Executive Order No. 2018-35

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 2018-30, 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WHEREAS, on September 11, 2018, the undersigned rescinded closures for state government offices and schools, including state-supported colleges, universities, and technical colleges, in the following counties: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) effective Wednesday, September 12, 2018; and

WHEREAS, there are additional counties for which Hurricane Florence, now a tropical storm, no longer poses an imminent threat.

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 Saturday, September 15, 2018, for the following counties: Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester, Orangeburg, Calhoun, Richland, Lexington (Central Conglomerate), and Williamsburg, Marion, Florence, Dillon, Clarendon, Sumter, Darlington, Lee, and Marlboro (a portion of the Northern Conglomerate).

Accordingly, state government offices in these counties should adhere to normal state procedure, following county closures for inclement weather, and state schools in these counties should adhere to the applicable school district policy in resuming regular activities.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Georgetown County and Horry County are still considered at-risk. Therefore, any state government offices (to include state-supported colleges, universities, and technical colleges) and schools located in Georgetown County and Horry County 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 the closures of state government offices and state schools in Georgetown County and Horry County.

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 15th DAY OF
SEPTEMBER, 2018.

HENRY MCMASTER
Governor