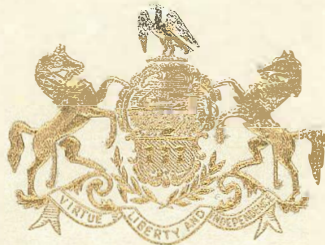


# Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



## Governor's Office

### PROCLAMATION

#### GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AMENDMENT TO PROCLAMATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY March 6, 2018

*WHEREAS, on January 10, 2018, I declared a disaster emergency due to the opioid crisis that is ravaging the country, including the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its citizens;*

*WHEREAS, on March 2, 2018, a severe winter weather event began to impact the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, causing dangerous conditions including snow and ice accumulation and wide-spread power outages;*

*WHEREAS, this severe winter weather event prompted the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to immediately respond, and the affected county and municipal governments to declare local disaster emergencies because of the severe winter weather conditions;*

*WHEREAS, the severe winter weather pattern is expected to continue through this week with forecasts for additional dangerous winter weather conditions including snow and ice accumulation and potential wide-spread power outages;*

*WHEREAS, this continuing severe winter weather event has caused severe adverse impacts to multiple political subdivisions throughout the Commonwealth;*

*WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to continue to respond and assist the affected county and municipal governments;*

*WHEREAS, this continuing severe winter weather event is of such magnitude or severity as to render essential the Commonwealth's supplementation of county and municipal efforts and resources and the activation of all applicable state, county and municipal emergency response plans;*

*WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has enacted the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) into law, and codified it at 35 Pa. C.S. §§ 7601-7604, to provide for mutual aid between states during an emergency that is duly declared by the Governor of the affected state;*

*WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend my January 10, 2018, Proclamation of Disaster Emergency to include this severe winter weather event, and continue Commonwealth response and recovery efforts to those affected political subdivisions.*

*THEREFORE, pursuant to the provisions of section 7301(c) of the Emergency Management Services Code, 35 Pa. C.S. §7301(c), I do hereby proclaim, order and direct as follows:*

- 1. The Proclamation of Disaster Emergency of January 10, 2018, shall continue to apply to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in its entirety. All directives, authorized actions and provisions of the January 10, 2018, Proclamation of Disaster Emergency shall remain in full force and effect.*
- 2. Additionally, I declare that a disaster emergency exists in the Counties of Berks, Bradford, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Columbia, Dauphin, Delaware, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Philadelphia, Pike, Schuylkill, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming and York as a result of the continuing severe winter weather pattern.*



3. *I authorize and direct that the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Director or designee assume command and control of all statewide emergency operations and that all Commonwealth departments and agencies, under the direction of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Director or designee, utilize all available resources and personnel as is deemed necessary to cope with the magnitude and severity of this severe winter weather event.*
4. *I hereby transfer up to \$5,000,000 in unused appropriated funds to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, to be increased or decreased as conditions require pursuant to the provisions of section 7604(a) of the Emergency Management Services Code, 35 Pa. C.S. § 7604(a), In addition, I hereby transfer \$1,000,000 in unused appropriated funds, to be increased or decreased as conditions require, to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency for Emergency Management Assistance Compact expenses related to this emergency pursuant to section 1508 of the Act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, NO.176) (the Fiscal Code), 72 P.S. § 1508. The aforementioned funds shall be used for expenses authorized and incurred related to this severe winter weather event. These funds shall be credited to a special account established by the Office of the Budget. I hereby direct that any funds transferred herein that remain unused after all costs related to this emergency have been satisfied shall be returned to the General Fund.*
5. *All Commonwealth agencies purchasing supplies or services in response to this severe winter weather event are authorized to utilize the emergency procurement procedures set forth in section 516 of the Commonwealth Procurement Code, 62 Pa. C.S. §516. This Proclamation shall serve as the written determination of the basis for the emergency under 62 Pa. C.S. §516.*
6. *I hereby direct the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency to staff the Commonwealth Response Coordination Center for the duration of this severe winter weather event and to augment it with personnel from other state agencies and departments. I also authorize the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency to direct and coordinate the emergency response, recovery, and mitigation activities of other state agencies and departments as deemed necessary to deal with the exigencies of this disaster emergency through implementation of the State Emergency Operations Plan.*
7. *I hereby authorize the Secretary of Transportation to use all available equipment, resources, and personnel of the Department of Transportation, in whatever manner that she deems necessary, to ensure that all state highways in the areas that are affected by the emergency event are cleared of snow, debris and any other obstructions resulting from this event and to ensure that highways, bridges, roadbeds, and related facilities and structures, including federal-aid highways, that may have sustained damage in the disaster affected areas are immediately repaired, maintained, reconstructed, or replaced, or that new construction is undertaken where necessary. In addition, I hereby waive any laws or regulations that would restrict the application and use of the Department's equipment, resources, and personnel to assist local jurisdictions in the repairs and clearing and removal of snow, debris and other types of obstructions from non-state-owned highways. This assistance to local jurisdictions may be provided solely at the discretion of the Secretary of Transportation. This assistance, however, does not apply to privately owned highways, roads, streets, or other types of property; and I hereby authorize the Secretary of Transportation, in her sole discretion, to waive any provision of the Vehicle Code or any other law or regulation which she is authorized by law to administer or enforce as may be necessary to respond to this emergency event.*
8. *If investigations made on my behalf determine that the Commonwealth is in need of greater flexibility in the application of state and federal motor carrier regulations to accommodate utility operators and truck drivers in the transporting of fuel, food or other commodities across the state to provide emergency relief and repairs during this event, I hereby direct the Department of Transportation to waive any laws or Federal or state regulations related to drivers of commercial vehicles.*
9. *Pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth, specifically 51 Pa. C.S. §508, I hereby authorize the Adjutant General of Pennsylvania to place on state active duty for the duration of this amendment, such individuals and units of the Pennsylvania National Guard, as requested by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, to alleviate the danger to public health and safety caused by this severe winter weather event.*
10. *I hereby authorize the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police to use all available resources and personnel of the Pennsylvania State Police, in whatever manner he deems necessary, to aid in the recovery aspects related to all interstate and other federal and state highways in the Commonwealth to address this severe winter weather event.*
11. *I hereby direct that the emergency response, recovery, and mitigation aspects of the Commonwealth and all applicable county, municipal, and other emergency response plans be activated and that all state, county, and municipal actions taken to implement those plans be coordinated through the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.*

12. I hereby suspend the provisions of any other regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of Commonwealth business, or the orders, rules or regulations of any Commonwealth agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any statute, order, rule or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this severe winter weather event. All Commonwealth agencies may implement their emergency assignments without regard to procedures required by other laws, except mandatory constitutional requirements, pertaining to the performance of public work, entering into contracts, incurring of obligations, employment of temporary workers, rental of equipment, purchase of supplies and materials, and expenditures of public funds.
13. I hereby urge the governing bodies and executive officers of all political subdivisions that may be affected by this severe winter weather event to act as necessary to meet the current exigencies as legally authorized under this proclamation amendment, including by the employment of temporary workers; by the rental of equipment; and by entering into such contracts and agreements as may be required to meet the emergency, all without regard to those time-consuming procedures and formalities normally prescribed by law, mandatory constitutional requirements excepted.
14. This Proclamation Amendment shall take effect immediately and continue for a period of 90-days unless extended or terminated by me, or by operation of law.

*GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, this sixth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen, and of the Commonwealth the two hundred and forty second.*



*Tom Wolf*  
TOM WOLF  
Governor