

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 25-117

STATE OF DISASTER SMITTY'S SUPPLY FIRE

WHEREAS, the Governor is responsible for meeting the dangers to the state and people presented by emergencies and disasters;

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, et seq., confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana emergency powers to address disasters resulting from natural or man-made events that cause or threaten loss of life, injury, or property damage, as well as emergencies, which include actual or potential conditions created by such disasters;

WHEREAS, when the Governor determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. R.S. 29:724 (B)(l) empowers him to declare a state of emergency or disaster by executive order which has the force and effect of law;

WHEREAS, R.S. 29:724 authorizes the governor during a declared state of emergency or disaster to suspend the provisions of any state regulatory statute prescribing procedures for conducting state business, or the orders, rules or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provision of any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency or disaster;

WHEREAS, a declaration of emergency or disaster activates the state's emergency response and recovery program under the command of the director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness;

WHEREAS, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is responsible for determining the requirements of the state and its political subdivisions for food, clothing, and other necessities and supplies in a designated disaster area;

WHEREAS, Smitty's Supply Inc. in Tangipahoa Parish caught fire on August 24, 2025, resulting in a fire that burned for several days and released thousands of gallons of petroleum products into the surrounding areas;

WHEREAS, soon after the fire began, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") took the lead on both fire suppression and measures to prevent the spillage of additional pollutants into the environment;

WHEREAS, cleanup crews continue active operations across multiple sites, employing containment booms, skimmers, and vacuum trucks to capture and remove recoverable waste from the Tangipahoa River and affected ponds, while ongoing work at the Smitty's Supply facility focuses on containing and recovering waste on-site;

WHEREAS, the EPA has served as the lead agency for remediation in the affected area and has utilized its federal contractors to execute cleanup and recovery operations;

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party's failure to reach a federal funding agreement has resulted in a shutdown of the United States Government as of October 1, 2025, and the White House has indicated that the shutdown will impact federal contracts;

WHEREAS, the White House has announced that funding for all cost-based federal contracts will cease during the government shutdown;

WHEREAS, the EPA has communicated that it will transfer lead cleanup activities of off-site impact to the State on October 15, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Tangipahoa Parish requires assistance from the State of Louisiana to continue active operations to capture and remove recoverable waste from the Tangipahoa River and affected ponds and to contain and recover waste.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JEFF LANDRY, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, order and direct as follows:

Section 1: Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, R.S. 29:721, et seq., a state of disaster is hereby declared to exist as a result of the emergency conditions that currently threaten the property of Louisiana.

Section 2: Pursuant to R.S. 29:724 (A)(3), the designated emergency area is the Parish of Tangipahoa.

Section 3: The Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency

Preparedness (GOHSEP) and the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) are hereby

authorized to undertake any activity authorized by law which they deem appropriate in response to this

declaration.

Section 4: Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:724 (D)(1), the Louisiana Procurement Code (La. R.S.

39:1551. et seq.) and Louisiana Public Bid Law (La. R.S. 38:2211, et seq.) and their corresponding rules

and regulations are hereby suspended for the purpose of the procurement of any good or services necessary

to respond to this disaster, including emergency contracts, cooperative endeavor agreements, and any

other emergency amendments to existing contracts.

Section 5: Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:732, during a declared state of emergency, the prices

charged or value received for goods and services sold within the designated emergency area may not

exceed the prices ordinarily charged for comparable goods and services in the same market area at or

immediately before the time of the state of emergency, unless the price by the seller is attributable to

fluctuations in applicable commodity markets, fluctuations in applicable regional or national market

trends, or to reasonable expenses and charges and attendant business risk incurred in procuring or selling

the goods or services during the state of emergency.

Section 6: All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the State, or any

political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions the State may take in

response to this disaster.

Section 7: This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect from Friday,

October 10, 2025 until Sunday, November 9, 2025 unless amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded

earlier by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 10th day of October 2025.

JEFF LANDRY COVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Nancy Landry

SECRETARY OF STATE