

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 25-123

STATE OF EMERGENCY SCHUMER SHUTDOWN CREATES FOOD INSECUIRTY

WHEREAS, the Governor is responsible for meeting the dangers to the state and people presented by emergencies and disasters;

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 address disasters resulting from natural or man-made events that cause or threaten loss of life, injury, or property damage, as well as emergencies, which include actual or potential conditions created by such disasters;

WHEREAS, when the Governor determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. R.S. 29:724 (B)(l) empowers him to declare a state of emergency or disaster by executive order which has the force and effect of law;

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party's failure, under U.S. Senate Democrat Leader Chuck Schumer, to reach a federal funding agreement has resulted in a shutdown of the United States Government as of October 1, 2025;

WHEREAS, the ongoing federal government shutdown has resulted in a lapse of federal funding for numerous programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture ("USDA");

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2025, the USDA directed States to hold November SNAP benefits as the USDA would be delaying transmission to State EBT vendors due to the Schumer Shutdown;

WHEREAS, any interruption in SNAP benefits will significantly increase food insecurity among Louisiana's most vulnerable populations, including the elderly, children, and individuals with disabilities;

WHEREAS, as of October 2025, an estimated 792,769 Louisianians rely on SNAP benefits to meet their basic nutritional needs;

WHEREAS, over 120,000 of SNAP recipients in Louisiana are disabled;

WHEREAS, approximately 356,825 Louisiana children live in households that receive SNAP assistance;

WHEREAS, an estimated 88,208 elderly residents of Louisiana depend on SNAP benefits for essential food support;

WHEREAS, Congressional Republicans, under the leadership of Speaker Mike Johnson of Louisiana, voted to fund the federal government and our U.S. Senators representing Louisiana have repeatedly done the same to ensure federal employees are paid, federal services continue, and funding for programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") is provided, at the same time Washington, D.C. Democrats in large part have voted over and over again to keep the federal government closed; the Revenue Stabilization Fund is intended to be available for appropriation to deal with emergency situations;

WHEREAS, the legislative leadership and I share a deep concern for Louisiana's elderly, disabled, and children in light of the potential shortage of SNAP benefits created by the Schumer Shutdown;

WHEREAS, this Executive Order declares and recognizes that an emergency situation exists in the State of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, Louisiana Constitution Article 7, Section 10.5 allows the Legislature to authorize an appropriation from the Revenue Stabilization Fund at any time for any purpose with the consent of two-thirds of the elected members of each house of the legislature, even while out of session in writing;

WHEREAS, the Legislature is currently convened in a special legislative session and can easily arrange a vote to consent and authorize such an appropriation to support our most vulnerable citizens;

NOW THEREFORE, I, JEFF LANDRY, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, 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 as a result of the emergency conditions that currently threaten the people of Louisiana.

Section 2: Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:724 (A)(3), the designated emergency area is the State of Louisiana.

Section 3: This emergency declaration shall be transmitted to the Speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives and the President of the Louisiana Senate;

Section 4: Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:732, during a declared state of emergency, the prices charged or value received for goods and services sold within the designated emergency area may not exceed the prices ordinarily charged for comparable goods and services in the same market area at or immediately before the time of the state of emergency, unless the price by the seller is attributable to fluctuations in applicable commodity markets, fluctuations in applicable regional or national market trends, or to reasonable expenses and charges and attendant business risk incurred in procuring or selling the goods or services during the state of emergency.

Section 5: 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 this disaster.

Section 6: This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect from Friday, October 24, 2025, through Tuesday, November 4, 2025, unless amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded earlier by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.



ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 24th day of October 2025.

JEFF LANDRY

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

Nancy Landry SECRETARY OF STATE