WHEREAS, there exists a need to improve coordination and cooperation between the State and its local governments, other states, and the federal government; and

WHEREAS, there exists a need in the executive and legislative branches for advice from local and state officials; and

WHEREAS, study of intergovernmental aspects of governmental structure, finance, functional performance, and relationships at the local, regional, state, and interstate levels is needed along with recommended solutions to problems; and

WHEREAS, an established regular system of reporting to state and local public officials can aid in the progress of South Carolina and its political subdivisions toward meeting their intergovernmental responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, encouragement and recommendation of methods for effective and efficient delivery of services at state and local levels can aid South Carolina through integration and combination of complementary services delivery functions; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly, the Governor, and other interested parties can be provided with advice on intergovernmental concerns,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD W. RILEY, as Governor of the State of South Carolina, by virtue of the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and Laws of this State, do hereby establish the South Carolina Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, hereafter referred to as the "Commission."
The Commission shall consist of eleven members appointed by the Governor as follows: two members of the Senate, two members of the House of Representatives, one municipal official from the South Carolina Municipal Association, one county official from the South Carolina Association of Counties, one regional council official from the South Carolina Association of Regional Councils, and four members appointed by the Governor from the State at large.

Each member of the Commission shall perform the duties of a member of the Commission as additional duties required of him in his other official capacity.

All members shall be appointed by the Governor for two year terms; provided however, in order to provide for staggered terms, the initial appointments shall be as follows:

—Five members for one year terms
—Six members for two year terms

Subsequent appointments shall be for two years. All members may be reappointed.

If a member serving as a representative of the Senate, House of Representatives, South Carolina Association of Counties, South Carolina Municipal Association or South Carolina Association of Regional Councils ceases their affiliation as a member of the group they represent, their membership on the Commission shall terminate immediately and there will be a vacancy in the membership. In the event of a vacancy as described above or a vacancy created by death or resignation of a member, within thirty days, any such vacancy shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment and the person so appointed shall serve to complete the unexpired term, and until his successor is appointed.

The Governor shall appoint the initial chairman who shall serve a term of one year. All succeeding chairmen shall be elected by the Commission.
The Commission shall elect a vice-chairman and such other officers as it may deem necessary. Both the chairman and vice-chairman shall serve for one year and may be re-elected to succeed themselves for one subsequent term. If both the chairman and vice-chairman are absent at any meeting, the voting members present shall elect a temporary chairman by a majority vote.

All persons appointed to serve on the Commission shall have demonstrated expertise, interest and experience in the field of intergovernmental relations.

Six of the members shall constitute a quorum.

The Commission may carry out the following functions and duties and such other functions and duties that may be determined by the Commission:

--serve as a forum for the discussion and study of intergovernmental problems.
--to the extent not otherwise provided by law, evaluate on a continuous basis the interrelationships among local, regional, state, interstate and federal agencies in the provision of public services to the citizens of South Carolina and, as appropriate, prepare studies and recommendations to improve organizational structure, operational efficiency, the allocation of functional responsibilities, the delivery of services and related matters.
--analyze the structure, function, revenue requirements, and fiscal policies of South Carolina and its political subdivisions, and conduct studies of economic, administrative, tax and revenue matters for all levels of government, and make recommendations for needed improvement (if requested).
--examine proposed and existing federal and state programs, assess their impact upon South Carolina and its political subdivisions, and provide such assessments and recommendations, where appropriate, to the General Assembly, the Governor, or any other group, public or private, whose activities affect intergovernmental relations.
--encourage, and where appropriate, coordinate studies relating to intergovernmental relations conducted by universities, state, local, and federal agencies, and research and consulting organizations.
--review the recommendations of national commissions studying federal, state, and local government relationships and problems and assess their possible application to South Carolina.
--issue annual reports of its findings and recommendations that shall set forth the reasons and supporting data for each recommendation and may include draft legislation to implement such recommendations. Recommendations regarding economic and taxation issues shall be accompanied by supportive analysis of economic data. The Commission may issue special or interim reports on specific subjects as it may deem appropriate.

--review and assess the work and recommendations of the federal Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations and report such assessment.

--the Commission is authorized to apply for, contract for, receive and expend for its purposes any appropriations or grants from the State, its political subdivisions, the Federal Government, or any other source public or private.

--the Commission shall recommend an annual budget and appropriation request to the Governor.

The Commission may convene meetings and hearings and appoint committees as follows:

--the Commission shall hold meetings quarterly and at such other times as it deems necessary, except that the first meeting shall be at the call of the Governor. The Commission may hold hearings from time to time on matters that it deems to be in the public interest. Such meetings shall be public.

--each officer, board, commission, Council, department or agency of state government, and each political subdivision of the state shall, when not inconsistent with any law, rule, or regulation regarding confidentiality, make available all facts, records, information, and data requested by the Commission and in all ways cooperate with the Commission in carrying out the functions and duties imposed by this order.

--the Commission may establish committees as it deem advisable and feasible, the membership of which may be made up in whole or part from members of the Commission.

--the Commission shall promulgate rules of procedure governing its operations.

Staff authorization is as follows:

--the Commission shall employ and set the compensation of an Executive Director, who shall serve at its pleasure. Within available funds, the Executive Director may employ and set the compensation of professional, technical, legal, or clerical staff as may be necessary, and may remove these personnel. The Executive Director, with the consent of the Commission, may acquire the services of university based expertise or other consultants, and enter into contracts on behalf of the Commission.

--the Commission shall work with the State Personnel Division to determine a salary range for the Executive Director and the Executive Director shall work with the State Personnel Division to determine salary ranges for other Commission personnel.
---the staff of the Commission shall be governed by the same rules as are the personnel of state agencies, and shall receive the same rights and benefits. The Commission staff shall be members of the South Carolina Retirement System and the Commission shall make employer contributions for this purpose.

A member of the Commission is not entitled to a salary for duties performed as a member of the Commission, except that the members, other than public employees, shall receive the per diem authorized for members of the General Assembly. Each member is entitled to reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties.

If any provision of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, it is intended that the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Order which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Order are declared severable.

The Executive Order shall be immediately effective and shall expire at the pleasure of the Governor.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of South Carolina at Columbia, South Carolina, this day of April, 1979.

RICHARD W. RILEY
Governor

ATTEST:

JOHN T. CAMPBELL
Secretary of State