Executive Order Regarding Hurricane Sandy and Early Voting

WHEREAS, A State of Emergency has been declared throughout the State of Maryland in recognition of the danger posed by Hurricane Sandy and related weather systems;

WHEREAS, The current State of Emergency will interfere with the early voting that is scheduled to take place by law from Saturday, October 27, 2012 through Thursday, November 1, 2012;

WHEREAS, An alteration to the early voting schedule is necessary to protect public safety and minimize the risk of harm to all Marylanders, including those who play a role in administering the electoral process; and

WHEREAS, In order to implement the emergency powers of the Governor, an executive order of the Governor is appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TITLE 8, SECTION 103 OF THE ELECTION LAW ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, DECLARE THAT THE STATE OF EMERGENCY IN EFFECT FOR ALL COUNTIES WILL INTERFERE WITH THE ELECTORAL PROCESS AND THAT THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE ARE NECESSARY:

A. Early voting will not take place throughout the State of Maryland on Monday, October 29, 2012.

B. An announcement will be forthcoming about the early voting schedule on Tuesday, October 30, 2012, and the potential extension of early voting beyond the scheduled end on Thursday, November 1, 2012.
Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland in the City of Annapolis, this 28th day of October, 2012.

[Signature]

Martin O'Malley
Governor

ATTEST:

[Signature]

John McDonough
Secretary of State