



#### **EXECUTIVE ORDER #7**

#### **Relating to Declaring a State of Emergency and Closing State Office Buildings**

**WHEREAS**, a state of emergency was declared for the State of Wisconsin on January 28, 2019, in anticipation of a dangerous winter storm with heavy snowfall, bitter and potentially life-threatening temperatures, extreme wind chill values at -30 to -50 degrees below zero, and blowing and drifting snow during January 28 through January 31, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, these extreme temperatures present an imminent threat to the wellbeing of the public

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS**, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, hereby order the following:

1. Direct and authorize all state agencies of the State of Wisconsin to close state government offices for public business (remaining open to employees subject to below provisions) on January 30, 2019.
2. Direct and authorize all state agencies to allow employees who request to be excused from work due to the severe weather conditions to use appropriate leave (excluding sick leave) in accordance with applicable rules or collective bargaining agreements, **except** that employees whose job duties include the provision or support of an emergency response, public health, or public safety function and their absence would compromise delivery of essential public health, public safety, or emergency response functions that are required to continue despite weather conditions may only be released at the discretion of the appointing authority based on operational needs.
3. In recognition of the severity of this weather event agencies are directed to utilize all available means to ensure employee safety including work from home, flex scheduling, alternate work hours or days, or any other alternative work options in addition to the use of appropriate leave (excluding the aforementioned employees who may only be released at the discretion of the appointing authority based on operational needs).
4. The Wisconsin State Capitol is exempt from this order and remains open to the public.

5. University of Wisconsin System facilities are exempt from this order and shall make their own determination on closures.



**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this twenty-ninth Day of January in the year of two thousand nineteen.

  
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TONY EVERS  
Governor

By the Governor:

  
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DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State