



**The State of Maryland**  
**Executive Department**

EXECUTIVE ORDER  
01.01.2024.13

Authorizing the Secretary of Natural Resources to Modify Rules  
for the Operation of Vessels in Close Proximity to the Francis Scott Key Bridge Area

WHEREAS, On March 26, 2024, a cargo ship collided with the Francis Scott Key Bridge (the "Key Bridge") in Baltimore, causing the collapse of the Key Bridge;

WHEREAS On March 26, 2024, Executive Order 01.01.2024.09 was issued, declaring a State of Emergency to respond to the collapse of the Key Bridge, and that State of Emergency still exists;

WHEREAS, To ensure the safe and efficient passage of recreational vessels operating in proximity to the Key Bridge area, it is necessary to authorize the Secretary of Natural Resources to coordinate rules of operation with the United States Coast Guard.

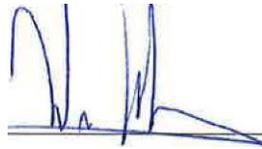
NOW THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TITLE 14 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE, DO HEREBY ORDER:

- A. In order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, the Secretary of Natural Resources is directed to coordinate the rules for the operation of vessels in proximity to the Key Bridge area with the United States Coast Guard.
- B. The Secretary of Natural Resources is hereby authorized to issue any modifications to current Maryland law or regulation necessary for that coordination with the Coast Guard through a public notice to be published on the Department of Natural Resources' website and

disseminated through various media to provide an affected individual a reasonable opportunity to be informed.

- C. This Executive Order remains effective until the State of Emergency has been terminated, or until rescinded, superseded, amended, or revised by additional orders.
- D. The effect of any statute, rule, or regulation of an agency of the State or a political subdivision inconsistent with this Order is hereby suspended to the extent of the inconsistency.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis this 15th Day of April 2024.



Wes Moore  
Governor



ATTEST:



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Susan C. Lee  
Secretary of State