WHEREAS, the Small and Minority Business Assistance Office was created in 1981 by Act No. 148, effective July 30, 1981, with duties shown in Title II, Chapter 35, Article 21 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of this office, now called the Office of Small & Minority Business Assistance (OSMBA) is to support the interest of small and minority businesses as a vital part of the state's free enterprise system; and,

WHEREAS, OSMBA is charged in Article 21 to assist in the identification of responsive small and minority businesses, and receive and process applications to be registered as a minority business in accordance with Section 21-35-5230 (B); and,

WHEREAS, substantial concern has been expressed about applications being made by those businesses that claim to be owned and controlled by minorities, women or other disadvantaged groups, but which, in fact, are not eligible and should not, therefore, be eligible for participation; and,

WHEREAS, OSMBA has the power to revoke the certification of any business that does not meet nor maintain the requirements for causes shown in Section 11-35-5270(6); and,

WHEREAS, reasonable and fair regulations are required for determining whether a business is socially and economically disadvantaged for the purpose of meeting the intent of Article 21.
NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina, I hereby adopt the rules and regulations as promulgated by the Office of Small and Minority Business for determining if a business is socially and economically disadvantaged, and meets the intent of the laws of the State of South Carolina. The South Carolina regulations shall remain in force until such time that the Governor, the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, or the administrative rule making process of the State of South Carolina shall provide regulations governing the certification of businesses that are socially and economically disadvantaged.


CARROLL A. CAMPBELL, JR.
Governor

ATTEST:

JOHN T. CAMPBELL
Secretary of State