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**BULLETIN**  
**Number 23-B-09**

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**To:** All Insurance Companies and other Entities Licensed under Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes

**From:** Life & Health Division

**Date:** November 13, 2023

**Subject:** **Existing and Potential Wildfires**— North Carolina Operations

On November 8, 2023, Governor Cooper issued **EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 293**, for the State of North Carolina due to existing and potential wildfires possible impact on the State of North Carolina. The impact from the wildfires could have a significant impact on public and private property and could seriously disrupt essential utility services and systems. Executive Order 293 declares a state of emergency as defined in N.C.G.S. §§ 166A-19.3(7) and N.C.G.S. §§ 166A-19.20(b) exists in the State of North Carolina. ("the Emergency Area").

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§ 58-3-228, this bulletin pertains to all health benefit plans as defined in N.C.G.S. §§ 58-3-167, the State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees, and any optional plans or programs operating under Part 2 of Article 3 of Chapter 135 of the General Statutes, and other stand-alone prescription medication plans issued by entities that are licensed by the Department of Insurance.

This bulletin is to remind health benefit plans of compliance requirements for operations under a state of emergency for purposes of obtaining extra prescriptions during a state of emergency or disaster.

This authorization of extra prescriptions during this state of emergency in the State of North Carolina is valid for prescription medication requests made within **29 days of issuance of this bulletin**, unless extended by an order issued by the Commissioner.

Please refer any questions regarding this bulletin to the attention of Ted Hamby at [LHInbox@ncdoi.gov](mailto:LHInbox@ncdoi.gov).

The link to Governor Cooper's Executive Order is: [EO293-SOE\\_WildfiresWNC\(1\).pdf](#)

**Statutory reference:** [NCGS 58-3-228. Coverage for extra prescriptions during a state of emergency or disaster.](#)