WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Nebraska states that it is the duty of state government to provide educational opportunities for all persons, and

WHEREAS, providing our children with the opportunity to develop competence in the basic skills of communications, mathematics, and knowledge of our environment, history, and society allows them to become active participants in our society; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to provide high-quality education to prepare our children to compete in the global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, one of the Governor's goals, as stated in the Success 3000 vision statement, is to strive for educational excellence in the State of Nebraska.

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

1. The Governor's Cabinet on Quality Education is hereby created. The purpose of the Cabinet is to establish goals and priorities on education with the common vision of providing our children with the highest quality education possible. The Cabinet shall also serve the purpose of advising the Governor regarding Success 2000 educational initiatives and policies to serve Nebraska now and in the future.

2. Membership of the Cabinet shall consist of a diverse group of individuals with expertise and experience in the field of education in Nebraska. The Cabinet shall address the areas of early childhood education, K-12 education, and postsecondary education.

3. The Governor shall designate the chairperson of the Cabinet, who shall serve in such capacity at the pleasure of the Governor.
4. The Cabinet shall have the responsibility to:

(a) Develop and make recommendations to the Governor regarding state policies for educational programs.

(b) Monitor the implementation of programs and legislation related to education and advise the Governor regarding this implementation.

(c) Coordinate with existing school finance review committees in advising the Governor on the allocation of state aid for school districts and quality education programs in the State of Nebraska, and

(d) Establish such subcommittees or working groups as necessary and appropriate to advise the Cabinet on matters including, but not limited to:

(i) establishing statewide academic standards, assessment and accountability;

(ii) school finance; and

(iii) the implementation and promotion of technology in Nebraska's schools.

5. 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 3rd day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven.

[Signature]
E. Benjamin Nelson
Governor

Attest:
[Signature]
Scott Moore
Secretary of State