WHEREAS, the United States of America is becoming increasingly reliant upon imported energy resources, currently importing more than 50 percent of its energy needs; and

WHEREAS, over the past twenty years, this nation has saved billions of dollars using energy efficiency and conservation practices, and in fact, the State of Nebraska alone has saved more than $3 million each year through the use of such measures, making it well within the public's best interests to encourage energy efficiency and the use of indigenous energy sources; and

WHEREAS, development of increased energy efficiency can improve both public health and the environment by reducing air and water pollution and mitigating the potential threat of global climate change; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 98-1 requires all state agencies to use renewable energy resources wherever practical; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska statute requires consideration of energy performance and life-cycle cost as criteria in state purchasing decisions (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-161 (Reissue 1996)); and

WHEREAS, the State Building Code requires that all buildings and structures owned by the State or any state agency be constructed in conformity with the Uniform Building Code (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-6401 through -6407 (Reissue 1996)),

NOW, THEREFORE, I, E. Benjamin Nelson, Governor of the State of Nebraska, under and pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Nebraska, do hereby order the following:

1. New buildings constructed by the State for state use shall meet or exceed the requirements of the ASHRAE/IES 90.1-1989 Code or the 1995 CABO Model Energy Code, whichever applies. The administrator of the Department of Administrative Services Building
Division, in consultation with the Nebraska Energy Office, may specify a more recent edition of either of these codes as the required code. Designers are encouraged to utilize renewable energy provisions of both codes.

2. In buildings, or spaces within buildings, which are leased by the State, any new lighting, heating, cooling, ventilating or water heating equipment or controls and any new building envelope components installed during, or in preparation for, the lease shall meet the requirements of the applicable code for new construction in item (1) above. If more than 50 percent of a particular system or component is being replaced or modified, the entire system or component shall be brought into compliance with the applicable code. The Administrator of the Department of Administrative Services Building Division, in consultation with the Nebraska Energy Office, may specify additional energy efficiency or renewable energy requirements for buildings leased to the State, or may waive specific requirements which are demonstrated through a life-cycle cost analysis to not be in the State's best interest.

3. Any remodeling in State buildings shall follow the requirements for item (2) above, unless the expected cost of the remodeling exceeds 50 percent of the replacement cost of the building, in which case the requirements for item (1) above shall apply.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this 22nd day of October, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Eight.

E. Benjamin Nelson
Governor

Attest: Scott Moore
Secretary of State