

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland recognizes the need for an orderly and prompt procedure for the release of State employees under emergency conditions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY HUGHES, GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROMULGATE THE FOLLOWING ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

A. Definitions

As used in this Order, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

1. "Emergency Conditions" means circumstances that would expose State employees to harm or unsafe conditions. Examples of potential emergency conditions may include, but are not limited to:

(a) Extreme weather conditions such as flooding, icing conditions, blizzards, hurricanes, and tornadoes;

(b) Civil disorders, such as riots and war.

2. "Emergency Release Time" means time with full pay that is granted to employees during an emergency condition.

B. Application to Employees and Agencies; Exceptions

1. This Order applies to all agencies in the Executive Branch.

2. Emergency Release Time may be granted under this Order only to employees in the geographical area or facility affected by the emergency condition, as determined by the appropriate Secretaries or their designees.

C. Authority to Determine and Declare Emergency Conditions

1. Secretary of Transportation

Based upon information received under Subsection 5 of this Section, the Secretary of Transportation or his or her designee may declare the existence of emergency conditions arising from extreme weather conditions which, in his or her judgment, result in dangerous traffic or