WHEREAS, from February 23, 2015 to February 26, 2015, the National Weather Service began issuing Wither Weather Advisories, Freezing Rain Advisories, and Winter Storm Warnings in effect from February 23, 2015 to February 26, 2015, forecasting periods of snow, sleet, freezing rain, and temperatures below freezing in parts of South Carolina leading to the possibility of hazardous driving conditions and power outages, which pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of citizens; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the threat of hazardous weather conditions, state government offices were closed or delayed in accordance with county government offices as follows: On February 24, 2015, state offices were delayed in Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dillon, Dorchester, Lancaster, Laurens, Merion, Oconee, and Williamsburg Counties, were dismissed early in Dillon and Florence Counties, and were closed in Fairfield and Orangeburg Counties; On February 25, 2015, state offices were delayed in Dillon, Lancaster, Orangeburg, and Williamsburg Counties; On February 26, 2015, state offices were delayed in Laurens, McCormick, Saluda, Union, and York Counties and were closed in Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg Counties; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 8-11-57 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, the governor of this State may authorize leave with pay for affected state employees who are absent from work due to the closing of state offices for hazardous weather conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the laws and Constitution of the State of South Carolina, I hereby grant leave with pay to state employees absent from work as directed on February 24, 2015 through February 26, 2015, due to the closing of state offices caused by hazardous weather conditions.
This order shall take effect immediately.


NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor

ATTEST:

MARK HAMMOND
Secretary of State