



The State of Maryland

Executive Department

EXECUTIVE ORDER
01.01.2024.12

Authorizing Suspension of Statutes, Rules, and Regulations Governing Grants, Procurements,
and Temporary Assistance Programs Related to the Francis Scott Key Bridge Collapse

- WHEREAS, On March 26, 2024, a cargo ship collided with the Francis Scott Key Bridge (the "Key Bridge") in Baltimore, causing the collapse of the Key Bridge;
- WHEREAS, On March 26, 2024, Executive Order 01.01.2024.09 was issued, declaring a State of Emergency to respond to the collapse of the Key Bridge, and that State of Emergency still exists;
- WHEREAS, The negative effects of the collapse of the Key Bridge include significant economic, financial, and workforce-related impacts on the State of Maryland and local jurisdictions, particularly those local jurisdictions in Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, and Baltimore County that are most affected by the collapse of the Key Bridge and disruption to the operations of the Port of Baltimore;
- WHEREAS, To address the significant economic, financial and workforce-related impacts of the collapse of the Key Bridge, the State is establishing temporary economic and financial relief programs to assist those most affected by the collapse of the Key Bridge and disruption to the operations of the Port of Baltimore; and
- WHEREAS, To constrain and minimize the negative economic, financial, and workforce-related impacts on the State and the local jurisdictions most affected by the collapse of the Key Bridge and protect the public welfare, it is necessary for the State and these local jurisdictions to have increased flexibility to expeditiously enter into grant agreements and procurement contracts or administer any temporary economic and financial relief programs established to support the recovery from the economic,

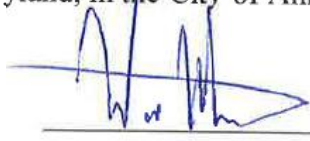
financial, and workforce-related impacts of the collapse of the Key Bridge until the State of Emergency has ended.

NOW THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TITLE 14 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE, DO HEREBY ORDER:

- A. The head of each unit of State government or the political subdivisions of Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, or Baltimore County may, upon a finding that the suspension is necessary to protect the public health, welfare, or safety and will not endanger the public health, welfare, or safety, and after notification to the Governor, suspend the effect of any statute, rule, or regulation that governs grants and procurements to the extent the statute, rule, or regulation interferes with the response to the collapse of the Key Bridge.
- B. The head of each unit of State government or the political subdivisions of Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, or Baltimore County may, upon a finding that the suspension is necessary to protect the public health, welfare, or safety and will not endanger the public health, welfare, or safety, and after notification to the Governor, suspend the effect of any statute, rule, or regulation that interferes with the establishment or administration of any temporary economic and financial relief program specifically related to the response to the economic, financial, or workforce-related impacts from the collapse of the Key Bridge.
- C. Such suspension may, at the discretion of the unit head and to the extent that it will not endanger public health, welfare, or safety, continue until no later than the date by which the State of Emergency declared by Executive Order 01.01.2024.09, is terminated.
- D. The effect of any statute, rule, or regulation of an agency of the State or the political subdivisions of Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, or Baltimore County, inconsistent with this order is hereby suspended.

- E. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of the Order shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Order are severable.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 11th Day of April 2024.



Wes Moore
Governor

ATTEST:



Susan C. Lee
Secretary of State

