



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 45 JBE 2018

STATE OF EMERGENCY – RIVER FLOODING

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana emergency powers to deal with emergencies and disasters, including those caused by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural or manmade causes, in order to ensure that preparations of this State will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the State of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, when the Governor determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. R.S. 29:724(B)(1) empowers the Governor to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation, or both;

WHEREAS, due to recent severe weather in the state and north of the state, river gauges on waterways throughout the state are on a steady rise and many are predicted to meet or exceed their flood stage within the next few weeks and remain high for an extended period;

WHEREAS, many parishes along these waterways need to take protective measures to help mitigate possible flooding; and

WHEREAS, Nineteen parishes have declared an emergency including Assumption, Avoyelles, Bossier, Caddo, Caldwell, Catahoula, Concordia, East Carroll, Franklin, Grant, Madison, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Rapides, Richland, Tensas, Terrebonne and West Feliciana.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721 *et seq.*, a state of emergency is hereby declared to exist statewide as a result of flooding and threat of imminent flooding, the effects of which continue to threaten the lives and property of the citizens of the State

SECTION 2: The Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is hereby authorized to undertake any activity authorized by law which he deems appropriate in response to this declaration.

SECTION 3: All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions the State may take in response to the effects of this severe weather event.

SECTION 4: This order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect from Tuesday, March 6, 2018 until Wednesday, April 4, 2018, unless terminated sooner.

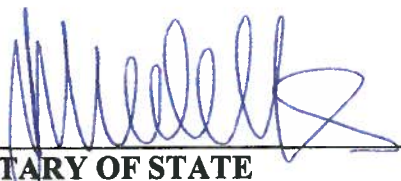


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 6th day of March, 2018.



GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY
OF STATE**



SECRETARY OF STATE