WHEREAS, children deserve our most concerted efforts, on their behalf to enrich and better provide opportunities for their futures; and

WHEREAS, coordination, policy development and program development work in concert to make available the best services possible for children; and

WHEREAS, the children of South Carolina can best be served by administrative and organizational frameworks which are designed to deal effectively with barriers to program development, to improve quality of services to children and to maximize resources; all of which are within the context of assuring for children their rights and unlimited potential for growth and development.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and laws of the state of South Carolina, I hereby reestablish the Children's Coordinating Cabinet under the auspices of the Office of the Governor. Within one (1) year following the reestablishment of the Children's Coordinating Cabinet, the Governor, with the recommendation the Cabinet, shall determine the need to continue the Cabinet as a process for the coordination of children's services. The Office of the Governor shall coordinate staffing for the Cabinet in cooperation with the Joint Legislative Committee on Children, the House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee, and the Senate General Committee and shall monitor and coordinate the implementation of its recommendations.
The Children's Coordinating Cabinet shall consist of the Governor, who shall serve as Chairman, the Chairperson of the Board/Commission from the South Carolina Children's Bureau, the Children's Foster Care Review Board System, the Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, the Commission for the Blind, the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Environmental Control, the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Mental Retardation, the Department of Social Services, the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Department of Youth Services, the John de la Howe School, the Spartanburg School for the Deaf and Blind, and the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School. Each Agency shall also appoint a representative who has administrative and/or program responsibility for children's services in order that they may also attend the meetings of the Children's Coordinating Cabinet as an agency representative without voting privileges. Further, the Chairman or a designee shall serve as an ex-officio member without voting privileges from the Committee on Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Committee to Make Full and Complete Study of Problems of the Handicapped of South Carolina, the Committee to Study Problems of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, the House Education and Public Works Committee, the House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee, the House Ways and Means Committee, the Senate Education Committee, the Senate General Committee, the Senate Medical Affairs Committee, and the Joint Legislative Committee on Children. Further, the President or a designee from the State Council of Family Court Judges shall serve as an ex-officio member without voting privileges.

The Children's Coordinating Cabinet shall meet as deemed necessary and at the call of the Governor. All matters under consideration shall be by majority vote of the membership present.

Until February 28, 1985, the Children's Coordinating Cabinet shall function as a mechanism for the coordination of children's services in order that policy development may be maximized in terms of continuity which impact financing and delivery of services. The Children's Coordinating Cabinet shall focus on children in poverty, children in need of foster care and adoption, children in need of protective services, children with disabilities, and children who enter the juvenile justice system. The Children's Coordinating Cabinet shall make a report to the General Assembly in April, 1985, as to the activities of the Cabinet during the past year.

The Cabinet shall also put every reasonable effort in case management, integrated services, centralized referral, coordination and inservice training on behalf of children's services.
Further, the primary intent is to maximize, where possible, the avenues for coordination to occur through various mechanisms such as interagency agreements on a financial and responsibility basis, interagency financing, reporting of consistent information, utilization of state flexibility in federal programs and centralizing through the Cabinet all governmental/advisory entities and interdepartmental bodies which have responsibilities related to children's services.

The Order hereby repeals Executive Order No. 83-10.


RICHARD W. RILEY
Governor

ATTEST:

JOHN T. CAMPBELL
Secretary of State