WHEREAS, the objective of assuring strong and viable local governments able to meet the complex demands confronting local communities and responsive to the needs and desires of all citizens of the State of South Carolina is vital to the well-being of the State; and

WHEREAS, the people of South Carolina in the General Election of 1972 indicated their desire to modernize and improve local government by the passage of a new Article VIII to the Constitution of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, various federal laws provide for a variety of community development programs including those for economic planning and coordination, and further provide for policy and administrative overview by the Office of the Governor; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and clearly in the public interest to create a state commission to devise methods and make recommendations for optimal utilization of the capacity of general purpose local government to solve problems, deliver services and promote economic development of the State; and

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and Laws of the State, there is hereby created a South Carolina Community Development Commission which shall advise the Governor on policy and program matters relating to community development.

There is hereby created within the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration, the Office of Community Development which shall serve as the staff to the Governor and the Commission.

The Community Development Advisory Commission is hereby designated the policy board of the Office of Community Development. The Commission shall advise the Governor on community development matters and it shall be responsible for reviewing, approving, and maintaining general oversight of the activities of the Office of Community Development. In developing its programs and activities, the Commission and the Office of Community Development shall make every effort to utilize existing agencies and organizations to accomplish delivery of services.

The Commission shall be composed of the following voting members:

Two Members of the South Carolina Senate

Two members of the South Carolina House of Representatives

President, Municipal Association of South Carolina

President, South Carolina Association of Counties
President, City/County Management Association

President, South Carolina Association of Regional Councils Directors Association

Chairman, State Development Board

Executive Vice-President, Municipal Association of South Carolina Directors Association

Executive Secretary, South Carolina Association of Counties

Representative of the Governor's Office

Eleven members to be appointed by the Governor.

Additional non-voting members shall be named by the Governor at his discretion. The total number of voting members shall not exceed twenty-three.

The Commission shall be headed by a Chairman and Vice-Chairman who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Commission members shall not be entitled to compensation for their services but they shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided under State Law and Regulations.

The Community Development Advisory Commission with the staff assistance of the Office of Community Development shall:

(a) prepare and submit to the Governor for approval an overall work program which may be amended from time to time as may be appropriate;

(b) prepare statewide plans, for adoption by the Governor, which are designated to systematically improve the operation of local government and the economic growth of the State and revise them from time to time as may be appropriate;

(c) compile data, establish needs and set priorities for federal and state program funding allocations as policy recommendations to the Governor;

(d) stimulate and seek financial support from federal, state, and local governments as well as private sources to accomplish implementation of approved plans and programs consistent with the policies of the Division of Administration;

(e) assist state agencies and units of general local government and combinations thereof in the presentation and processing of applications for financial aid to support improved community development and economic growth;

(f) enter into, monitor and evaluate the results of contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the discharge of responsibilities assigned;
(g) promulgate and administer such reasonable rules, regulations, policies and procedures as may be necessary to insure the effective and efficient discharge of responsibilities assigned;

(h) development and to recommend to the Governor for approval such programs and procedures as may be necessary to provide information and technical community development services to local governments; and

(i) carry out such other functions and purposes as may be from time to time assigned by the Governor.

This Executive Order supersedes the Executive Order dated December 4, 1974, creating the South Carolina Community Development Commission, and amends the Executive Order dated March 7, 1975, reconstituting the Community Development Advisory Committee.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Executive Department at the Capitol, Columbia, this 27th day of March, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Five and the Independence of the United States of America the One Hundred Ninety-Nine.

James B. Edwards
Governor of South Carolina

O. Frank Thornton
Secretary of State