State of Louisiana

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 51 JBE 2016

STATE OF EMERGENCY – SEVERE WEATHER AND TORNADOES

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, Proclamation No. 17 JBE 2016, issued on February 23, 2016, declared a state of emergency in the parishes of Ascension, Assumption, Iberville, Livingston, Point Coupee, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, and Washington in response to a violent storm system which moved through Louisiana, which brought strong winds, heavy rain, and tornadoes; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to continue the state emergency, as the State antcipates further assistance will be needed for parishes within the threatened emergency area in their response 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 in the parishes of Ascension, Assumption, Iberville, Livingston, Point Coupee, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, and Washington caused by this event, and 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 state of emergency extends from Saturday, April 23, 2016 to Sunday, May 22, 2016, 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 22nd day of April, 2016.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY
THE GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE