

WHEREAS, I further proclaimed that, in accordance with the procedures contained in Article 41, Section 15B of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended by Chapter 1 of the Acts of 1973, Second Special Session, I would promulgate reasonable Orders, Rules and Regulations, as I deem necessary, to protect the public health, safety and welfare and to bring the emergency situation under control; and

WHEREAS, A snow storm of unexpected severity has fallen on the State of Maryland this 8th day of February, 1974 earlier than had been anticipated by the weather bureau; and

WHEREAS, As a result both arterial highways and secondary roads and streets have become impassable thereby preventing people from doing their normal Friday shopping for food for the weekend; and

WHEREAS, The official weather forecast indicates continuing snow and/or freezing weather for Saturday, February 9, 1974, precluding effective snow removal operations on Saturday; and

WHEREAS, As a result, many people will be unable to do their required weekend shopping for necessary food supplies on Saturday, February 9, 1974, as well; and

WHEREAS, Existing law requires that retail stores engaged in the sale of food and non-alcoholic beverages either be completely closed on Sunday or operate on a limited basis with a limited number of employees; and

WHEREAS, The inability of persons to obtain such food supplies on both Friday and Saturday will create severe hardships for many people in the State if, in compliance with existing requirements, such food stores remain closed on Sunday, February 10, 1974; and

WHEREAS, Unless those requirements of law are suspended temporarily, persons needing food supplies will be required to travel longer distances to find stores open on Sunday, thereby using additional gasoline; and

WHEREAS, In addition, there is likely to be queuing at such stores, creating jammed parking lots and traffic jams around the few stores that may legally remain open, thereby creating a further waste of gasoline; and

WHEREAS, Under these circumstances, the existing