



**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION NUMBER 68 JBE 2018**

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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 13 - 14, 2018, a front moved through the state which caused severe weather which caused power outages and structural damages to buildings and homes;

**WHEREAS,** the National Weather Service verified that several tornados made landfall across the state including Bossier, Caddo and Lincoln parishes; and

**WHEREAS,** Bossier, Bienville, Caddo, and Lincoln parishes have declared an emergency and have requested assistance from the state to assess damages.

**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 Bossier, Bienville, Caddo, and Lincoln parishes as a result of the severe weather, 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.

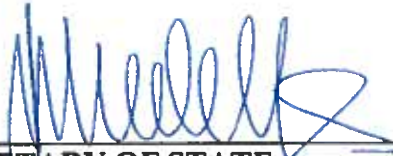
**SECTION 4:** This order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect from Friday, April 13, 2018 until Saturday, May 12, 2018, unless terminated sooner.



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 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

  
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY  
OF STATE**

  
SECRETARY OF STATE