

Executive Order No. 2018-32

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, on September 10, 2018, the undersigned issued Executive Order 2018-28, ordering a mandatory medical evacuation, effective at 1:00 p.m. on September 10, 2018, of all healthcare facilities licensed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) located in specified Evacuation Zones in Jasper, Beaufort, Colleton, Charleston, Dorchester, Berkeley, Georgetown, and Horry Counties in accordance with DHEC's Mandatory Medical Evacuation Protocols; and

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2018, the undersigned issued Executive Order 2018-29, ordering the evacuation, effective at 12:00 p.m. on September 11, 2018, of all persons located in specified Evacuation Zones in Jasper, Beaufort, Colleton, Charleston, Dorchester, Berkeley, Georgetown, and Horry Counties, with the exception of critical or emergency response personnel, due to the imminent danger posed by Hurricane Florence and based on the forecasted track of the same; and

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2018, the undersigned issued Executive Order 2018-30, temporarily closing state government offices and schools, including state-supported colleges, universities, and technical colleges, in 26 counties to effectuate and support the evacuation of the public from those areas threatened by the impacts of Hurricane Florence; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Weather Service, Beaufort County, Jasper County, and certain portions of Colleton County are no longer within the National Hurricane Center's Track Forecast Cone and are not currently under a hurricane watch; and

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2018, after consideration of the latest weather forecasts and other relevant information regarding Hurricane Florence's projected track, the undersigned issued Executive Order 2018-31, rescinding the mandatory medical evacuation and general population evacuation orders for Beaufort County (Zone A), Jasper County (Zones A and B), and Colleton County (Zones A and B, with the exception of Edisto Beach), effective at 12:00 p.m. on September 11, 2018, thereby modifying and amending the provisions of Executive Order 2018-28 and Executive Order 2018-29; and

WHEREAS, the modification and amendment of the mandatory medical evacuation and general population evacuation orders, as specified in Executive Order 2018-31, lessens the need to utilize schools as shelters and school buses for evacuation purposes and reduces expected traffic volumes on the corresponding evacuation routes; and

WHEREAS, it is therefore no longer necessary to close state government offices and schools, including state-supported colleges, universities, and technical colleges, in the following counties: Beaufort, Jasper, Colleton, Hampton, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, and Aiken (Southern Conglomerate).

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 hereby rescind the previous directive to close state government offices (to include state-supported colleges, universities, and technical colleges) and schools, effective Wednesday, September 12, 2018, for the Southern Conglomerate. Accordingly, state government offices in the Southern Conglomerate should adhere to normal state procedure, following county closures for inclement weather, and state schools in the Southern Conglomerate should adhere to the applicable school district policy in resuming regular activities. Notwithstanding the foregoing, because Edisto Beach is still considered at-risk and subject to Executive Order 2018-29, any state government offices, to include state-supported colleges, universities, and technical colleges, and schools located in the Edisto Beach evacuation area, as detailed in the attachment to Executive

Order 2018-31, shall remain closed. State government offices in counties not listed above shall remain closed in accordance with Executive Order 2018-30, except for those emergency, governmental, or essential personnel whose presence the director of said state government office deems necessary. 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 11th DAY OF
SEPTEMBER, 2018.**

**HENRY MCMASTER
Governor**