

State of Louisiana



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 77 JBE 2019

STATE OF EMERGENCY – IMMINENT THREAT OF FLOODING ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND OTHER STATE BODIES OF WATER

- 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 him to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation, or both;
- WHEREAS,** Proclamation Number 33 JBE 2019, issued on February 27, 2019, declared a state of emergency for the State of Louisiana as a result of river crests and the threat of imminent additional flooding causing emergency conditions that continue to threaten the lives and property of the citizens of Louisiana;
- WHEREAS,** Proclamation Number 42 JBE 2019, issued on March 27, 2019, extended this state of emergency until April 26, 2019;
- WHEREAS,** Proclamation Number 63 JBE 2019, issued on April 26, 2019, extended this state of emergency until May 26, 2019;
- WHEREAS,** during this emergency, severe weather conditions across the middle of the nation, caused heavy rainfall throughout the lower Mississippi Valley and flooding along the length of the Mississippi River and other bodies of water throughout the State;
- WHEREAS,** with the Mississippi and Atchafalaya rivers currently at crest stages, several parishes are continuing to deal with backwater flooding in impacted areas, which, combined with forecasted weather conditions, calling for excessive rainfall in the short and long term for these areas, create the potential for flash flooding and another rise in the Mississippi River in the coming weeks;
- WHEREAS,** the Morganza Spillway has a high probability to be opened and operated for an extended period of time which has a great potential to cause catastrophic damage throughout the Atchafalaya Spillway;
- WHEREAS,** the State anticipates that parishes will continue to seek support from state agencies and that assistance may be needed to aid the parishes in their response to the rising river levels throughout Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to renew 63 JBE 2019 to extend the state of emergency due to the continuation of emergency conditions.

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, does hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, a state of emergency is hereby declared to exist in the State of Louisiana as a result of river and threat of imminent additional flooding which has emergency conditions that 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 (GOHSEP) is hereby authorized to undertake any activity authorized by law which he deems appropriate in response to this declaration.

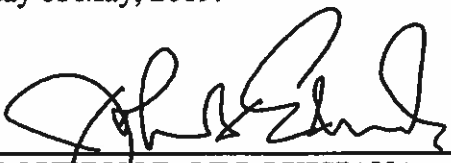
SECTION 3: Pursuant to the La. R.S. 29:732, during a declared state of emergency, the prices charged or value received for goods and services sold within the designated emergency area may not exceed the prices ordinarily charged for comparable goods and services in the same market area at or immediately 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 4: 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 imminent threat of flooding.

SECTION 5: This state of emergency extends from Sunday, May 26, 2019 through Monday, June 24, 2019, unless terminated sooner.



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 May, 2019.



GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY
OF STATE**



SECRETARY OF STATE