

# State of Louisiana



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 26-006

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## ***STATE OF EMERGENCY WINTER WEATHER PREPARATION – JANUARY 22, 2026***

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**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, in order to ensure that the 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, R.S. 29:724(B)(1) empowers him to declare a state of emergency or disaster by executive order, which has the force and effect of law;

**WHEREAS**, 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;

**WHEREAS**, a declaration of emergency or disaster activates the state's emergency response and recovery program under the command of the Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness ("GOHSEP");

**WHEREAS**, GOHSEP is responsible for determining the requirements of the state and its political subdivisions for food, clothing, and other necessities and supplies in a designated emergency area;

**WHEREAS**, the National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Watch for much of the State effective Friday, January 23, 2026, with mixed snow, sleet, and ice creating significant impacts in northern and central Louisiana;

**WHEREAS**, the National Weather Service has issued Cold Weather Advisories for much of the State beginning Saturday, January 24, 2026, with additional advisories and updates anticipated as forecast confidence increases;

**WHEREAS**, icy precipitation and accumulations are forecast to create hazardous conditions that will severely impact roadways, cause tree damage, and lead to power and other infrastructure outages;

**WHEREAS**, further impacts are anticipated due to extreme cold temperatures, with hard freezes expected to persist into next week in the southern parishes of the State and subfreezing temperatures continuing for 70 to 90 hours in the northern parishes;

**WHEREAS**, prolonged freezing temperatures have the potential to damage water systems, cause pipe failures, and disrupt essential services;

**WHEREAS**, extended power outages during periods of extreme cold present a serious threat to vulnerable populations;

**WHEREAS**, parishes statewide may require assistance from the State to provide resources to protect the life, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Louisiana;

**WHEREAS**, this is expected to be a prolonged winter event lasting through Monday, January 26, 2026;

**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, 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 lives, safety, and property of the citizens in Louisiana.

Section 2: Pursuant to R.S. 29:724(A)(3) the designated emergency area, which is or may be affected shall include the entire State of Louisiana.

Section 3: The Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) is hereby authorized to undertake any activity authorized by law that he deems appropriate in response to this declaration.

Section 4: Pursuant to 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: Pursuant to R.S. 29:724(D)(1), the Louisiana Procurement Code (R.S. 39:1551, *et seq.*) and Louisiana Public Bid Law (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.

Section 6: 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 event.

Section 7: This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect from Thursday, January 22, 2026 until Saturday, February 21, 2026, unless amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded earlier by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.



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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January 2026.

  
JEFF LANDRY  
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE

  
Nancy Landry  
SECRETARY OF STATE