

**Executive Order No. 2018-30**

**Temporary Closure in Specified Counties of State Schools and Government Offices, including State-Supported Colleges, Universities, and Technical Colleges**

**WHEREAS**, on September 8, 2018, the undersigned issued Executive Order 2018-26, declaring a State of Emergency due to Hurricane Florence and placing into effect the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors located in the threatened areas; and

**WHEREAS**, Hurricane Florence and the associated wind, heavy rain, localized flooding, and other severe weather, represent a significant threat to the State of South Carolina and require that the State take timely precautions to protect property, critical infrastructure, communities, and the general safety, security, and welfare of the people of this State; and

**WHEREAS**, as the Chief Executive of this State, pursuant to section 25-1-440 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, the undersigned is authorized to direct and compel the evacuation of all or part of the populace from any stricken or threatened area if such action is deemed necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response, or recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, the foregoing provision authorizes the undersigned to direct and compel the closure of state government offices and schools to effectuate and support the evacuation of the public from those areas threatened by the impacts of Hurricane Florence; and

**WHEREAS**, the undersigned has determined that it is necessary to reduce traffic on the interstates and highways to assist in the safe evacuation of coastal counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the undersigned has determined that its necessary to utilize state schools to serve as shelters and school buses to assist in the evacuation; and

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned measures are necessary for emergency mitigation and response, as well as to safeguard the public evacuating in accordance with Executive Order 2018-29, which requires the evacuation of specified Evacuation Zones in certain counties.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of South Carolina and pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of this State and the powers conferred upon me therein, I do hereby order the following:

1. The closure of all schools, beginning Tuesday, September 11, 2018, in the following counties in order to support shelter operations for persons evacuated from the coastal counties: Beaufort, Jasper, Colleton, Hampton, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Aiken (Southern Conglomerate); Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester, Orangeburg, Calhoun, Richland, Lexington (Central Conglomerate); and Horry, Georgetown, Williamsburg, Marion, Florence, Dillon, Clarendon, Sumter, Darlington, Lee, and Marlboro (Northern Conglomerate). The duration of this closure is for the duration of shelter operations, which will be open for the period of the evacuation and until conditions allow the public to reenter evacuated areas. A subsequent Order shall be issued to lift this closure.

2. The closure of all state government offices (to include state-supported colleges, universities, and technical colleges), beginning Tuesday, September 11, 2018, in the following counties in order to support evacuation operations by allowing the evacuation of needed areas and reducing traffic on the roadways: Beaufort, Jasper, Colleton, Hampton, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Aiken (Southern Conglomerate); Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester, Orangeburg, Calhoun, Richland, Lexington (Central Conglomerate); and Horry, Georgetown, Williamsburg, Marion, Florence, Dillon, Clarendon, Sumter, Darlington, Lee,

Marlboro (Northern Conglomerate). This Order affects all employees except for those emergency, governmental, or essential personnel whose presence the Director of said state government office deems necessary. The duration of closure will be for the period of the evacuation. A subsequent Order shall be issued to lift this closure.

This Order is effective immediately. Further proclamations and directives deemed necessary to ensure the fullest protection of life and property during this State of Emergency shall be issued verbally by me and thereafter reduced to writing and published for dissemination within the succeeding 24-hour period.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE  
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH  
CAROLINA, THIS 10th DAY OF  
SEPTEMBER, 2018.**

**HENRY MCMASTER  
Governor**