

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
Governor Chet Culver ★ Lt. Governor Patty Judge

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## **GOVERNOR CULVER EXTENDS ASSISTANCE FOR IOWA FARMERS**

*Proclamation to help corn, soybean harvest and propane supply*

DES MOINES – In light of Sunday's expiration and the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, Governor Chet Culver announced today that he will extend the suspension of the hours of service requirement for truck drivers delivering propane by 15 days as well as the harvest weight limit exemption by 30 days.

"This is a time to give thanks, and this year, we should all be thankful for the bountiful harvest of corn and soybeans," said Governor Culver. "Iowa's farmers did the hard work of tending the field, and that hard work has paid off. Now, we must make sure they have the tools and resources needed to get their crops out of the fields and to market, and these proclamations will do just that. In addition, with low propane supplies, this action will help ensure our state has greater access to this important fuel going into the winter months."

Due to wet conditions and inclement weather, farmers statewide continue to experience an extremely late harvest. In addition, due to propane supply problems, it has been more difficult for farmers to dry their crops and get them to market.

On Oct. 1, Governor Culver issued a proclamation lifting weight restrictions on highways for corn and soybeans. The proclamation increases the weight allowable for shipment of soybeans, corn, hay, straw and stover to 88,000 pounds gross weight without the need for an oversize/overweight permit.

On Nov. 7, Governor Culver issued a proclamation suspending the hours of service requirement for truck drivers delivering propane. The suspension of the rule will help bring propane into the state more quickly, helping to ensure an adequate supply of fuel for farmers drying their crops after this year's harvest.

The Governor's proclamation extending weight limits for shipments of soybeans, corn, hay, straw and stover will expire at midnight on Dec. 29, 2009. The Governor's

proclamation suspending the hours of service requirement for truck drivers delivering propane expires at Midnight on Dec. 14, 2009.

For information on the Governor's original harvest weight limit proclamation, visit: [http://www.governor.iowa.gov/index.php/press\\_releases/single/126](http://www.governor.iowa.gov/index.php/press_releases/single/126). For more information on the Governor's original proclamation suspending hours of service for propane deliveries, visit: [http://www.governor.iowa.gov/index.php/press\\_releases/single/173](http://www.governor.iowa.gov/index.php/press_releases/single/173).