



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 21-37**

**DETERMINATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY IN OREGON DUE TO SEVERE WINTER WEATHER THAT INCLUDES SNOW ACCUMULATION AND SUSTAINED TEMPERATURES BELOW FREEZING ACROSS THE STATE**

Pursuant to ORS 401.165, I find a potential threat to life, safety, property, and significant damage to infrastructure exists due to severe winter weather across Oregon. The National Weather Service has issued multiple winter storm watches, warnings, and winter weather advisories throughout our state. Beginning December 24, 2021, and continuing, this severe weather is expected to bring heavy snow and sustained temperatures below freezing, resulting in critical transportation failures and disruptions to power and communications infrastructure.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:**

1. The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) shall coordinate access to and use of personnel and equipment of all state agencies necessary to assess, alleviate, respond to, mitigate, or recover from conditions caused by this emergency. OEM shall coordinate all essential protective measures in support of identified disaster areas to protect lives, property, and the environment. All citizens are to heed the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency in order to protect their safety.
2. The Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon National Guard, Oregon State Police, Oregon Department of Transportation, the Oregon Public Utility Commission, and other state agencies are directed to provide any assistance as requested by OEM that is deemed necessary to assist in the response to this emergency and to provide all necessary support to statewide response, recovery, and mitigation efforts.
3. This determination of a severe winter weather emergency is statewide. It is not to be construed as a comprehensive declaration or proclamation of emergency for other purposes. It is limited to the use of state resources and personnel required by the emergency, to request assistance through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, if needed, and to allow state agencies to suspend provisions of any order or rule of the agency if strict compliance with the provisions of the order or rule would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay mitigating the effects of the severe winter weather emergency. Any local government requests for state resources must be submitted through county governing bodies to the Office of Emergency Management pursuant to ORS Chapter 401.



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4. This state of emergency shall exist until 11:59 p.m., January 3, 2022, unless extended or terminated sooner by the Governor.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2021.

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Kate Brown  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

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Shemia Fagan  
SECRETARY OF STATE