Webster Parish Police Jury

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STATE OF EMERGENCY
EXTENSION OF BURN BAN, WEBSTER PARISH

WHEREAS, the Parish of Webster continues to experience drought conditions caused by a lack of adequate rainfall resulting in extremely dry soil and vegetation and causing dangerous fire conditions for our parish.

WHEREAS, the weekly U.S. Drought Monitor continues to indicate drought conditions affecting Webster Parish, several surrounding parishes have extended their existing burn bans due to similar conditions; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service forecasts continue little to no rain, continuing dry conditions, which may further increase the risk of wildfires and cause outdoor fires to spread rapidly and become difficult to control; and

WHEREAS, wind, dry vegetation, and insufficient rainfall continue to create a significant threat to life, property, public safety, and the safety of firefighters and other emergency responders throughout Webster Parish; and

WHEREAS, the Webster Parish Fire Chiefs have determined that these hazardous conditions remain present and have recommended that the existing parish-wide burn ban be extended for an additional thirty (30) days; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, and specifically La. R.S. 29:727 confers upon the Parish President emergency powers to deal with emergencies and disasters, including those caused by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural or manmade causes, in order to ensure that preparations of their Parish will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of their Parish;

WHEREAS, pursuant to La. R.S. 29:727(D), the Parish President is authorized to issue an executive order or proclamation declaring, continuing, or renewing a local state of emergency when an emergency has occurred, or the threat of an emergency remains imminent.

THEREFORE, *I, Jim Bonsall, President of the Webster Parish Police Jury, by authority vested in me by the Parish Charter and the Louisiana Disaster Act, do hereby proclaim that:*

1. The existing **State of Emergency and Parish-Wide Burn Ban** are hereby renewed and extended for an additional period of thirty (30) days.
2. The Burn Ban shall remain in effect throughout Webster Parish and continuing through **December 17, 2026**, unless modified, extended, or terminated earlier by a subsequent official order.
3. All restrictions, exemptions, enforcement provisions, and other requirements contained in the original Burn Ban proclamation shall remain in full force and effect during this extension.
4. The Webster Parish Emergency Operations Plan shall remain activated as necessary to monitor conditions, coordinate emergency resources, and protect life and property.

A STATE OF EMERGENCY *does exist within Webster Parish and the Emergency Preparedness / All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan is activated and in effect immediately.*

Issued on this 17th day of **November, 2026** and effective at time of issuance.

Jim Bonsall

Jim Bonsall, President