FEMA approves Gov. Edwards' request to activate temporary housing program

BATON ROUGE –Gov. John Bel Edwards received word that FEMA has approved his request to activate the Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA), that will provide much needed temporary housing for thousands of Louisianans who have been displaced by Hurricane Ida, according to the governor's press release.

"I am extremely grateful to Pres. Biden and FEMA for activating the Transitional Sheltering Assistance Program, which is going to bring much needed temporary housing for the survivors of Hurricane Ida," said Edwards.

He says the storm's extensive damage, has thousands of Louisianians displaced and this program will provide them with critical short term housing as they recover and rebuild their lives.

"Housing was at a critical shortage before the storm," Edwards says. "The problem has been exacerbated as a result of the widespread damage. I want to encourage everyone who needs assistance to apply immediately."

The TSA program is for eligible survivors with a damaged dwelling address within the federally designated parishes of Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana.

They are eligible to stay in hotels in the following states: Louisiana, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas.

TSA-eligible applicants must find and book their own hotel rooms. The list of participating hotels will be posted on <u>DisasterAssistance.gov</u>, [gov.louisiana.gov] under the link <u>Transitional Sheltering Assistance Program [gov.louisiana.gov]</u> or Hurricane Ida victims can get it by calling the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362. For TTY, call 800-462-7585. For 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362.