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

WHEREAS, goals and guidelines for a coordination and collaboration infrastructure among workforce partners should be established; and

WHEREAS, the variety of employment and training programs available in Nebraska present numerous opportunities to more effectively manage, through coordination, the workforce development needs of the employer and applicant community; and

WHEREAS, workforce development demands are changing and advancing at a very rapid rate, increasing the emphasis placed upon government to be a responsive partner; and

WHEREAS, investments in the workforce development infrastructure are required to develop and maintain the foundation for effective use of the limited workforce development resources available throughout state government in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, the nature and provision of the public assistance system has changed to focus on mobilizing business and governmental communities to promote long-term, permanent employment as a means of encouraging personal responsibility and strengthening families; and

WHEREAS, a Board should be formed to bring together the broad range of stakeholders to provide state-level coordination and integration among federal and state workforce development policies and programs, and to establish goals and guidelines for the development of a single state plan for the delivery of workforce development services and made recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature of the effective use of resources; and
WHEREAS, the Human Resource Investment Council has served admirably and completed their responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, this Executive Order replaces Executive Order 99-02 and designates the Nebraska Workforce Investment Board (NWIB) as the State Board as provided in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Public Law 105-220; 20 USC 9276(c), WIA part 600, Section 661.210.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike Johanns, Governor of the State of Nebraska, do hereby issue the following Executive Order:

1. Members of the HRIC have served admirably, and their contribution is hereby acknowledged.

2. Executive Order 99-02 is hereby revoked.

3. Pursuant to the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, the Nebraska Workforce Investment Board is hereby created.

4. Membership of the NWIB shall be comprised as follows:

   (a) The Governor and representatives appointed by the Governor who are--

   (b) Representatives of business in the State, who--

      (1) are owners of businesses, chief executives or operating officers of businesses, and other business executives or employers with optimum policymaking or hiring authority including members of local workforce investment boards;

      (2) represent businesses with employment opportunities that reflect the employment opportunities of the State; and

      (3) are appointed from among individuals nominated by State business organizations and business trade associations;

   (c) Chief elected officials (representing both cities and counties, where appropriate);

   (d) Representatives of labor organizations, who have been nominated by State labor federations;

   (e) Representatives of individuals and organizations that have experience with respect to youth activities;

   (f) Representatives of individuals and organizations that have experience and expertise in the delivery of workforce investment activities, including chief executive officers of community colleges and community-based organizations within the State;

   (g) The lead State agency officials with responsibility for the programs and activities that are described in section 121(h) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Public Law 105-220, and carried out by one-stop partners; and (2) in any case in which no lead State agency official has responsibility for such a program, service, or activity, a representative in the State with expertise relating to such program, service, or activity; and

   (h) Such other representatives and State agency officials as the Governor may designate, such as the State agency officials responsible for economic development and juvenile justice programs in the State.
5. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the NWIB shall come from the business and industry category, and shall be designated by the Governor, and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

6. The Nebraska Department of Labor, through its State Job Training Administration, shall provide the services of such professional, technical and clerical personnel as may be necessary to carry out the duties and functions imposed hereby on the NWIB.

7. The NWIB shall have the responsibility to assist the Governor in:

(a) development of the State plan;
(b) development and continuous improvement of a statewide system of activities that are funded under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 or carried out through a one-stop delivery system described in section 134(c) that receives funds under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 including:
   (1) development of linkages in order to assure coordination and nonduplication among the programs and activities described in section 121(b); and
   (2) review of local plans;
(c) commenting at least once annually on the measures taken pursuant to section 113(b)(14) of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act (20 U.S.C. 2223(b)(14));
(d) designation of local areas as required in section 116 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998;
(e) development of allocation formulas for the distribution of funds for adult employment and training activities and youth activities to local areas as permitted under sections 128(b)(3)(B) and 133(b)(3)(B) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998;
(f) development and continuous improvement of comprehensive State performance measures, including State adjusted levels of performance, to assess the effectiveness of the workforce investment activities in the State as required under section 126(b) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998;
(g) preparation of the annual report to the Secretary described in section 136(d) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998;
(h) development of the statewide employment statistics system described in section 15(e) of the Wagner-Peyser Act; and
(i) development of an application for an incentive grant under section 503 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

8. In order to carry out the various duties and functions imposed upon it herein, the NWIB shall be, and hereby is authorized and empowered to:

(a) make recommendations as to the use of any funds available under the applicable federal human resource programs, for any purpose consistent with, and permitted by, the laws and regulations governing such programs, including funds available to carry out Section 123(a)(2)(D) of the JTPA, as amended, all as provided in Section 703(a) of the JTPA, as amended.
make recommendations as to the use of funds, services, personnel, facilities and information
provided by state and local public agencies, with the consent of such agencies; and

make recommendations as to the use of funds made available for such purpose by each state
agency participating on the NWIB in a manner consistent with its representation on such
Board.

9. 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 ___ day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine
hundred and ninety-nine.

Mike Johanns
Governor

Scott Moore
Secretary of State