

## Waiver Notice

Pursuant to section 319 of the PHS Act, Secretary Azar determined that, as the result of the consequences of Hurricane Florence, a PHE has existed in the States of North Carolina and South Carolina since September 7, 2018 and a PHE has existed in the Commonwealth of Virginia since September 8, 2018. The Secretary's determination to declare the PHE was made after consultation with public health officials as necessary. As result of the PHE, the Secretary also determined pursuant to section 319(f) of the PHS Act that circumstances of the PHE necessitate a waiver from the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 *et seq.*, effective as of the date of this notice. The waiver is justified to collect information to support the Department's investigation of and response to Hurricane Florence. This waiver applies to information related to the impact of the hurricane on the health care systems in the affected areas.

Pursuant to the waiver, the requirements of 44 U.S.C. § 3501 *et seq.* shall not be applicable with respect to voluntary collection of information during the effective time period.

The Paperwork Reduction Act waiver is effective as of October 4, 2018 and is anticipated to remain in effect throughout the time period of the immediate investigation of and response to the emergency declared pursuant to section 319(a) of the PHS Act, and for a reasonable length of time for immediate post response review regarding the public health emergency.

Any initiative subject to this waiver that is ongoing after the termination of the effective period shall be subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act within 30 days of expiration of the waiver. The waiver applies to the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response.

This notice will be updated as needed.