WHEREAS, the effective, efficient operation of state government
requires information to be considered and managed as a strategic
resource; and

WHEREAS, information technologies present numerous opportunities to
more effectively manage the information necessary for state government
operations; and

WHEREAS, information technologies are changing and advancing at a
very rapid rate, increasing the computing power available to individual
users; and

WHEREAS, enterprise-wide goals and guidelines for information
technology infrastructure should be established; and

WHEREAS, periodic investments in the information technology
infrastructure are required to develop and maintain the foundation for
effective use of information technologies throughout state government;
and

WHEREAS, a committee for major state government information
technology users should be formed to establish goals and guidelines for
the development of information technology infrastructure within state
government, to advise the Department of Administrative Services regarding
implementation of the goals and guidelines, and to recommend resource
allocations to the Governor and Legislature,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, E. Benjamin Nelson, Governor of the State of
Nebraska, do hereby issue the following Executive Order:

1. The Information Resources Cabinet is hereby created.
Membership of the Cabinet shall include, but not be limited to, the
following:

   (a) The Director of the Department of Administrative Services;
   (b) The Director of the Department of Social Services;
   (c) The Tax Commissioner;
2. The Director-State Engineer;
   (e) The Commissioner of Labor;
   (f) The Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles;
   (g) The Superintendent of Law Enforcement and Public Safety;
   (h) The Commissioner of Education;
   (i) A representative of the Board of Trustees of Nebraska State Colleges;
   (k) A representative of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education; and
   (l) Two representatives of major private sector information technology users, to be appointed by the Governor.

   The Governor shall designate the chairperson of the Cabinet, who shall serve in such capacity at the pleasure of the Governor.

3. The Department of Administrative Services shall provide such operational and staff support as the Cabinet may require.

4. The Cabinet shall have the responsibility to:
   (a) Develop and approve enterprise-wide goals and guidelines for information technology infrastructure;
   (b) Advise the Department of Administrative Services regarding implementation of the goals and guidelines developed pursuant to subsection (a);
   (c) Develop procedures and issue guidelines regarding applications for and uses of resources available for information technology infrastructure investments;
   (d) Evaluate project proposals and recommend resource allocations for information technology infrastructure investments to the Governor;
   (e) Monitor the status of projects receiving resource allocations pursuant to subsection (d); and
   (f) Establish such subcommittees, task forces or working groups as necessary and appropriate to advise the Cabinet on matters including, but not limited to:
       (i) information technology operations;
       (ii) information management and data administration;
       (iii) technology planning; and
       (iv) training.

5. By January 1, 1997, the Director of the Department of Administrative Services shall present to the Governor, the Legislature and the Cabinet a plan for implementing the enterprise-wide goals and guidelines established by the Cabinet. The Cabinet shall advise the Director of the Department of Administrative Services in the development of the plan.

6. The Cabinet shall make recommendations to the Governor for allocations of resources for information technology infrastructure investments in such amounts and at such times as it deems necessary and appropriate. The Cabinet shall develop policies and procedures by which eligible applicants may submit proposals for resource allocations.
7. The Cabinet shall evaluate proposals for allocations from the fund and determine priorities based on the following criteria:

(a) The relationship of the proposal to enterprise-wide goals and guidelines established by the Cabinet, including the extent to which the project will provide research and development regarding new technologies which may be applied to other agencies and throughout the enterprise;

(b) The estimated enterprise-wide value and benefits of the proposal;

(c) The degree to which risks associated with the proposal have been assessed and compared with the risks associated with taking no action;

(d) An explanation of alternatives to the proposal, including the rationale for not selecting an alternative;

(e) The existence of a project plan, including:
   (i) project schedule;
   (ii) identification of staff or others responsible for project management;
   (iii) cost allocations; and
   (iv) reporting and accountability mechanisms.

(f) The total cost of the proposal, including:
   (i) one-time capital investments;
   (ii) staffing and training requirements; and
   (iii) ongoing operational costs.

(g) The anticipated life cycle of the hardware, software and applications associated with the proposal; and

(h) The extent to which the proposal is necessary to address the century date change or other enterprise-wide information technology issues.

8. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this 10th day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-six.

Scott Moore
Secretary of State