.

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Between sections 5,7, 13, 18, 19, 20, and 21 Gov. Lee reduces the quality of patient health care and housing and compromises the standards for providers and services at the time patient care is in highest demand.

3 Questions remain:

- **What happens when people refuse to comply?**
- **How will Gov. Lee use his expanded emergency powers and the resources at his disposal?**
- **Is it time to demand the rescission of EO 83?**