



STATE of MINNESOTA

Executive Department

Governor Tim Walz

Emergency Executive Order 26-04

Declaring a Peacetime Emergency and Providing National Guard Assistance in Response to a Severe Winter Storm

I, Tim Walz, Governor of the State of Minnesota, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, issue the following executive order:

The National Weather Service is predicting a major winter storm for much of Minnesota beginning the evening of Saturday, March 14, and continuing throughout Sunday, March 15. The storm is expected to bring snowfall of up to twenty inches at a rate of up to two inches per hour. In addition to heavy snowfall, the storm is expected to bring strong winds of thirty to forty miles per hour, potentially creating blizzard conditions. Travel is expected to become nearly impossible in parts of the state and widespread power outages could occur.

The resources of local and county governments are inadequate to meet the public safety demands these severe winter weather conditions will create. Steele County has already requested assistance from the Minnesota National Guard. Due to the widespread nature of the storm, other counties will also likely require assistance in the days to come.

For these reasons, I declare a peacetime emergency pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 12.31, and order as follows:

1. The Adjutant General is authorized to order to state active duty the personnel, equipment, facilities, and resources needed to provide assistance throughout impacted and requesting jurisdictions in Minnesota.
2. The Adjutant General is authorized to procure the goods and services needed to accomplish the mission.
3. The costs of this assistance will be paid from the general fund as allowed by Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 192.52

This Executive Order and declaration of peacetime emergency is effective immediately under Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 4.035, subdivision 2. The peacetime emergency declared in this Executive Order expires in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 12.31, subdivision 2. The remainder of this Executive Order, including the activation of the Minnesota National Guard, remains in effect until the emergency conditions caused by the winter storm subside or March 19, 2026, whichever occurs first.

A determination that any provision of this Executive Order is invalid will not affect the enforceability of any other provision of this Executive Order. Rather, the invalid provision will be modified to the extent necessary so that it is enforceable.

Signed on March 13, 2026.

Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Tim Walz, GOVERNOR

Filed March 13, 2026
Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State, Steve Simon

Filed According to Law:

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Steve Simon, SECRETARY OF STATE