PROCLAMATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, The 2011 grain harvest has begun across Iowa with early estimates of significant corn and soybean production; and

WHEREAS, concerns over weather have hastened the harvest resulting in large amounts of farm-based truck traffic statewide; and

WHEREAS, strict compliance with the permit and fee requirements of Iowa Code section 321E.29 and 761 I.A.C. 511 allowing oversize and overweight divisible loads under certain circumstances would prevent or hinder efforts to cope with this time-sensitive harvest.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terry E. Branstad, Governor of the State of Iowa, acting under the authority vested in me by Iowa Constitution Article IV, Sections 1 and 8 and Iowa Code section 29C.6(1) do hereby declare the entire state to be in a state of disaster emergency. Further, pursuant to Iowa Code section 29C.6(6), I do hereby suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code sections 321.463, paragraphs “5.a.” and “5.b.” and 321E.29 and 761 I.A.C. 511 to the extent that those provisions restrict the movement of oversize and overweight loads of soybeans, corn, hay, straw and stover and require a permit to transport such loads. Suspension of these provisions applies to loads transported on all highways within Iowa, excluding the interstate system, and which do not exceed a maximum of 90,000 pounds gross weight, do not exceed the maximum axle weight limit determined under the nonprimary highway maximum gross weight table in Iowa Code section 321.463 paragraph “5.b.” by more than twelve and one-half percent (12.5%), do not exceed the legal maximum axle weight limit of 20,000 pounds, and comply with posted limits on roads and bridges. This action is intended to allow vehicles transporting soybeans, corn, hay, straw, and stover to be oversize and overweight, not exceeding 90,000 pounds gross weight, without a permit, but only for the duration of this proclamation.

This proclamation expires 60 days from the date issued. The Iowa Department of Transportation is hereby directed to monitor the operation of this proclamation to assure the public’s safety and facilitate the movement of the trucks involved.

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 THIS 15TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN.

TERRY E. BRANSTAD
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:
Matt Schultz
SECRETARY OF STATE