

## **EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of Hinds County (the “Governing Body”) has the authority to make an emergency declaration and to promulgate orders and regulations necessary to provide for the protection of life and property; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency as a result of the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States acknowledged the global pandemic and declared a nationwide state of emergency due to the rampant spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2020 the Governor of the State of Mississippi issued a Proclamation declaring that a State of Emergency exists in the State of Mississippi as a result of the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS**, in the wake of the pandemic, Mississippi state agencies and governmental entities have taken numerous steps to abide by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance for responding to the COVID-19 virus outbreak; and

**WHEREAS**, the hospitals and emergency care providers within Hinds County have publicly expressed that their facilities have reached capacity and become overloaded with patients suffering from symptoms associated with the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to review and amend the ordinances of Hinds County in a manner that will assist the hospitals and emergency care providers with the transport of patients to destinations outside of Hinds County; and

**WHEREAS**, it is evident that the risk of the spread of the COVID-19 virus constitutes a public emergency that may result in harm to the life, health and property of the citizens of Hinds County, Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, in the wake of the COVID-19 global pandemic, it has become necessary for the Hinds County Board of Supervisors to take extraordinary measures to protect the citizens of Hinds County, Mississippi; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF HINDS COUNTY** pursuant to MISS. CODE ANN. §§ 31-7-1, 33-15-1, 33-15-17 and other applicable authority, and in the public interest and for the general welfare of Hinds County, Mississippi, that Hinds County takes the following actions:

1. The Hinds County Board of Supervisors, for a period of ninety days from the date of execution of this Emergency Order, hereby amends its Ordinance for Ambulance Service for the purpose of clarification to allow its contracted ambulance service, AMR, to expand its capacity by making referrals to other ambulance transport companies for the safe, medical transport of patients to their homes or alternate locations, such as long-term healthcare facilities, that are outside of Hinds County during this COVID-19 pandemic; and


2. This Emergency Order shall remain in effect from the date of this Order for a period of ninety days, and prior to the expiration of said period, the Board of Supervisors of Hinds County shall determine whether this Emergency Order should be extended for another period of time.

FOLLOWING the reading of the foregoing Emergency Declaration, Supervisor Robert Graham made a motion for adoption, with Supervisor Credell Calhoun making a second to said motion. Thereafter, the Hinds County Board of Supervisors voted as follows:

Honorable Graham, voting aye,  
Honorable Archie, voting aye,  
Honorable Calhoun, voting aye,  
Honorable Gavin, voting absent, and,  
Honorable McGowan, voting absent,

The motion having received vote of a majority of the members present, the President declared the motion carried and the Resolution adopted this the 15th day of July, 2020.

HINDS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Robert Graham, President

Attest:

  
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Hinds County Chancery Clerk