

EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Executive Order No. 26: Statewide Language Access Policy.

WHEREAS, two and one-half million New Yorkers have limited-English proficiency which means they do not speak English as their primary language and have limited ability to read, speak, write or understand English, thereby presenting potential barriers to accessing important government programs or services; and

WHEREAS, the public safety, health, economic prosperity, and general welfare of all New York residents is furthered by increasing language access to State programs and services; and

WHEREAS, the State is committed to ensuring that language access services are implemented in a cost effective and efficient manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of New York, do hereby order as follows:

1. Executive State agencies that provide direct public services shall translate vital documents, including essential public documents such as forms and instructions provided to or completed by program beneficiaries or participants. The translation shall be in the six most common non-English languages spoken by individuals with limited-English proficiency in the State of New York, based on United States census data, and relevant to services offered by each of such agencies. Translation shall be achieved on a rolling basis to be completed no later than 365 days of the signing of this Order.

2. Each such agency shall provide interpretation services between the agency and an individual in his or her primary language with respect to the provision of services or benefits.

3. Each such agency shall publish a language access plan that will reflect how the agency will comply with this Order and all progress since it last submitted a language access plan. Such plan shall be issued within 90 days of the signing of this Order, and updated every two years thereafter.

4. Each language access plan shall set forth, at a minimum, the following:

a. When and by what means the agency will provide or is already providing language assistance services;

b. The titles of all available translated documents and the languages into which they have been translated;

c. The number of public contact positions in the agency and the number of bilingual employees in public contact positions, including the languages they speak;

d. A training plan for agency employees which includes, at minimum, annual training on the language access policies of the agency and how to provide language assistance services;

e. A plan for annual internal monitoring of the agency's compliance with this Order;

f. A plan of how the agency intends to notify the population of offered language assistant services; and

g. A language access coordinator at the agency, who shall be publicly identified.

5. The language access coordinator for each such agency shall monitor the agency's compliance with this Order by annually collecting data on the provision of language assistance services, the availability of translated materials, whether signage is properly posted, and any other relevant measures.

6. The Deputy Secretary for Civil Rights shall oversee, coordinate

and provide guidance to agencies in implementing this Order and ensure that the provision of services by agencies meets acceptable standards of translation or interpretation.

(L.S.)

GIVEN under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State in the City of Albany, this sixth day of October in the year two thousand eleven.

BY THE GOVERNOR

/S/ Andrew M. Cuomo

/s/ Lawrence Schwartz

Secretary to the Governor

Executive Order No. 27: Extending the Period for Paying School District Taxes in Certain School Districts Within the Counties of Albany and Orange.

WHEREAS, beginning on August 27, 2011 and continuing thereafter, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee brought torrential rainfall causing record flooding and storm surge throughout the State of New York;

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2011 and September 29, 2011, as a result of the personal hardships caused by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, I issued Executive Order Nos. 23 and 24 extending the period for paying without interest or penalty the real property taxes that are due on or about September 30, 2011 in certain school districts in the counties of Broome, Delaware, Essex, Greene, Hamilton, Orange, Schenectady, Schoharie, Sullivan, Tioga, Ulster and Washington;

WHEREAS, since September 19, 2011, additional requests for an extension of the period for paying school district taxes for the 2011-2012 school year have been received by the Governor's Office on behalf of (i) Berne-Knox-Westerlo Central School District located within Albany County and (ii) Goshen Central School District, Chester Union Free Central School District and Port Jervis Central School District, all located within Orange County;

WHEREAS, school district taxes for the 2011-2012 school year were due on or about September 30, 2011 in the aforementioned school districts;

WHEREAS, section 925-a of the Real Property Tax Law authorizes the Governor to extend the period for paying such taxes without interest or penalty upon request of the chief executive officer of an affected county, city, town, village or school district during a State disaster emergency;

WHEREAS, given the difficulties continuing to confront the residents of the aforementioned counties, such an extension is eminently warranted;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, by virtue of the authority vested in me by section 925-a of the Real Property Tax Law, do hereby extend the period for paying without interest or penalty the school district taxes that were due on or about September 30, 2011 in the afore-mentioned school districts within the aforementioned counties for twenty-one days from the final date such taxes were currently due;

FURTHER, this Executive Order may be revised and amended to extend the period for paying school taxes for school districts within the counties adversely affected by Hurricane Irene or Tropical Storm Lee.

(L.S.) GIVEN under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State in the City of Albany, this seventh day of October in the year two thousand eleven.

Secretary to the Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR
/S/ Andrew M. Cuomo
/s/ Lawrence Schwartz
Secretary to the Governor

Executive Order No. 28: Declaring a Disaster in the Counties of Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Cortland, Erie, Livingston, Monroe, Orleans, Oswego, Otsego, Saratoga, Schuyler, St. Lawrence, Sullivan, Tompkins, Washington, Wayne and Wyoming with Respect to the Extensive Damage Caused to Federal-Aid Highways.

WHEREAS, beginning April 26, 2011, and continuing thereafter, a series of severe storms occurred in the counties of Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Cortland, Erie, Livingston, Monroe, Orleans, Oswego, Otsego, Saratoga, Schuyler, St. Lawrence, Sullivan, Tompkins, Washington, Wayne and Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these storms, New York State has sustained severe damage to its road systems, including bridges, roadbeds and associated facilities; and

WHEREAS, the immediate repair and reconstruction of the damaged road systems, including Federal-aid highways throughout the affected jurisdictions, is vital to the security, well-being and health of the citizens of New York; and

WHEREAS, Section 28(4) of Article 2-B of the Executive Law authorizes the Governor, if he finds that a disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and affected jurisdictions, to make an appropriate request for federal assistance available under federal law; and

WHEREAS, Sections 120(e) and 125 of Title 23 of the United States Code and Section 668.101 of Title 23 of the Code of Federal Regulations authorize Emergency Relief funding and establish an Emergency Relief Program for the repair or reconstruction of Federal-aid highways that are found to have suffered severe damage as a result of a natural disaster over a wide area;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of New York, do hereby find that a disaster has occurred for which the State and affected local governments are unable to respond adequately with respect to extensive damages caused to Federal-aid highways. Therefore, pursuant to Section 28(4) of Article 2-B of the Executive Law, I hereby declare a State Disaster Emergency effective April 26, 2011, within the territorial boundaries of the counties of Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Cortland, Erie, Livingston, Monroe, Orleans, Oswego, Otsego, Saratoga, Schuyler, St. Lawrence, Sullivan, Tompkins, Washington, Wayne and Wyoming; and

FURTHER, this declaration satisfies the requirements of the terms of Sections 120(e) and 125 of Title 23 of the United States Code; and

FURTHER, I have designated, Joan McDonald, Commissioner of the Department of Transportation, as my coordinating officer for this event.

(L.S.) GIVEN under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State in the City of Albany, this seventh day of October in the year two thousand eleven.

BY THE GOVERNOR
/S/ Andrew M. Cuomo
/s/ Lawrence Schwartz