

## EXECUTIVE ORDER MJF 96-23

### 1996 Corn and Grain Special Permits

WHEREAS: Louisiana's 1996 corn and grain acreage is the largest it has been since 1957, and farmers are anticipating an exceedingly large harvest;

WHEREAS: Louisiana's farmers are expecting to harvest an additional 320,000 acres of corn this year compared to last year, for a total of 550,000 acres of corn;

WHEREAS: Louisiana's 1996 corn harvest is anticipated to be three times larger than the size of its 1995 harvest;

WHEREAS: Louisiana's grain harvest has also experienced a dramatic increase in size and volume;

WHEREAS: this dramatic increase in the size of the corn and grain harvests over previous years is expected to create an equipment shortage for harvesting, transportation, and drying equipment;

WHEREAS: the lifting of the normal gross weight restriction of 80,000 pounds on the combination of vehicles needed to transport Louisiana's 1996 corn and grain harvest on the public highways of the state of Louisiana is needed to alleviate the anticipated equipment shortage; and

WHEREAS: R.S. 32:387 provides for the issuance of special permits by the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development when it is in the best interest of the state, due to unusual circumstances, to raise the gross weight limitation of vehicles or combination of vehicles from 80,000 pounds up to 100,000 pounds;

NOW THEREFORE I, M.J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR., Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development shall issue special permits, pursuant to R.S. 32:387, for the time period of the 1996 corn and grain harvest season, which shall not be construed to last beyond November 1, 1996, to the operators of vehicles transporting Louisiana's corn and grain products on Louisiana's state highway system authorizing weight limitations, for any combination of vehicles having a minimum of 18 wheels and transporting such products, not to exceed 100,000 pounds. The permits shall not apply to the Interstate Highway System.

SECTION 2: The fee for the permits shall be \$100 per permit issued and shall be processed like the annual special permits issued for the hauling of sugarcane, R.S. 32:387.7.

SECTION 3: This Order shall be effective upon signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 9th day of August, 1996.

M. J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.  
Governor

ATTEST BY  
THE GOVERNOR  
Fox McKeithen  
Secretary of State  
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