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

SECRETARY WAIVER ORDER

FEMA Housing Unit and Mobile Classroom Transport

- 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 No. 111 JBE 2016; and
- WHEREAS,** the safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the affected areas of Louisiana and surrounding states require that the movements of operators of commercial motor carriers traveling on the public highways of the state of Louisiana for the purpose of emergency preparedness and disaster relief efforts be expedited; and
- WHEREAS,** in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 32:387, the Governor has delegated the authority to the Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development to waive the requirements relative to the rules of permits for the purpose of disaster, emergency or emergency preparedness; 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; and
- WHEREAS,** the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) intends to deliver up to approximately four thousand housing units that exceed applicable size limitations to Louisiana; and
- WHEREAS,** local school districts intend to deliver portable classroom buildings or mobile classrooms to restore public education services disrupted by the disaster; and
- WHEREAS,** to meet immediate housing needs for displaced Louisiana citizens and restore public education services, FEMA and local school districts have sought oversize permit relief from the Department of Transportation and Development.

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:** Notwithstanding restrictions in Sections 2 and 3, housing units being transported in Louisiana on behalf of FEMA and portable classroom buildings or mobile classrooms being transported to restore regular public education services in Louisiana, shall not be subject to applicable permit requirements for being oversize, except escort requirements, and are authorized to move at night.
- SECTION 2:** To mitigate impacts to safety and congestion for the traveling public around the Christmas holiday, transport of housing units and portable classroom buildings or mobile classrooms authorized in Section 1 are limited to I-20, I-55, and I-12 on December 25 - 26, 2016. The same limitation applies on December 24, 2016, except for a restriction on I-12 between 6:00 AM to 12:00 PM.
- SECTION 3:** To mitigate impacts to safety and congestion for the traveling public around the New Year's Day holiday, transport of housing units and portable classroom buildings or mobile classrooms authorized in Section 1 are limited to I-20, I-55, and I-12 on December 31, 2016 – January 1, 2017. The same limitation applies on January 2, 2017, except for a restriction on I-12 between 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM.
- SECTION 4:** Nothing in this Order shall be construed to allow any vehicle transporting commodities for disaster preparedness and relief to exceed weight limits posted for bridges and like structures, or relieve any vehicle or carrier, owner or driver of any vehicle from compliance with any restrictions other than those specified, or from any statute, rule, order, or other legal requirement not specifically waived herein.
- SECTION 5:** Nothing in this Order shall be construed or interpreted as being applicable to travel on non-state maintained highways, or as being applicable to construction and building projects that are not in support of rescue, recovery and repair efforts associated with the emergency which prompted the emergency declaration in Proclamation No. 111 JBE 2016.
- SECTION 6:** This Order was effective as of August 24, 2016, and was modified and extended through February 28, 2017.
- SECTION 7:** This Order has hereby been further modified as of December 8, 2016, and remains in effect through February 28, 2017.



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