

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 144

WHEREAS, beginning on October 28, 2012, and continuing through October 30, 2012, Superstorm Sandy ("Sandy") struck the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Sandy destroyed entire communities and caused significant damage, or complete destruction, to thousands of homes across the State; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the efforts of first responders, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, State and local governmental leaders, and all citizens of New Jersey, our State continues to recover and rebuild; and

WHEREAS, since Sandy struck New Jersey, nonprofit organizations and volunteers have generously donated their resources, time, and talents to aid in the State's recovery; and

WHEREAS, some nonprofit groups that are organized primarily for the construction and reconstruction of residences for persons displaced by disasters have contributed volunteers and resources to assist in New Jersey's rebuilding; and

WHEREAS, these nonprofit organizations may recruit high school students, and other minor volunteers, to assist in the repair, construction, and rebuilding of homes damaged or destroyed by Sandy; and

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2012, in light of the dangers posed by Sandy, and pursuant to the authority provided under the Constitution and statutes of the State of New Jersey, particularly the provisions of N.J.S.A. App. A:9-33, et seq., N.J.S.A. 38A:3-6.1, and N.J.S.A. 38A:2-4, and all amendments and supplements thereto, I declared a State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. App. A:9-34 and -51, I reserved the right to utilize and employ all available resources of the State government, and of each and every political

subdivision of the State, to protect against the emergency created by Sandy; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. App. A:9-40, I declared that, due to the State of Emergency, no municipality, county, or any other agency or political subdivision of this State shall enact or enforce any order, rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution that will or might in any way conflict with any of the provisions of my Executive Orders, or that will in any way interfere with or impede their achievement; and

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2013, pursuant to Executive Order No. 137 (2013), I ordered that for the remainder of 2013, minors between fourteen and seventeen years of age would be permitted to work as volunteers for nonprofit organizations engaged in housing construction, provided that all other provisions of N.J.S.A. 34:2-21.17d, and any other applicable law, rule, or regulation concerning the employment and protection of minors remained in full force and effect; and

WHEREAS, since I signed Executive Order No. 137 (2013), more than 2,500 volunteers between fourteen and seventeen years of age have performed repair and construction work on Sandy-damaged homes in coordination with various non-profit organizations, to the benefit of many New Jerseyans; and

WHEREAS, continuing to permit available volunteers between fourteen and seventeen years of age to engage in such repair and construction work, while maintaining all other safeguards that protect minors engaged in construction, will help New Jerseyans return to their homes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the

Constitution and by the statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. Minors between fourteen and seventeen years of age shall continue to be permitted to work as volunteers for nonprofit organizations engaged in housing construction through, and including, December 31, 2014, provided that all other provisions of N.J.S.A. 34:2-21.17d, and any other applicable law, rule, or regulation concerning the employment and protection of minors, shall remain in full force and effect.

2. The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development shall take all appropriate steps to effectuate this Order.

3. No municipality, county, or any other agency or political subdivision of this State shall enact or enforce any order, rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution that will or might in any way conflict with the provisions of this Executive Order, or that will or might in any way interfere with or impede its achievement.

4. All other provisions of Executive Order No. 137 (2013) which are not inconsistent with this Order shall remain in full force and effect.

5. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
27th day of December,
Two Thousand and Thirteen,
and of the Independence of
the United States, the Two
Hundred and Thirty-Eighth.

[seal}

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Charles B. McKenna

Chief Counsel to the Governor