

Office of the Governor **Commonwealth of Massachusetts** State House • Boston, MA 02133 (617) 725-4000

DEVAL L. PATRICK GOVERNOR TIMOTHY P. MURRAY LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

## **GOVERNOR'S DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is forecast to experience a severe winter storm with heavy snow and high wind conditions impacting the entire Commonwealth;

WHEREAS, the storm will cause moderate to major coastal flooding, widespread heavy snowfall, low visibility and storm force winds throughout the entire Commonwealth;

WHEREAS, the storm poses an imminent threat to public safety with moderate to major flooding, downed trees, widespread power outages, beach erosion and property damage;

WHEREAS, coastal flooding, storm surges and high winds in low lying areas may require the evacuation of residents as well as damage to public and private property;

WHEREAS, declaring a state of emergency will facilitate the Commonwealth's protection of persons and property from the impacts of the storm and expedite the use of Commonwealth resources, as well as the deployment of federal and interstate resources, to provide necessary assistance in the Commonwealth's emergency response and recovery efforts;

WHEREAS, the declaration of emergency will also permit the Commonwealth to request and receive mutual aid assistance from other states through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, and is a prerequisite to requesting a disaster declaration from the President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that local communities will declare local states of emergency and will request resources and support from the Commonwealth's departments and agencies to assist them in dealing with this storm emergency;

WHEREAS, the declaration of emergency will also facilitate the immediate procurement and deployment of goods and services necessary to ensuring a prompt and effective response to, and recovery from, this storm;

WHEREAS, the declaration of emergency will allow the Governor to issue such emergency orders as are necessary to protect the Commonwealth's residents and ensure the health, safety and security of their property

NOW THEREFORE, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, pursuant to the power provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 do hereby issue this proclamation that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a STATE OF EMERGENCY.

Pursuant to the powers granted to the Governor by the Legislature in Sections Five, Six, Seven, Eight and Eight-A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950, as amended, and other provisions of the law, I shall from time to time issue recommendations, directions and orders as circumstances require.

This proclamation of a STATE OF EMERGENCY is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until notice is given, pursuant to my judgment, that the STATE OF EMERGENCY no longer exists.

Given this Star day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and thirteen at 12 AM/P

Deval L. Patrick

Governor