WHEREAS, it is recognized that water is one of Nebraska's most valuable natural resources and the management, conservation, and beneficial use of ground water and surface water are essential to the continued economic prosperity and well-being of the state; and

WHEREAS, it is further recognized that there is a hydrologic relationship between ground water and surface water in many parts of the state; and

WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska can and should study the implications of current and alternative state water policies concerning the relationship between ground water and surface water and the impact of those policies on the agricultural, environmental, and economic well-being of the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, E. Benjamin Nelson, Governor of the State of Nebraska, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Statutes of the State of Nebraska, do hereby order the creation of the Nebraska Water Council. The Council shall study the hydrologic relationship between ground water and surface water and make specific legislative recommendations, if any, regarding how ground water and surface water in the state might be more efficiently and effectively managed. Members of the Council shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor for one year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand, and the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed, this 7th day of June, 1993.