

## THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

## BY THE GOVERNOR:

# DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR SUPPLY CHAIN DISRUPTIONS

WHEREAS: The global supply chain, including within the State of Georgia, has

been detrimentally impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS: Despite the state's successful mitigation of the public health impacts

of COVID-19, Georgia's supply chain has yet to fully recover and is

still experiencing severe disruptions; and

WHEREAS: Supply chain disruptions negatively impact Georgia's economy and

the social and economic wellbeing of its residents; and

**WHEREAS:** The State is experiencing an ongoing emergency due to supply chain

disruptions; and

WHEREAS: The Governor is vested with the emergency powers cited herein as

the Chief Executive of this State; and

WHEREAS: Code Section 38-3-28 provides that "[a]ll orders, rules, and

regulations promulgated by the Governor" have the force and effect

of law; and

WHEREAS: As Chief Executive, the Governor is tasked with protecting the

citizens of this State, including during a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS: Code Section 38-3-51(c)(1) vests the Governor with the power to

enforce all laws, rules, and regulations relating to emergency management and to assume direct operational control of all civil

forces and helpers in the state; and

WHEREAS: Code Section 38-3-51(c)(4) vests the Governor with the power to

perform and exercise such other functions, powers, and duties as may be deemed necessary to promote and secure the safety and

protection of the civilian population; and

WHEREAS:

Code Section 38-3-51(d)(1) vests the Governor with the power to suspend 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 any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency or disaster; and

WHEREAS:

I have determined a state of emergency exists as provided by Code Section 38-3-51, and that the following actions are necessary and appropriate to protect the continued strength of Georgia's economy and provide for the health, safety, and welfare of Georgia's residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS:

Continued action by the State of Georgia is necessary to ensure the complete restoration of social and economic welfare of the State by responding to the ongoing effects of COVID-19 on the State; and

WHEREAS:

As specified above, Georgia law vests the Governor in Code Section 38-3-51 with the authority to bring emergency situations under control by issuing orders, rules, and regulations to protect the safety and welfare of the public.

Now, therefore, pursuant to Code Section 38-3-51, and the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Georgia, it is hereby

**ORDERED:** 

That a State of Emergency exists in the State of Georgia due to ongoing severe disruptions to the State's supply chain and economy.

#### IT IS FURTHER

**ORDERED:** 

That all resources of the State of Georgia shall be made available to assist in activities designed to address this emergency and aid recovery and response efforts.

#### IT IS FURTHER

**ORDERED:** 

That all state and local authorities, as well as public and private entities, shall fully comply with all orders by the Governor as authorized by Georgia law, in furtherance of this Order.

#### IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED:

Pursuant to Code Section 10-1-393.4, price gouging related to goods and services necessary to prepare for and respond to this State of Emergency, including motor fuel and diesel fuel, would be detrimental to the social and economic welfare of the citizens of this State and is therefore prohibited.

## IT IS FURTHER

#### **ORDERED:**

That the federal rules and regulations limiting hours that operators of commercial vehicles may drive are suspended to ensure the supply chain for all supplies, goods, and services throughout Georgia is uninterrupted. This declared emergency justifies a suspension of Part 395 (driver's hours of service) of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The suspension will remain in effect for thirty (30) days or until the emergency condition ceases to exist, whichever is less. Nothing herein will be construed as an exemption from the Commercial Driver's License requirements in 49 C.F.R. 383 and the financial requirements in 49 C.F.R. 387.

#### IT IS FURTHER

#### **ORDERED:**

That no motor carrier operating under the terms of this State of Emergency will require or allow an ill or fatigued driver to operate a motor vehicle. A driver who notifies a motor vehicle carrier that he or she needs immediate rest will be given at least ten (10) consecutive hours off-duty before being required to return to service.

