MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

Proclamation to Assist Food Banks

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Ohio is authorized to call upon the Ohio National Guard to assist state and local government authorities to execute laws and respond to state emergencies; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020 I declared a State of Emergency for the entire state in response to the novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency activated the Emergency Operations Center; and

WHEREAS, Ohio food banks and similar organizations are staffed almost exclusively by volunteers who are in the high-risk heath categories for COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Ohio has urged employers to allow employees to work from home, particularly those who are high-risk;

WHEREAS, Agencies of state and local government have requested the assistance of the Ohio National Guard in aiding with local food banks' normal operations of distributing food and supplies to in-need Ohioans due to this staffing shortage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike DeWine, Governor of the State of Ohio, pursuant to Article IX, Section 4 of the Ohio Constitution and Section 5923.21 of the Ohio Revised Code, hereby authorize as needed, in State active duty status, those personnel and units of the Ohio National Guard, as designated by the Adjutant General, that are needed to take appropriate actions as is necessary to assist state and local government authorities throughout the state in aiding with the normal operations distributing food and supplies from local food banks, and similar organizations. Pursuant to Section 5923.23 of the Revised Code, those Ohio National Guard units and personnel will act only pursuant to the orders issued on my behalf by the Adjutant General, and through him, by the commanding officers of the units and personnel deployed by the Adjutant General. The Adjutant General shall provide for all transportation, services, equipment, and supplies necessary for the designated units or personnel of the Ohio National Guard.

This Proclamation takes effect immediately. It will remain in full force and effect until the assistance is no longer needed as determined by the Adjutant General, in consultation with the Governor, who will coordinate state response efforts and terminate this Proclamation upon the recommendation of the such time to be determined by the Executive Director of the Emergency Management Agency, who will coordinate state response efforts and terminate the emergency upon the recommendation of appropriate officials of the other responding state department/agencies and the impacted local government.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name in Columbus, Ohio, on the 17 day of March, 2020.

Mike DeWine
Governor, State of Ohio