

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.

2024-19

WHEREAS, on August 4, 2024, the undersigned issued Executive Order No. 2024-16, declaring a State of Emergency due to the threats posed by Tropical Storm Debby, which subsequently made landfall along the coast of the State of Florida as a hurricane on August 5, 2024, before impacting the State of South Carolina and other areas in the southeastern region of the United States with strong winds and significant and sustained rainfall, as well as other severe weather conditions, including flash, urban, and river flooding; and

WHEREAS, due to the aforementioned State of Emergency and the forecasted hazardous weather conditions and resulting impacts associated with Tropical Storm Debby, and in accordance with the directive set forth in Section 1(H) of Executive Order No. 2024-16 for state government offices to follow county government closure determinations, state government offices in numerous counties throughout the State were closed or operated on an abbreviated schedule on one or more days during the period from August 5, 2024, through August 9, 2024, to ensure the safety of state employees and the general public; and

WHEREAS, section 8-11-57 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, provides, in pertinent part, that “whenever the Governor declares a state of emergency or orders all or some state offices closed due to hazardous weather conditions he may authorize up to five days leave with pay for affected state employees who are absent from work due to the state of emergency or the 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 order and direct as follows:

Section 1. Authorizing Leave with Pay Due to Tropical Storm Debby

A. I hereby authorize leave with pay for affected state employees, as set forth below, who were absent from work during the State of Emergency and due to the aforementioned hazardous weather conditions, and in accordance with the directive set forth in Section 1(H) of

Executive Order No. 2024-16 for state government offices to follow county government closure determinations, in the following counties and on the following dates:

August 5, 2024:

Abbreviated Schedule: Charleston County (closed at 3:00 p.m.)

August 6, 2024:

Closed: Allendale County, Barnwell County, Beaufort County, Charleston County, Colleton County, Dorchester County, Florence County, Hampton County, Jasper County, Orangeburg County, Williamsburg County

Abbreviated Schedule: Bamberg County (closed at 1:00 p.m.), Berkeley County (closed at 12:00 p.m.), Marlboro County (closed at 12:00 p.m.)

August 7, 2024:

Closed: Allendale County, Bamberg County, Barnwell County, Beaufort County, Berkeley County, Calhoun County, Charleston County, Clarendon County, Colleton County, Darlington County, Dorchester County, Florence County, Hampton County, Jasper County, Marion County, Marlboro County, Orangeburg County, Williamsburg County

Abbreviated Schedule: Dillon County (closed at 12:00 p.m.), Georgetown County (closed at 2:00 p.m.)

August 8, 2024:

Closed: Calhoun County, Charleston County, Clarendon County, Colleton County, Dillon County, Dorchester County, Florence County, Horry County, Lee County, Marion County, Marlboro County, Richland County, Sumter County, Williamsburg County

Abbreviated Schedule: Bamberg County (opened at 1:00 p.m.), Fairfield County (opened at 10:00 a.m.), Georgetown County (opened at 10:00 a.m.), Orangeburg County (opened at 12:00 p.m.)

August 9, 2024:

Closed: Berkeley County, Dorchester County, Marion County, Marlboro County

Abbreviated Schedule: Dillon County (opened at 11:00 a.m.)

B. In the event that county government offices in a county not listed above were closed or operated on an abbreviated schedule during the State of Emergency and due to the aforementioned hazardous weather conditions, I hereby authorize the South Carolina Department of Administration to grant leave with pay for affected state employees who were absent from work as a result of the corresponding closure of state government offices and to administratively add any such county to the list of covered closures without the need for further Orders.

Section 2. General Provisions

A. This Order is not intended to create, and does not create, any individual right, privilege, or benefit, whether substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the State of South Carolina, its agencies, departments, political subdivisions, or other entities, or any officers, employees, or agents thereof, or any other person.

B. This Order shall be implemented consistent with and to the maximum extent provided by applicable law and shall be subject to the availability of appropriations. This Order shall not be interpreted, applied, implemented, or construed in a manner so as to impair, impede, or otherwise affect the authority granted by law to an executive agency or department, or the officials or head thereof, including the undersigned.

C. This Order is effective immediately.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 23rd DAY
OF AUGUST, 2024.**

HENRY DARGAN MCMASTER
Governor

ATTEST:

MARK HAMMOND
Secretary of State