WHEREAS, in 1982, South Carolina's rate of live births to teenagers (under the age of 19) was 33.5 as compared to the United States rate of 28.3; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that at least 5,000 South Carolina girls ages 14-17 will become pregnant in 1986, and an additional 100 girls ages 10-13 will become pregnant in 1986; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that 3,200 babies will be born to girls ages 10-17 in 1986; and

WHEREAS, over 70% of these babies will be born out of wedlock; and

WHEREAS, the infants born to teenage mothers younger than 18 are one and one half times more likely to die in their first year of life than infants born to older women; and

WHEREAS, infants born to teenage mothers who do survive are more likely to be physically disabled due to factors such as low birthweight, inadequate prenatal care and poverty; and

WHEREAS, due to factors such as school dropout, teenage mothers have half the lifetime earnings as women who postpone childbearing until age 20; and

WHEREAS, children born to adolescent mothers are more likely to be raised in poor, female-headed households which require public assistance; and

WHEREAS, for teenage girls who had their first babies in 1981, the public sector costs associated with those babies and mothers are projected to be at least $90,585,378 by 1990; and

WHEREAS, the prevention of teenage pregnancy is cost effective and prevents the need for termination of pregnancy; and
WHEREAS, there are a variety of complex factors which lead to adolescent pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, communities, religious institutions, and state agencies need to coordinate efforts to address the social, vocational, educational, recreational and health needs of adolescents in the prevention of adolescent pregnancy and postponement of adolescent sexual activity.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of South Carolina, I hereby establish the Governor's Task Force on Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy under the auspices of the Office of the Governor, Division of Health and Human Services. The Governor's Task Force on Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy is established to develop a comprehensive plan for a coordinated statewide approach to the prevention of teenage pregnancy. Services to pregnant and parenting adolescents shall be included insofar as they prevent future pregnancies. The plan shall include the following:

1) Scope of the problem of adolescent sexual activity and teenage pregnancy to include health, social and economic outcomes.

2) Survey of existing services in the public and private sector to include accessibility, acceptability, quality, funding, target groups and continuity of services. Gaps in service delivery as well as model programs both in South Carolina and other states shall be identified.

3) Recommendations for future action to assure a coordinated approach to teenage pregnancy prevention. Recommendations shall be prioritized, lead responsible parties shall be identified and needed resources shall be specified. Recommendations shall be based on existing resources and reallocation.

The plan shall pay specific attention to:

1) Social and economic causes of teenage pregnancy.

2) Community based interventions to include social, educational and economic opportunities for adolescents.

3) Coordination of existing plans and programs.

The plan shall make use of existing documents such as the State Health Plan and the DHEC Teenage Pregnancy-Everybody's Problem report. The plan shall be consistent with current activities such as the Perinatal Plan of Action. The plan shall pay specific attention to private and public sector linkages and community programs.
The Governor's Task Force on the Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy shall include a member of the following boards, commissions and committees:

- South Carolina Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- Department of Social Services Board
- Department of Health and Environmental Control Board
- Health and Human Services Finance Commission
- Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission
- State Department of Education Board
- Health Care Planning and Oversight Committee
- Joint Legislative Committee on Children
- Senate Medical Affairs Committee
- House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee

It shall also include, but not be limited to, representatives of the following entities:

- Statewide Health Coordinating Council
- Private Industry Council
- Church Women United
- March of Dimes
- South Carolina Medical Association
- American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- American Academy of Pediatrics, S. C. Chapter
- South Carolina Nurses' Association
- Planned Parenthood
- South Carolina Perinatal Association
- National Council of Negro Women
- State Baptist Education and Missionary Convention
- Christian Action Council
- Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies Coalition
- South Carolina Congress of Parents and Teachers
- Business Coalition
- South Carolina Citizens for Life
- Birthright
- St. Mary's Human Development Center
- South Carolina Association for Health Education
- South Carolina Primary Care Association
- Urban League
- South Carolina Association of School Superintendents
- South Carolina Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals
- South Carolina Association of Secondary School Principals
- South Carolina School Boards Association
- South Carolina Medical Association Medical Auxiliary
- Palmetto Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association Auxiliary
- Health Systems Agency
- African Methodist Episcopal Church
- South Carolina Baptist Convention

The members of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Governor who shall also appoint a chairman from the State at large. Staff support shall be
provided by the Governor's Office with assistance from other appropriate State agencies.

The report shall be presented to the Governor on May 1, 1986, at which time the Task Force shall expire.


RICHARD W. RILEY
Governor

ATTEST:

JOHN T. CAMPBELL
Secretary of State