

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Illinois agriculture produces foodstuffs that feed the world, creates prosperity in Illinois' rural economy, and provides jobs and income to hard-working Illinoisans on more than 71,000 farms stretching across 26.6 million acres; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture's 2018 Farm Sector Income Forecast has forecasted that 2018 net farm income will decrease \$9.8 billion (13 percent) from 2017; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture's August 2018 Crop Production Report estimates potential record high yields of both corn and soybeans in Illinois, making the ability to utilize transportation efficiencies imperative for Illinois farmers; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois' surrounding states provide either by law or proclamation for increased weight limits for vehicles carrying agricultural commodities, which increases efficiency in the crop transportation process; and,

WHEREAS, on August 22, 2018, the Illinois Farm Bureau, the State's largest general farm organization, requested that a harvest season emergency be declared; and,

WHEREAS, Section 15-301(e-1) of the Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 5/15-301(e-1)) allows the Governor to declare that an emergency harvest situation exists, which allows vehicles, with a permit from the Illinois Department of Transportation, to exceed the maximum axle weight limits, gross weight limits, and the registered gross weight by 10 percent on federal and State highways under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Department of Transportation, excluding interstate highways; and,

WHEREAS, on August 25, 2018, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, signed HB 5749 into law as P.A. 100-1090, to annually allow Illinois farmers to obtain overweight permits from the Illinois Department of Transportation during harvest without the requirement of a gubernatorial harvest emergency declaration, but this legislative change does not become effective until after the 2018 harvest; and,

THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim that, from September 10, 2018, until December 31, 2018, an emergency harvest situation exists for the transportation of all agricultural commodities from Illinois' fields to market and also to and between storage or processing facilities on federal and State highways under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Department of Transportation, excluding interstate highways.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this SEVENTH day of SEPTEMBER, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
EIGHTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundredth.*



Deese Whitt
SECRETARY OF STATE

Bruce Rauner
GOVERNOR