WHEREAS, on Sunday, May 25, 2008 and continuing, severe storm systems moved across portions of Iowa, resulting in widespread flooding and destruction in Iowa; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of this proclamation, 86 counties have been declared state disaster areas as a result of said storms; and

WHEREAS, the University of Iowa, in particular, has been hard hit with massive and catastrophic flooding that surpassed the 500 year flood plain; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the flood waters, 20 major campus buildings have been damaged and closed and many will require comprehensive structural analysis and major renovation; and

WHEREAS, many of the campus utilities, including the campus tunnel system which delivers steam, chilled water, power and information technology services, were flooded and many will require comprehensive structural analysis and major renovation; and

WHEREAS, time is of the essence for the University of Iowa as it currently faces: a record enrollment for the current summer session and projected record enrollment for the upcoming Fall semester, one residence hall still underwater, major research projects terminated or delayed, and a compromised power plant and utility system which would currently be preparing for winter heating needs; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents and the University of Iowa must move quickly to engage contractors and service providers with the expertise, skills, and experience necessary to undertake the broad spectrum of repairs including, classrooms, unique and specialized research laboratories and facilities, student housing, utility infrastructure, music and theater venues, parking and transportation; and

WHEREAS, strict compliance with the provisions of Iowa Code Chapter 262 related to competitive bidding for capital improvements would dramatically slow Board of Regents' and the University of Iowa's efforts to repair and rehabilitate the affected campus infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents and the University of Iowa have worked with a number of highly qualified contractors and vendors over the years, and could identify and engage them in a matter of days and weeks, rather than months, to expedite this work; and

WHEREAS, there are individuals in and around Johnson County who are ready and able to supply vitally needed goods and services for flood relief, but are prohibited from doing so until a formal bidding process has been completed.
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Chester J. Culver, Governor of the state of Iowa, by the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution, Article IV, sections 1 and 8 and Iowa Code section 29C.6(1), do hereby declare the following:

1. Pursuant to Iowa Code section 29C.6(6), I do hereby suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code section 262.34(1) which requires the Board of Regents, when the estimated cost of construction, repairs, or improvement of buildings or grounds exceeds $100,000 to advertise for bids for the contemplated improvement or construction and requires the Board to award the work to the lowest responsible bidder.

2. Pursuant to Iowa Code section 29C.6(6), I do hereby suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code section 262.34A(1) which requires the Board of Regents to request bids and proposals for materials, products, supplies, provisions and other needed articles to be purchased at public expense, from Iowa State Industries as defined in section 904.802, subsection 2, when the articles are available in the requested quantity and at comparable prices and quantities.

3. Pursuant to Iowa Code section 29C.6(6), I do hereby suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code section 68B.3 which prohibits an official or state employee from selling, in any one occurrence, any goods or services having a value in excess of two thousand dollars to any state agency unless the sale is made pursuant to an award or contract let after public notice and competitive bidding.

4. This suspension shall only apply to construction, repairs, or improvements of buildings or grounds on the campus of the University of Iowa affected by the flooding.

5. This emergency declaration is effective immediately and will remain in effect through the period of time the disaster declaration for Johnson County remains in effect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines, Iowa this 30th day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight.

Chester J. Culver
Governor of Iowa

Attest:

Michael A. Mauro
Secretary of State