



FILED
INDEX DEPARTMENT

JUL 24 2023

IN THE OFFICE OF
SECRETARY OF STATE

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

GUBERNATORIAL DISASTER PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, beginning June 29, 2023, and continuing through July 2, 2023, several rounds of severe storms passed through Illinois producing heavy rainfall, flash flooding, hail, tornadoes, and straight-line winds threatening lives and causing widespread damage and destruction to public and private property; and,

WHEREAS, on June 29th, central Illinois experienced a derecho that brought damaging straight-line winds resulting in five (5) confirmed tornadoes, along with wind gusts in excess of 100 miles per hour across multiple counties; and,

WHEREAS, the tornados and straight-line winds resulted in large debris fields, affecting homeowners, businesses, utilities, and local governments; and,

WHEREAS, due to the significant number of downed trees, branches, and power poles, widespread power outages to homes and businesses occurred; and,

WHEREAS, on June 30th, a second wave of severe storms in southern Illinois produced damaging winds, hail, and rain resulting in additional widespread power outages and significant debris across multiple counties; and,

WHEREAS, the storms during this time period also caused disruptions to transportation due to flash flooding and debris on the roadways; and,

WHEREAS, the continuation of severe storms throughout this time period caused further damage to public and private property in the affected areas and inhibited the ability of areas affected by previous storms to undertake effective response and recovery operations; and,

WHEREAS, high temperatures and humidity throughout the entire period, including during and after these storm systems, required the opening of shelters and public places in order to protect the public from heat-related injuries; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of these storms and the damage they caused to critical infrastructure as well as public and private property, extraordinary measures were required, and have been implemented, to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, reports received by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security established that local resources and capabilities in the communities hit by these storms were exhausted, and State resources were needed to respond to and recover from the effects of the severe storms; and,

WHEREAS, in the time period since these storms, local governments have continued to review the damage that they caused and provide updated damage assessments; and,

WHEREAS, the detailed damage assessments provide legal justification under Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7, for the issuance of a proclamation of disaster that covers more counties than previously identified as a disaster due to these storms.

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:

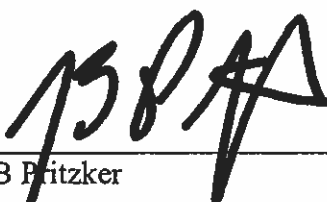
Section 1: Pursuant to the provisions of Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7, I find that a disaster exists within the State of Illinois and specifically declare Calhoun, Christian, Clark, Cumberland, DeWitt, Douglas, Logan, Macon, Monroe, Moultrie, Pike, Scott, and Vermillion Counties as disaster areas.

Section 2. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security is directed to continue implementation of the State Emergency Operations Plan, as it has been doing since June 29th, and to 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 and the Illinois Joint Purchasing Act that would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the 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 and remain in effect for 30 days.


JB Pritzker
Governor

Date: July 24, 2023

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