WHEREAS, it is vital to the economic health and prosperity of the State of Nebraska and the happiness and well-being of its employees that work-connected injuries be controlled and reduced; and

WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska finds that personal injuries and illnesses arising out of work situations impose a substantial burden on the people and the economy of the State, in terms of lost production, wage loss, medical expenses, and disability compensation payments;

NOW THEREFORE, I, CHARLES THONE, Governor of the State of Nebraska, acting by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. The head of each State department and agency to establish an occupational safety and health program (hereinafter referred to as a safety program) for all employees of respective departments or agencies. All state political subdivisions of government are encouraged to follow the example set by state agencies with their own safety programs. The programs shall be consistent with the standards and regulations as provided for by Section 48-401 through 48-435 of the Nebraska Statutes. In providing safety programs for State employees, the head of each State department or agency shall, in cooperation with the Department of Labor, Division of Safety:

a. Designate or appoint a qualified official who shall be responsible for the management of the safety program within his or her department or agency.

b. Establish

(1) a safety policy;

(2) an organization and a set of procedures, providing for appropriate communication with employees, that will permit the safety policy to be implemented effectively;
(3) goals and objectives for eliminating employee injuries and occupational illnesses;

(4) periodic inspection of workplaces to ensure compliance with standards;

(5) procedures for evaluating the program's effectiveness;

c. The Labor Commissioner (hereinafter referred to as the Commissioner), shall;

(1) Provide information and advice to the heads of State Departments and agencies to assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities to ensure occupational safety and health;

(2) Review the safety programs of State departments and agencies;

(3) Provide the Governor by October 1 of each year the information supplied by the heads of departments and agencies. This information shall include the Commissioner's evaluation of the various State departments and agencies safety programs and recommendations for improvement.

(4) The Commissioner shall, within the limits of existing funding, make available the necessary staff services required by departments and agencies to comply with the requirements of the Order.

6. This Order shall take effect immediately.

Dated at Lincoln, Nebraska this ______ day of September, 1980

CHARLES THONE, GOVERNOR

Filed this ______ day of ______, 1980

SECRETARY OF THE STATE