

# State of Louisiana



## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

### PROCLAMATION NUMBER 37 JBE 2017

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#### *STATE OF EMERGENCY – SEVERE WEATHER*

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**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,** on April 2, 2017, a line of dangerous severe thunderstorms crossed the State of Louisiana producing tornadoes, high winds, flooding, and large hail;

**WHEREAS,** the storms have resulted in two fatalities, as a tornado in Breaux Bridge caused the death of a mother and her three-year daughter; and

**WHEREAS,** the State anticipates assistance will be needed for parishes to respond to this continuing threat.

**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 this event, 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 Monday, April 3, 2017 until Tuesday, May 2, 2017 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 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2017.

  
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY  
THE GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE