Executive Order No. 2017-06

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2017 and April 5, 2017, the National Weather Service issued Severe Thunderstorm Warnings, Flash Flood Watches, High Wind Warnings, Tornado Watches and Tornado Warnings for several counties in South Carolina, leading to the possibility of wind gusts up to eighty miles an hour, large hail, minor flooding, and strong tornadoes, all of which pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of citizens; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the threat of hazardous weather conditions, state government offices closed early on April 3, 2017, in the counties of Lancaster, Newberry and Saluda and on April 5, 2017, in the counties of Aiken, Barnwell, Calhoun, Edgefield, Fairfield, Florence, Lexington, McCormick, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, and Saluda; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 8-11-57 of the South Carolina Code of Laws the governor of this State may authorize leave with pay for affected state employees who were absent from work due to the closing 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 grant leave with pay to state employees absent from work as directed on April 3, 2017 and April 5, 2017, as a result of hazardous weather conditions.

This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 10th DAY OF APRIL, 2017.

HENRY MCMASTER Governor