Florida governor's social distancing order exempts religious gatherings



Miami, April 4 (RHC)-- In the U.S. state of Florida, a remain-at-home order went into effect early Friday, after Republican Governor Ron DeSantis ended his weeks-long opposition to strict social distancing measures.

Houses of worship are exempted under the order as "essential businesses" — raising fears of community spread at churches, mosques and synagogues.

At least 144 people have died of COVID-19 in Florida, which has one of the nation's largest populations of residents 65 and older.



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