WHEREAS, The presence of the United States Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Coast Guard facilities are vital to the economy and well-being of the state of South Carolina and the communities in which military facilities are located; and,

WHEREAS, The United States Congress has mandated that defense budget cuts be made as our nation's defense needs change; and,

WHEREAS, the announced decision of the Base Closure Commission regarding the naval station and shipyard in Charleston are of concern to the Lowcountry and the State of South Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, all issues related to military force and mission reductions, base closings and future missions should be comprehensively studied through a coordinated effort; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense's Office of Economic Adjustment requires the designation of a single point of contact from which their services can be rendered;
NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and Laws of the state of South Carolina, I hereby establish the Trident Region's Building Economic Solutions Together (B.E.S.T.) Policy Committee, hereinafter called the BEST Committee, which will serve to coordinate planning and efforts to redevelop vacated military bases, implement said plans and efforts, ameliorate the economic adverse effects of military force reductions and base closures, and promote Charleston's and South Carolina's assets to preserve and locate future military missions within the Trident region.

The BEST Committee shall have as its membership the following representatives:

- Two members to represent Charleston County Council,
- Two members to represent Berkeley County Council,
- Two members to represent Dorchester County Council,
- Two members to represent the City of Charleston,
- Two members to represent the City of North Charleston,
- One member to represent the City of Goose Creek,
- One member to represent the City of Hanahan,
- One member to represent the Town of Summerville,
- One member to represent the Town of Mount Pleasant,
- One member to represent the Town of Sullivan's Island,
- One member to represent the City of Isle of Palms,
- One member to represent the Town of Monck's Corner,
- Four members of the South Carolina business community appointed at large by the Governor of South Carolina.
- The Commander of the Charleston Naval Base,
- The Chairman of the State Ports Authority,
- The Chairman of the South Carolina Public Service Authority,
- The Chairman of the South Carolina State Development Board or its successor entity,
- The President of the Medical University of South Carolina,
- The President of the College of Charleston,
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- The President of the Citadel,
- The President of Trident Technical College,
- One member to represent the Trident Economic Development Authority,
- One member to represent the Charleston Trident Chamber of Commerce,
- Both United States Senators representing South Carolina, or their designees,
- The United States Congressman representing the First Congressional District of South Carolina, or his designee,
- The United States Congressman representing the Sixth Congressional District of South Carolina, or his designee,
- One resident State Senator elected by the resident state Senators of the Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester County legislative delegations,
- One resident State Representative elected by the resident state Representatives of the Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester County legislative delegations,
- Chairman, Berkeley County Legislative Delegation on July 1, 1993,
- Chairman, Dorchester County Legislative Delegation on July 1, 1993,
- Chairman, Charleston County Legislative Delegation on July 1, 1993.

The Chairman shall be elected by the BEST Committee from the general membership of the BEST Committee. The Governor shall designate a temporary chairman of the BEST Committee to preside at the initial organizational meeting over the election of a permanent BEST Committee Chairman. The BEST Committee may elect other officers as it may deem necessary to undertake its duties and exercise the powers of the BEST Committee.

Existing within the BEST Committee shall be an Executive Committee, consisting of up to 15 members representing and elected from the following specific categories of membership:
The Chairman of the BEST Committee shall be a member and serve as Chairman of the Executive Committee,

- Four members to represent Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester Counties, each being a resident of their respective counties,
- Two members elected from the member state agency representatives,
- Four members elected from the economic development membership, constituting the Charleston Trident Chamber of Commerce, Trident Economic Development Authority, and the four at large gubernatorial business community appointees,
- One member elected from the member representatives of the academic institutions,
- One member elected from the member representatives of the City of Charleston,
- One member elected from the member representatives of the City of North Charleston.

Members representing local governing bodies shall be appointed by the respective local governing body. Members representing the Trident Economic Development Authority and the Charleston Trident Chamber of Commerce shall be appointed by the governing boards of their respective bodies.

The Executive Committee shall have full power to create ad hoc committees and sub-committees as it shall deem necessary for undertaking the duties and exercising the powers of the BEST Committee. The Executive Committee is empowered to nominate additional members for election by the BEST Committee to serve on the BEST Committee as it shall deem necessary. A two-thirds vote of a lawful quorum of the BEST Committee is required to elect additional members. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. The total membership shall not exceed 45 members.

A BEST Committee member who knows of a present or potential personal economic interest in the disposition of the Charleston Naval facilities for
himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated shall upon recognition of such a conflict of interest recuse themselves from further service on the BEST Committee and notify the appropriate individual, agency, agency head or governing body in order that a replacement may be appointed or elected to fill the vacancy created by their resignation. In the event a BEST Committee member has, develops or has a potential economic interest in the disposition of the Charleston Naval facilities and is unaware of the conflict, he shall be notified in writing by the Governor. Upon notification, if he shall refuse to recuse himself from further service on the BEST Committee, the Governor may remove the member and shall notify the appropriate individual, agency, agency head or governing body in order that a replacement may be appointed or elected to fill the vacancy created by their removal. By accepting appointment or election to serve on the BEST Committee, a member effectively waives any due process rights regarding hearings with respect to removal.

The responsibilities of the BEST Committee shall be as follows:

1. To act as a liaison to coordinate activities and planning for base re-use between affected Trident region communities, the South Carolina Congressional Delegation, the Office of Economic Adjustment, and any other appropriate federal or state agency.

2. To coordinate activities and conduct comprehensive studies of issues pertinent to naval facility closures, force reductions, conversions, redevelopment, and future use of Charleston naval facilities. The BEST Committee will ensure that these plans are submitted to the Governor and, as appropriate, to the South Carolina Legislature, the Congressional Delegation and impacted local governments for review and comment prior to submission to federal authorities.

3. To establish and implement plans and programs related to conversion, redevelopment, and future use of the present Charleston Naval facilities.
4. To make and execute agreements, contracts, and other instruments necessary or convenient in the exercise of the powers and functions of the BEST Committee, and apply for and accept funds to execute these responsibilities.

5. To make any inquiry, investigation, survey, feasibility study or other study which the BEST Committee may deem necessary for the BEST Committee to carry out effectively the provisions of this order.

6. To recommend and undertake actions to mitigate the adverse effects of Naval force reductions and closings.

7. To take other such actions as it may deem necessary or advisable in the furtherance of the purposes of this order.

The BEST Committee shall promulgate by-laws, retain staff or contract services for the orderly conduct of its business and discharge of its responsibilities.

Upon signature of this order, Executive Order 93-17 is hereby rescinded.


CARROLL A. CAMPBELL, JR.
Governor

ATTEST:

JAMES M. MILES
Secretary of State