

STATE OF INDIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
INDIANAPOLIS

EXECUTIVE ORDER 26-03

FOR: DECLARATION OF A STATEWIDE DISASTER EMERGENCY DUE TO A SEVERE WINTER STORM

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, beginning on or about January 23, 2026, the State of Indiana is expected to experience a severe winter storm producing significant snowfall, extreme cold temperatures, hazardous travel conditions, and threats to public health and safety;

WHEREAS, forecasts indicate that this winter storm will likely result in life-threatening cold, widespread transportation disruptions, increased demand on emergency services, potential power outages, and risks to vulnerable populations;

WHEREAS, such conditions constitute a disaster emergency as defined in Indiana Code § 10-14-3-1, and threaten the lives, property, and economic stability of the citizens of Indiana;

WHEREAS, Indiana Code § 10-14-3-12 authorizes the Governor to declare a disaster emergency when a disaster has occurred or is imminent; and

WHEREAS, state agencies, local governments, and emergency responders must act in a coordinated and expedited manner to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the impacts of this winter storm.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike Braun, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby order that:

1. Declare a statewide disaster emergency which shall be effective immediately and, pursuant to Indiana Code § 10-14-3-12, shall continue for a period of sixty (60) days, unless terminated sooner;
2. Direct the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) to coordinate the state's emergency response efforts, including preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation activities related to this disaster emergency; and
3. Order all executive branch agencies to provide assistance, resources, and personnel as requested by the IDHS to support emergency operations and ensure public safety.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, Mike Braun, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Indiana, on this 23rd day of January, 2026.

A handwritten signature of Mike Braun in blue ink.

Mike Braun
Governor of Indiana

Diego Morales

ATTEST: Diego Morales
Secretary of State