## IT IS FURTHER

#### ORDERED:

That weight, height, and length for any such vehicle traveling through the State of Georgia for the purposes of providing relief related to this State of Emergency for Supply Chain Disruptions, which traverses roadways maintained by the State of Georgia, excluding interstates, shall not exceed the following:

- A. A maximum gross vehicle weight for vehicles equipped with five (5) weight-bearing axles, with an outer bridge span of not less than fifty-one (51) feet, shall not exceed a gross vehicle weight of ninety-five (95) thousand pounds, a maximum width of ten (10) feet, and an overall length of one hundred (100) feet. Continuous travel is authorized with the proper escorts.
- B. If the width of said vehicle exceeds eight (8) feet six (6) inches and is traveling after daylight, defined as thirty (30) minutes before sunset to thirty (30) minutes after sunrise, the transporter is required to have a vehicle front and a rear escort/amber light when traveling on a two-lane roadway and a vehicle rear escort when traveling on a four-lane highway. Transporters are responsible for ensuring that they have proper oversize signs, markings, flags, and escorts as defined in the Georgia Department of Transportation Rules and Regulations.

## IT IS FURTHER

#### **ORDERED:**

That commercial vehicles operating outside the normal weight, height, and length restrictions under the authority of this State of Emergency shall be issued permits by the Georgia Department of Public Safety. Said vehicles shall be subject to any special conditions the Georgia Department of Public Safety may list on applicable permits. Nothing in this Executive Order shall be construed to allow any vehicle to exceed weight limits posted for bridges and like structures, nor shall anything in this Executive Order be construed to relieve compliance with restrictions other than those specified in this Order or from any statute, rule, order, or other legal requirement not specifically waived herein.

Oversize permits may be issued by the Georgia Department of Public Safety, Motor Carrier Compliance Division, during normal business hours, Monday through Friday by calling 404-624-7700 or through the Georgia Permitting and Routing Optimization System online portal at https://gapros.dot.ga.gov/.

## IT IS FURTHER

#### **ORDERED:**

That this Executive Order does not suspend operation of any state or federal law or regulation, except as specifically described herein, nor do the waiver of rules and regulations in this Order affect or amend similar rule and regulation waivers for motor carriers or commercial vehicles.

#### IT IS FURTHER

## **ORDERED:**

That any provision of the laws or regulations of this state, including but not limited to Code Section 40-5-21.1, that limits the time period for which a noncitizen who holds a Georgia driver's license or identification card may be issued a temporary driving permit or identification card to 120 days from the date of expiration of his or her valid driver's license or identification card is hereby suspended to the extent necessary to allow noncitizen holders of a Georgia driver's license or identification card, whose driver's license or identification card expired on or after March 14, 2020, who have already been issued the 120 day temporary driving permit or identification card permitted under Code Section 40-5-21.1, and have filed, or on whose behalf has been filed, a request for an extension with the United States Department of Homeland Security, or similar such federal issuing agency, for time to remain lawfully within the United States and said request is still pending, to apply to the Georgia Department of Driver Services for one or more additional 120 day temporary driving permits or identification cards. Any such temporary driving permit or identification card shall be issued in accordance with existing procedures established by the Georgia

Department of Driver Services and in the sole discretion of the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Driver Services. The Georgia Department of Driver Services shall be authorized to issue additional guidelines and procedures for the application and issuance of said temporary driving permits and identification cards as needed. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to suspend or otherwise alter any existing identity or lawful status verification requirements established by the Georgia Department of Driver Services to comply with federal REAL ID requirements.

#### IT IS FURTHER

**ORDERED:** 

That if one or more of the provisions contained in this Order shall be held to be invalid, in violation of the Georgia Constitution, in violation of Georgia law, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, violation, or unenforceability shall not effect any other provisions of this Order, but, in such case, this Order shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained within the Order.

## IT IS FURTHER

**ORDERED:** 

The Office of the Governor may continue to issue guidance on the scope of this Order as needed through communication media, including social media, without need for further Executive Orders.

## IT IS FURTHER

**ORDERED:** 

All provisions of the Order shall become effective on Saturday, April 16, 2022, at 12:00 A.M., and shall be valid for a period of thirty (30) days, expiring Sunday, May 15, 2022, at 11:59 P.M. unless this State of Emergency is renewed by the Governor.

This 14th day of April 2022.

GOVERNOR