



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 108 JBE 2020

STATE OF EMERGENCY – TROPICAL STORM LAURA AND TROPICAL DEPRESSION 14

- 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,** the National Weather Service has indicated that Tropical Storm Laura and Tropical Depression 14 are expected to move toward the northern Gulf of Mexico over the next few days;
- WHEREAS,** Tropical Depression 14 is anticipated to be upgraded to Tropical Storm Marco over the next 12 hours;
- WHEREAS,** both storms have the potential to strengthen into hurricanes once they reach the Gulf of Mexico;
- WHEREAS,** due to the possibility of two tropical systems making landfall in such close proximity to each other, there is a significant risk for storm surge, high winds, and flooding from rainfall in all southern parishes;
- WHEREAS,** many parishes across the state will need to take protective measures to help mitigate flooding and wind damage in response to this imminent threat, as well as prepare additional evacuation and sheltering measures required during the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- WHEREAS,** five parishes have declared states of emergency, the state anticipates that many more parishes will declare states of emergency, and assistance may be needed to assist parishes in their response to this developing 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 in the State of Louisiana as a result of the imminent threat of 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 severe weather event.

SECTIONS 5: This order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect from Friday, August 21, 2020 to Sunday, September 20, 2020, 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 21st day of August, 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Bel Edwards', is written over a horizontal line.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY
OF STATE**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Keith Moore', is written over a horizontal line.

SECRETARY OF STATE



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 115 JBE 2020

AMENDMENT TO STATE OF EMERGENCY – HURRICANE LAURA

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, a state of emergency was declared through Proclamation Number 108 JBE 2020;

WHEREAS, Hurricane Laura made landfall on the Louisiana coast during the early morning hours on Thursday, August 27, 2020, bringing devastating winds, widespread power-outages, and severe damage to Louisiana;

WHEREAS, the damage resulting from Hurricane Laura continue to pose a threat to citizens and communities in the storm's path and create conditions which place lives and property in the state in jeopardy;

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana, recognizing the significant impact of Hurricane Laura, desires to minimize this impact on the residents and assist communities in their recovery; and

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 29:724 authorizes the governor during a declared state of emergency to suspend the provisions of any state regulatory statute prescribing procedures for conducting state business, or the orders, rules or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provision of any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency.

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: Section 3 of Proclamation Number 108 JBE 2020 is hereby amended as follows:

SECTION 3: A) 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.

B) Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:724(D)(1), the Louisiana Procurement Code (La. R.S. 39:1551, *et seq.*) and Louisiana Public Bid Law (La. R.S. 38:2211, *et seq.*) and their corresponding rules and regulations are hereby suspended for the purpose of the procurement of any good or services necessary to respond to this emergency, including emergency contracts,

cooperative endeavor agreements, and any other emergency amendments to existing contracts.

- C) Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:724(D)(1), the provisions of La. R.S. 39:126 regarding prior approval of change orders are hereby suspended.

SECTION 2: The Commissioner of Insurance shall have limited transfer of authority from the Governor to suspend provisions of any statute of the Louisiana Insurance Code, Title 22 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, concerning the cancellation, termination, nonrenewal, and reinstatement provisions of Title 22, including, but not limited to, R.S. 22:272, 22:887, 22:977, 22:978, 22:1068, 22:1074, 22:1266, 22:1267, 22:1311, and 22:1335, where such statutory requirements may prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in light of the current emergency relative to Hurricane Laura and its aftermath, including providing additional time for policyholders to complete existing claims and to remit premium payments to avoid cancellation of policies, prohibiting cancellations where policyholders are incapable of fulfilling requirements due to evacuation or uninhabitability, providing for continuation of coverage and suspending rate increases, providing for the payment of claims incurred during any prohibition on cancellations imposed under this authority, and providing for provider access and prescription drug benefit requirements necessary to protect public health and welfare. This Order shall not relieve an insured who has a claim caused by Hurricane Laura and its aftermath from compliance with the insured's obligation to provide information and cooperate in the claim adjustment process relative to such claim, or to pay insurance premiums upon termination of the provisions of this Order.

SECTION 3: Unless otherwise provided in this order, these provisions are effective from Thursday, August 27, 2020 to Sunday, September 20, 2020, or as extended by any subsequent Proclamation, 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 3rd day of September, 2020.




GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE**


SECRETARY OF STATE