WHEREAS, Hurricane Matthew greatly affected significant portions of Florida, and the State continues to recover from the cumulative impact of Hurricane Matthew; and

WHEREAS, on October 3, 2016, I issued Executive Order 16-230, declaring a state of emergency in certain Florida counties as the National Hurricane Center suggested large portions of Florida’s East Coast may face significant impacts from Hurricane Matthew; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2016, I issued Executive Order 16-274, to address the remaining significant impacts from Hurricane Matthew by extending the state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2017, I issued Executive Order 17-16, to address the remaining significant impacts from Hurricane Matthew by extending the state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, no state of emergency declared pursuant to the Florida Emergency Management Act may continue for more than 60 days unless renewed by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, the effects of Hurricane Matthew continue to pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the State and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK SCOTT, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Florida Constitution and by the Florida Emergency Management Act, as amended, and all other applicable laws, promulgate the following Executive Order, to take immediate effect:

Section 1. The state of emergency declared in Executive Order 16-230, and extended by Executive Orders 16-274 and 17-16, is extended for an additional 60 days.
Section 2. All actions taken by the Director of the Division of Emergency Management as the State Coordinating Officer with respect to this emergency before the issuance of this Executive Order are ratified, and he is directed to continue to execute the State’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and other response, recovery, and mitigation plans necessary to cope with the emergency.

Section 3. Except as amended herein, Executive Orders 16-230, 16-274, and 17-16 are ratified and reaffirmed.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 24th day of March 2017.

RICK SCOTT, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE