

# TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND



## DECLARATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the National Hurricane Center has determined that Tropical Storm Debby will make landfall along the Florida Gulf Coast; and,

WHEREAS, the National Hurricane Center has predicted that the path of Tropical Storm Debby will cross southeastern Georgia, and the most southern part of South Carolina, and that the Town of Hilton Head Island is in the anticipated path of the storm; and,

WHEREAS, the National Hurricane Center has predicted that areas within the path of Tropical Storm Debby may experience tropical storm force winds, and high amounts of rainfall; and,

WHEREAS, the possible impacts of Tropical Storm Debby include damage to property and infrastructure and hazards for the lives and well-being of citizens, residents, visitors, and businesses in the Town ; and

WHEREAS, on August 4, 2024, the Hon. Henry Dargan McMaster Governor of the State of South Carolina, issued Executive Order 2024-16, and declared a State of Emergency in South Carolina due to the possibility of severe weather conditions and possible impacts to lives and property from Tropical Storm Debby; and,

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2024, the Hon. Joseph Passiment, Chairman of the Beaufort County Council, declared a State of Emergency in Beaufort County, South Carolina, Carolina due to the possibility of severe weather conditions and possible impacts to lives and property from Tropical Storm Debby; and,

WHEREAS, the possible impacts from wind and rain conditions associated with Tropical Storm Debby are such that this weather emergency may exceed the capacity of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the regularly constituted branches and departments of Town government; and

WHEREAS, § 7-7-20 *Municipal Code of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina (1983)*, authorizes the Mayor to declare a state of emergency if the Mayor finds that the threat thereof is imminent danger to lives or property exists and that emergency measures are necessary to cope with the existing or anticipated situation; and

WHEREAS, due to the National Hurricane Center's forecast of the possibility of severe weather conditions including tropical storm force winds and high amounts of rainfall from Tropical Storm Debby affecting the Town, and in order to sufficiently prepare the Town for potential impacts from Tropical Storm Debby, the Town of Hilton Head Island's Emergency Operations Plan has been activated, and if deemed necessary, the Town will active its Disaster Recovery Plan; and,

WHEREAS, I find that the National Hurricane Center's forecast of the possibility of severe weather conditions including tropical storm force winds and high amounts of rainfall from Tropical Storm Debby affecting the Town warrants a declaration of a State of Emergency in the Town, under the authority of § 7-7-20, *Municipal Code of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina (1983)*.

NOW, THEREFORE, I do hereby declare the existence of a Local State of Emergency for and in the Town of Hilton Head Island pursuant to §7-7-20, *Municipal Code of the Town of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina (1983)*, and I do hereby further direct the Town Manager to immediately take such steps that are necessary for the protection of life and property in the Town.


I direct that this Declaration of a Local State of Emergency shall take effect immediately and that widespread publicity and notice shall be given for this Declaration through the most feasible and adequate means of disseminating notice throughout the Town.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal of the Town of Hilton Head Island to be affixed on this 5th day of August, 2024.

THE TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND,  
SOUTH CAROLINA

By:   
Alan R. Perry, Mayor

Attest:

  
Kimberly Gammon, Town Clerk