WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska has a responsibility to insure coordinated and efficient emergency and disaster response for its citizens; and

WHEREAS, National Incident Management System (NIMS) is recognized by the Federal Department of Homeland Security as the standardized incident command system for this coordinated response; and

WHEREAS, local and state Emergency Operations Plans incorporate the management principles of NIMS; and

WHEREAS, the components of NIMS are already an integral part of various incident management activities throughout Nebraska, including current emergency management training and exercising; and

WHEREAS, the collective input and guidance from all federal, state, local and tribal homeland security partners has been, and will continue to be, vital to the development, effective implementation and utilization of a comprehensive NIMS; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and desirable that all federal, state, local and tribal emergency agencies and personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest levels of incident management; and

WHEREAS, the NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communications, facilities and resources will improve the state’s ability to use federal funding to enhance local and state agency readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline the incident management process; and
WHEREAS, Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5 directs the development and administration of NIMS to provide a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size of or complexity; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dave Heineman, Governor of the State of Nebraska, under provisions of RRS 81-829.40, do hereby direct the adoption of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) by all appropriate entities in the State by October, 2005. NIMS will be the accepted standard to guide emergency and disaster response by all 1st responders and adherence will be expected.

I further direct the Governor’s Homeland Security Policy Group and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency to oversee the development and implementation of compliance standards for NIMS at the State and local jurisdictional level.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed the 45th day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand and five.

[Signature]
David Heineman
Governor

Attest:
[Signature]
John Gale
Secretary of State