



HALEY BARBOUR
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Laura Hipp (601) 576-2020; lhipp@governor.state.ms.us

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STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED FOR SEVERAL COUNTIES

JACKSON – A State of Emergency has been declared for 14 Mississippi counties after spring storms swept across the state. Lt. Gov. Phil Bryant, in consultation with Gov. Haley Barbour, ordered the State of Emergency.

The counties of Attala, Choctaw, Clay, Copiah, Greene, Hinds, Issaquena, Kemper, Leflore, Neshoba, Rankin, Tallahatchie, Warren and Wayne reported damage from the storms. The State of Emergency order allows emergency responders to efficiently utilize resources and receive state aid to respond to the situation.

“Our prayers are with the families and communities that have been affected by this line of strong storms,” Gov. Barbour said. “This emergency declaration will help local responders begin recovery quickly.”

Gov. Barbour is in South Carolina and will return to Mississippi tomorrow.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

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A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Attala, Choctaw, Clay, Copiah, Greene, Hinds, Issaquena, Kemper, Leflore, Neshoba, Rankin, Tallahatchie, Warren and Wayne counties and other parts of the State of Mississippi were severely affected by severe thunderstorms and tornadoes on April 15, 2011, which included torrential rain, damaging winds, flooding, lightning and tornadoes, and thus state assistance will be necessary to support local government response and recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, this severe spring weather system has caused damage to homes, businesses, public property, and threatened the safety of the citizens and property throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, in consideration of the health and safety of the residents and the protection of their property within the affected areas, and in the public interest, all steps should be taken to protect people and property:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, Acting Governor of the State of Mississippi, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Constitution of the State of Mississippi and Section 33-15-11(b)(17), Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, and in the public interest and for the general welfare, do hereby proclaim a State of Emergency to exist in the areas of the State of Mississippi affected by this severe weather system. The provisions of this proclamation shall exist and remain in effect until such time as this threat to public safety shall cease to exist as prescribed in Section 33-15-11(b)(17), Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

FURTHER, all agencies of the State of Mississippi shall discharge their emergency responsibilities as deemed necessary as set forth in the state of Mississippi's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the fifteenth day of April in the year of our Lord, two thousand and eleven and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-fifth.

Handwritten signature of Phil Bryant in black ink.

PHIL BRYANT
ACTING GOVERNOR

BY THE ACTING GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of C. Delbert Hosemann, Jr. in blue ink.
C. DELBERT HOSEMANN, JR.
SECRETARY OF STATE