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John Bel Edwards, Governor
Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D., Secretary

SECRETARY’S EMERGENCY ORDER

STATE OF EMERGENCY – TROPICAL STORM ZETA

- WHEREAS,** pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, the Governor declared a State of Emergency in Proclamation Number 144 JBE 2020 whereby said provision of law confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana emergency powers to deal with emergencies and disasters, including those caused by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural or manmade causes, in order to ensure that preparations of this State will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the State of Louisiana;
- WHEREAS,** when the Governor determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. R.S. 29:724(8)(1) empowers him to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation, or both;
- WHEREAS,** the National Weather Service has indicated that Tropical Storm Zeta, which is currently located in the west central Caribbean, will continue to move and strengthen into a hurricane as it enters the Gulf of Mexico late Monday night into Tuesday morning. As it moves into the central Gulf Tuesday, it is expected to turn northward and then northeastward as it reaches the northern Gulf as a hurricane;
- WHEREAS,** the National Weather Service also indicates that on Tropical Storm Zeta’s current forecast track, it would bring at least moderate impacts to portions of the Louisiana coast;
- WHEREAS,** Tropical Storm Zeta will put southeast Louisiana at risk for hurricane force winds and rain late Tuesday night into Wednesday. Storm surge is expected across the Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida coasts;
- WHEREAS,** due to the tropical nature of this system, there is a potential for storm surge, high and damaging winds, and flooding from rainfall in all coastal parishes, but especially for those parishes east of where Tropical Storm Zeta makes landfall;
- WHEREAS,** many parishes along the coast will need to take protective measures to help mitigate flooding and wind damage in response to this imminent threat; and

Secretary Waiver Order
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WHEREAS, the State anticipates that coastal parishes will declare states of emergency, and assistance may be needed to assist parishes in their response to this developing threat; and,

WHEREAS, to deal with emergencies or disasters and to ensure that preparations of this state will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters, and to preserve the lives and property of the citizens of the state of Louisiana, including the authority to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business, or the orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, I, SHAWN DAVID WILSON, Secretary of Department of Transportation and Development, State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: With respect to the collection of payments at tolls under the operation and control of the state of Louisiana, specifically LA 1 Toll Bridge from Leesville, Louisiana to Grand Isle and Port Fourchon:

1. All tolls are waived.

SECTION 2: This Order is effective October 27, 2020 at 12:00 PM and shall remain in effect until amended, modified or rescinded.



Secretary Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D.
Department of Transportation and Development