WHEREAS, proper health service is and will continue to be one of the most important concerns of Nebraskans, and

WHEREAS, several branches of state and federal government have promulgated rules and regulations to which health care facilities must comply, and

WHEREAS, such rules and regulations are sometimes inconsistent, subject to varied interpretation and often have significant cost impact upon the health care system and, in turn, the citizens of Nebraska, and

WHEREAS, promulgation and enforcement of these rules and regulations are the responsibility of the State Fire Marshal, Department of Agriculture, Department of Health, Department of Public Institutions, and Department of Public Welfare, and

WHEREAS, unification, clarification and coordination of these rules and regulations will be beneficial to the efficient operation of the facilities and the state agencies, thus accomplishing better care and cost avoidance, and

THEREFORE, as Governor, I hereby create the Interagency Committee for review and coordination of health care rules and regulations.

PURPOSE: This Committee is charged to perform the following duties:

(a) Coordinate rules and regulations to eliminate inconsistencies, standardize references, and minimize interagency regulatory conflicts.
(b) Clarify standards and reduce areas subject to interpretation.
(c) Examine and modify rules and regulations to minimize cost impact of compliance requirements.
(d) Review corrective action requirements for compliance deficiencies.
(e) Develop interagency training to improve awareness of regulatory impact.
(f) Hold hearings (if necessary) to change the regulations according to Committee action.
(g) Consider feasibility to publish consolidated regulations by provider type.

MEMBERSHIP: The Committee shall be chaired by Jack Cleavenger, Director, Department of Public Institutions, and shall be composed of the following individuals:
Glenn Kreuscher, Director, Department of Agriculture
Henry Smith, Director, Department of Health
Eldin Ehrlich, Director, Department of Public Welfare
Paul Sarnecki, State Fire Marshal

One or more subcommittees may be formed as the Committee sees fit. The subcommittees may include staff members of the agencies involved who are not members of the main committee and may also include representatives of the health care professions.

**DUTIES:**

The Committee shall, amongst others, perform the following activities:

(a) Hold meetings on at least a bi-weekly interval to accomplish the purposes stated above.
(b) Prepare bi-weekly reports to the Governor, delineating the progress of the Committee towards accomplishing their purpose.
(c) Consult with and invite comments from health care industry representatives and individual service providers.
(d) Submit a final report to the Governor by April 15, 1977.
(e) Hold periodic meetings thereafter on at least quarterly intervals to consider the effect of new rules and regulations and such other business as should properly concern the Committee.
(f) Make recommendations concerning needed legislation or actions by the state or federal governments.

**OTHER AGENCIES:**

All State agencies, boards, and commissions are hereby requested and directed to cooperate fully with this Committee. This Committee shall receive reports, staff assistance, and program support from all State agencies and departments that have health care-related responsibilities, activities, and interests.

The Department of Public Institutions shall provide staff support to the Committee and advise the Committee of the Department's activities.

The Director of Public Institutions shall immediately transmit a copy of this Order to the State Agencies and convene a meeting of all individuals concerned with the purposes set out herein.

**WITNESS:**

His Excellency, our Governor, J. James Exon, and our Seal hereto affixed, on the 7th day of January in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Seven.

By the Governor:

By the Secretary of State: