WHEREAS, children and families in Nebraska are the primary social unit of our society; and

WHEREAS, protection, safety, health, educational opportunity, developmental and growth opportunity, represent the major responsibilities a family has for its members, and

WHEREAS, we the people of the State of Nebraska must continually examine our current mechanisms for supporting and nurturing our children and families, developing and evaluating methods to improve or change these mechanisms toward a better outcome, and

WHEREAS, children coming into the care and responsibility of the state, regardless of the reasons, are to be afforded the best possible opportunities for care, rehabilitation, treatment, and developmental experience, and

Now, Therefore, I, E. Benjamin Nelson, Governor of the State of Nebraska, through EXECUTIVE ORDER 93-7, DO HEREBY establish THE NEBRASKA COMMISSION FOR CHILD PROTECTION.

PURPOSE: The Commission shall assess the progress of the State in ensuring the safe and healthy development of its children and advise the Governor and inform the public about actions that should be taken to protect children in Nebraska.

COMPOSITION OF COMMISSION: The Commission is to be comprised of individuals representing the following areas: Law enforcement, judiciary, child advocates, health and mental health professionals, child protective services, education, professionals with experience working with children with handicaps, parents, representatives of parent's groups, legislators, and the business community. The state's commitment to the principles of cultural diversity and representation by all ethnic, cultural and gender elements in the society shall be considered in making appointments to the Commission.

The Commission may establish task forces and committees that may consist in part of individuals who are not members of the Commission. Commission members, task force members, and committee members may be compensated for actual expenses incurred through their work for the Commission.
APPOINTMENTS: The chairperson and other members of THE NEBRASKA COMMISSION FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN shall be appointed by the Governor. The Commission shall establish a set of bylaws.

SUPPORT FOR COMMISSION ACTIVITIES: Administrative, technical support and reimbursement for expenses shall be provided by the Nebraska Department of Social Services, or other agencies under the direct supervision of the Governor. The Commission may accept donations, grants, gifts or other support. Financial contributions shall be placed in the Nebraska Department of Social Services, to be used to support activities of the Commission. All funds shall be subject to all accounting rules and regulations of the State of Nebraska. All accounting records shall be made readily available to interested members of the public.

POWERS:

- Adopt all necessary operating procedures and guidelines to fulfill its purpose.
- Issue reports, recommendations and other communications.
- Obtain advisors, create task forces, create sub-committees and appoint their chairs, and engage in other appropriate activities necessary to fulfill the purpose of the Commission.

Allen J. Beermann
Secretary of State
State of Nebraska