



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR ACUTE CONSUMER PRICE SHOCK

- WHEREAS:** Global markets remain unstable and are subjecting Georgians to unpredictable price shocks on basic goods and services; and
- WHEREAS:** The factors driving these market shifts are inherently unpredictable, and therefore, difficult, if not impossible, for the citizens of our State to budget for, exacerbating the impact on hardworking Georgians; and
- WHEREAS:** Brent crude futures, a global benchmark for oil prices, rose more than three percent on Friday, May 15, 2026, alone, and other index prices have similarly fluctuated dramatically over the past weeks; and
- WHEREAS:** It is necessary to take proactive measures to insulate Georgia's citizens from these acute price fluctuations, so that families and small businesses can budget appropriately and better ensure their long-term financial stability; and
- WHEREAS:** The upcoming Memorial Day holiday is already a period of elevated travel and corresponding upward pressure on gas prices from the increased demand; and
- WHEREAS:** The General Assembly passed a temporary, 60-day suspension of motor fuel taxes on March 20, 2026, and such suspension is set to expire at the end of the day on May 19, 2026, further amplifying the harmful consumer effects mentioned above; and
- WHEREAS:** Code Section 45-12-22 vests the Governor with the power to suspend the collection of state motor fuel taxes during a declared state of emergency, subject to the ratification by the General Assembly at its next meeting; and
- WHEREAS:** The Governor is vested with the emergency powers cited herein as the Chief Executive of this State; and

WHEREAS: Pursuant to Code Section 38-3-28, “[a]ll orders, rules, and regulations promulgated by the Governor” have the full force and effect of law; and

WHEREAS: Code Section 38-3-51(c)(1) vests the Governor with the power to enforce all laws, rules, and regulations relating to emergency management and to assume direct operational control of all civil forces and helpers in the state; and

WHEREAS: Code Section 38-3-51(c)(4) vests the Governor with the power to perform and exercise such other functions, powers, and duties as may be deemed necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population; and

WHEREAS: Code Section 38-3-51(d) vests the Governor with the power to suspend any statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency if strict compliance with any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency or disaster; and

WHEREAS: In consultation with state economic officials, I have determined that a state of emergency exists and that the following actions are necessary and appropriate to protect the continued strength of Georgia’s economy and provide for the health, safety, and welfare of Georgia’s residents and visitors.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO CODE SECTIONS 38-3-51, AND THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That a State of Emergency exists in the State of Georgia due to the risk of acute consumer shock due to volatile prices on everyday goods and services, including, but not limited to, gas prices.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That all resources of the State of Georgia be made available to assist in activities designed to address this emergency.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That all state and local authorities, as well as public and private entities, shall fully comply with all orders by the Governor as authorized by Georgia law, in furtherance of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That, pursuant to Code Section 10-1-393.4, price gouging related to goods and services necessary to respond to this State of Emergency, including motor and diesel fuel, would be detrimental to the social and economic welfare of the citizens of this State and is therefore prohibited.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That, pursuant to Code Section 45-12-22, the collection of motor and diesel fuel taxes required by Code Section 48-9-3 is hereby suspended for the effective dates of this State of Emergency, unless otherwise terminated.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That no distributor of motor or diesel fuel shall be found in violation of Code Section 48-9-17 for complying with the terms of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the collection of tax required by Code Section 48-8-30 upon the retail purchase, retail sale, rental, storage, use, or consumption of fuel to a contract or common carrier regulated by the United States Surface Transportation Board for use exclusively by such carrier is hereby suspended for the effective dates of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That if one or more of the provisions in this Order shall be held to be invalid, in violation of the Georgia Constitution, in violation of Georgia law, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, violation, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions of this Order, and, in such case, this Order shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained within the Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That no provision of this Order shall limit, infringe, suspend, or supplant any judicial order, judgment, or decree issued pursuant to the laws or constitution of this State or the laws or constitution of the United States, nor shall any person use any provision in this Order as a defense to an action in violation of a judicial order, judgment, or decree by any court created pursuant to the laws or constitution of this State or the laws or Constitution of the United States.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That this Order does not suspend operation of any state or federal law or regulation, except as specifically described herein.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: The Office of the Governor may continue to issue guidance on the scope of this Order as needed through communication media, including social media, without need for further Executive Orders.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: The suspension of motor and diesel fuel taxes provided in this Order shall become effective on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 12:00 A.M., and shall be valid for a period of fourteen (14) days, expiring Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 11:59 P.M., unless this State of Emergency is renewed by the Governor.

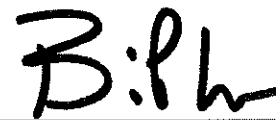
IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: All other provisions of this Order shall become effective upon signature and shall be valid for a period of eighteen (18) days, expiring Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 11:59 P.M., unless this State of Emergency is renewed by the Governor.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That this Order shall be effective upon signature.

This 15th day of May 2026.



GOVERNOR