WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, et seq., confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana emergency powers to deal with emergencies, including those caused by breach of cybersecurity, in order to ensure that preparations of this State will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the State of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, when the Governor determines that an emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. R.S. 29:724(B)(1) empowers the Governor to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation, or both;

WHEREAS, there have been severe, intentional cybersecurity breaches in the Sabine, Morehouse, and City of Monroe school systems that may potentially compromise other public and private entities throughout the State of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, there is significant risk that this emergency is ongoing; and

WHEREAS, the State anticipates various state agencies and political subdivisions will need to work cooperatively to mitigate any damage, current or future, as a result of these cybersecurity breaches.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, et seq., a state of emergency is hereby declared to exist statewide in the State of Louisiana as a result of the imminent threat to the citizens of the State.

SECTION 2: Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:732, during a declared state of emergency, the prices charged or value received for goods and services sold within the designated emergency area may not exceed the prices ordinarily charged for comparable goods and services in the same market area at or immediately before the time of the emergency.
SECTION 4: All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the state, or any political subdivision thereof, are further authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to preserve the security and confidentiality of any data related to this emergency, including the execution of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs), and/or any other related documents.

SECTION 5: Any departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the state, or any political subdivision thereof, that may be affected by this cybersecurity emergency are directed to work with state officials to ensure there is a coordinated response to this event and are further directed to comply with the requirements of the Database Security Breach Notification Law, La. R.S. 51:3071 et seq.

SECTION 6: The State Superintendent of Education is hereby authorized to suspend the provisions of La. R.S. 17:3914, if strict compliance therewith would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this emergency.

SECTION 7: Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:724(D)(1), the Louisiana Procurement Code (La. R.S. 39:1551 et seq.), Louisiana Public Bid Law (La. R.S. 38:2211, et seq.), and the Louisiana Information Technology Procurement Code (La. R.S. 39:196-200), and their corresponding rules and regulations are hereby suspended if strict compliance therewith would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this emergency.

SECTION 8: This proclamation is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect from Tuesday, July 23, 2019 to Wednesday, August 21, 2019, unless terminated sooner.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 24th day of July, 2019.

[Signature]
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA