Executive Order No. 2019-05

WHEREAS, a winter storm moved across South Carolina Sunday, December 9, 2018, and presented various hazardous weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service issued winter storm warnings and winter weather advisories for large portions of South Carolina in connection with the winter storm that began December 9, 2018, and produced a combination of snow, sleet, and freezing rain and resulted in significant accumulations of snow and ice and other hazardous weather conditions, leaving close to 100,000 persons out of power in the wake of the storm; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the foregoing hazardous weather conditions, on December 10th and11th, state government offices in the following counties opened on a delayed schedule or closed to ensure the safety of state employees and the general public:

1. Monday, December 10, 2018:

Delayed: Anderson; Fairfield; Lancaster; Laurens; Oconee; Pickens; Union; York.

Closed: Cherokee; Greenville; Spartanburg

2. Tuesday, December 11, 2018:

Delayed: Cherokee; Greenville; Lancaster; Laurens; Oconee; Pickens; Saluda; Spartanburg

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 8-11-57 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, the undersigned may authorize leave with pay for affected state employees who are absent from work due to the delayed opening or closure of state offices for hazardous weather conditions.

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 authorize leave with pay for affected state employees who were absent from work as directed on December 10 and 11, 2018, as a result of the foregoing hazardous weather conditions. Further, if there was a county delayed opening or closure within the State on these dates for the same hazardous weather event that is omitted from this list, the Department of Administration may notify the Governor's Office and administratively add the county to the above list of covered closures for purposes of forgiving employee leave. This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 22nd DAY OF JANUARY, 2019.

HENRY MCMASTER Governor