Whereas, the last two decades the United States has been draining its economy by voluntarily exporting its national wealth in exchange for imported oil. The nation has spent over $5.5 trillion since 1970 for imported oil, accounting for almost all the nation's accumulated foreign trade deficit.

Whereas, our cars, trucks, buses, and planes rely almost exclusively on gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuel from crude oil. Any attempt to reduce our dependence on imported oil must focus on the transportation sector.

Whereas, the nation's use of oil for transportation has been growing rapidly. Since 1976, the amount of oil the nation uses for transportation alone has exceeded its domestic oil production. In 1990, the transportation sector accounted for two-thirds of all U.S. petroleum use and about one-fourth of total U.S. energy consumption—at a cost of about $200 billion.

Whereas, the efficient transportation of people, goods, and services is essential to the economic and social vitality of our nation and state. The transportation sector's near-total dependence on imported oil also affects our energy security and environmental well-being.

Whereas, the increased use of alternative transportation fuels will allow Nebraska to continue its compliance with air quality standards under the federal Clean Air Act.

Whereas, alternative domestic transportation fuels such as ethanol, compressed natural gas, propane, biofuels, and electricity are available, and increased use of these fuels will reduce our dependence on foreign oil and provide economic development opportunities for Nebraskans.

Now, Therefore, I, E. Benjamin Nelson, Governor of the State of Nebraska, by virtue of the authority vested in the Governor by the Constitution and statutes of the State of Nebraska, hereby order the following:

1. The State Energy Office will establish the Nebraska Alternative Fuels Committee, which will be composed of one representative from each of the following:

- League of Nebraska Municipalities
- Lincoln Transportation System
- Metropolitan Area Transit Administration
- Nebraska Association of School Administrators
- Nebraska Association of Transportation Providers
- Nebraska Blue Flame Natural Gas Association
- Nebraska County Officials Association
- Nebraska Department of Education
- Nebraska Ethanol Board
- Nebraska Motor Carriers Association
- Nebraska New Car Dealers Association
- Nebraska Petroleum Marketers
Organization representatives will be designated by their respective organizations. The Governor will appoint members of the committee to represent consumer and conservation interests, and private fleet operators. The director of the Energy Office will serve as the chair of the committee.

2. The committee will develop and recommend strategies for the increased use of alternative fuels in the state, thereby helping Nebraskans reduce their reliance on imported oil.

3. The committee will identify structural, technological, and economic obstacles which hamper the increased use of alternative fuels in Nebraska.

5. The committee will monitor the supply of fuel and demand for vehicles to comply with the provisions of the National Energy Policy Act of 1992.

7. The committee will issue a periodic report documenting areas of success, recommending legislation or policy initiatives, and identifying other areas requiring further attention.


9. This executive order will take effect immediately.

In Witness Whereof, I have set my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this 3rd day of April, 1993.

[Signature]
Governor

Attest:
[Signature]
Secretary of State