Executive Order No. 2018-13

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2018, a gravel truck struck the Secondary Route 50 (Four Holes Road) bridge overpass over I-26 near Exit 153; and

WHEREAS, the impact of the collision resulted in catastrophic damage to the bridge overpass, striking a support structure of the bridge overpass and requiring immediate closure of I-26 Westbound lanes between Exit 154 and 149; and

WHEREAS, the bridge overpass must be removed and replaced; and

WHEREAS, repairs to complete the bridge replacement required for the Secondary Route 50 overpass are beyond the scope of extraordinary maintenance; and

WHEREAS, these conditions constitute an emergency as is contemplated by the terms of Section 125 of Title 23, the United States Code.

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 declare that an emergency exists as a result of the crash at I-26 and Secondary Route 50 and direct the South Carolina Department of Transportation to undertake actions to replace the collapsed bridge to ensure the safety and well-being of the traveling public. I further direct the Department of Transportation to take all necessary action to obtain the federal approval of the Federal Highway Division Administrator to make Federal Highway Division Emergency Relief assistance available to the State.

This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 21st DAY OF MARCH, 2018.

HENRY MCMASTER Governor