WHEREAS, effective worksite wellness programs improve the health and productivity of the workforce, contributing to state agencies’ capacity to accomplish their missions;

WHEREAS, a comprehensive wellness plan can improve productivity, quality of life, and life expectancy;

WHEREAS, policies related to healthy food, and disease prevention significantly influence the environments in which people work;

WHEREAS, the work environment influences the adoption of healthy lifestyles, by making it more or less difficult for individuals to choose behaviors that promote or diminish health;

WHEREAS, published research about other successful private and public programs throughout the nation show the importance of a comprehensive wellness program that promotes both worksite wellness activity and health insurance plan design changes;

WHEREAS, Louisiana ranked 50th in overall health in America’s Health Rankings annual report on public health;

WHEREAS, the report noted that more people die of cardiovascular disease in Louisiana than in nearly any other state;

WHEREAS, chronic conditions such as heart disease, stroke, obesity, and diabetes are largely preventable; and

WHEREAS, agencies collaborating with each other and their valued employees to improve the health of all state employees and reduce health care costs is important to our shared success.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL. EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: The Louisiana Division of Administration (DOA) shall create and implement a standard for healthier foods and beverages in all vending machines on property owned or leased by the State with an effective date of January 1, 2018.

SECTION 2: The vending machines shall be consistent with or stronger than those developed by the American Heart Association, or by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/General Services Administration, or by the National Alliance for Nutrition Activity.

SECTION 3: All vending machines on property owned or leased by the State shall display nutritional labeling that, at a minimum, complies with the standards for nutritional labeling set forth in 21 CFR sections 101 and 109, as may be amended from time to time.
SECTION 4: DOA shall promulgate any rule, regulation or policy by March 1, 2018.

SECTION 5: DOA and all other State Agencies shall take any and all actions within their delegated authority necessary to implement this policy by July 1, 2018.

SECTION 6: This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 30th day of June, 2017.

s/ John Bel Edwards
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA