Executive Order No. 2018-02

WHEREAS, the first week of 2018 represented one of the coldest weather periods on record for the State of South Carolina 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 a severe winter storm that began on January 3, 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; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the foregoing hazardous weather conditions, on January 3, 4, 5, and 8, state government offices in the following counties opened on a delayed schedule, dismissed early, or closed to ensure the safety of state employees and the general public:

1. January 3, 2018:

Delayed: Fairfield.

Closed: Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton, Jasper, and Orangeburg.

Early Dismissal: Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Fairfield, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Richland, Sumter, and Williamsburg.

2. January 4, 2018:

Delayed: Bamberg, Barnwell, and Chesterfield.

Closed: Beaufort, Berkeley, Calhoun, Charleston, Clarendon, Colleton, Darlington, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Georgetown, Hampton, Horry, Jasper, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Orangeburg, Sumter, and Williamsburg.

3. January 5, 2018:

Delayed: Beaufort, Colleton, Darlington, Dillon, Georgetown, Hampton, Horry, Jasper, Marion, Marlboro, and Orangeburg.

Closed: Berkeley, Charleston, Clarendon, Dorchester, Florence, Lee, Sumter, and Williamsburg.

4. January 8, 2018:

Delayed: Pickens, Spartanburg, and Williamsburg.

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 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 January 3, 4, 5, and 8, 2018, as a result of the foregoing hazardous weather conditions. This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 17th DAY OF JANUARY, 2018.

HENRY MCMASTER Governor