GUBERNATORIAL DISASTER PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, beginning on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, and potentially continuing through at least the morning of Friday, February 4, 2022, the National Weather Service forecasts that Winter Storm Landon will impact a substantial majority of the counties in the State of Illinois, causing significant snowfall ranging from nine to eighteen inches of snow across large portions of Illinois, along with sleet, ice, rain, and high winds; and,

WHEREAS, this storm creates a threat of major-to-extreme disruptions to daily life in portions of the state ranging from Chicago and the Lake Michigan area through central Illinois, and further threatens minor-to-moderate impacts throughout most of the remainder of Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, the disruptions threatened by this impending winter storm include power outages to residences and businesses, snow- and ice-covered roadways with white-out conditions impeding travel, blowing and drifting snow, and overburdened local road crews; and,

WHEREAS, planning and analysis by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency indicates that the effects of this winter storm are expected to exhaust local resources and capabilities, and require the pre-positioning and deployment of state resources in order to respond to and recover from the storm; and,

WHEREAS, these conditions provide legal justification under section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Act for the issuance of a proclamation of disaster in an effort to ensure the State is fully prepared to protect the health and safety of all residents; and,

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution, in Article V, Section 8, provides that “the Governor shall have the supreme executive power, and shall be responsible for the faithful execution of the laws,” and states, in the Preamble, that a central purpose of the Illinois Constitution is to “provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the people”;

NOW, THEREFORE, in the interest of aiding the people of Illinois and the local governments responsible for ensuring public health and safety, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, hereby proclaim as follows:

Section 1: Pursuant to the provisions of Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7, I find that a disaster exists within the State of Illinois and specifically declare all counties in the state as disaster areas. This proclamation authorizes the exercise of all of the emergency powers provided in Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7, including but not limited those specific emergency powers set forth below.
Section 2. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency is directed to implement the State Emergency Operations Plan and coordinate State resources to support local governments in disaster response and recovery operations.

Section 3. To aid with emergency purchases necessary for response and other emergency powers as authorized by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, the provisions of the Illinois Procurement Code that would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with this disaster are suspended to the extent they are not required by federal law.

Section 4: This proclamation can facilitate a request for federal disaster assistance if a complete and comprehensive assessment of damage indicates that effective recovery is beyond the capabilities of the State and affected local governments.

Section 5: This proclamation shall be effective immediately.

[Signature]
JB Pritzker
Governor

Date: February 1, 2022