WHEREAS, South Carolina in recent years has identified more clearly the critical importance of strengthening resources for programs designed to serve the needs of disabled citizens; and

WHEREAS, the State must make the most effective use of its resources to meet such needs, and to do so requires that realistic policies, plans, and programs be developed, implemented, and evaluated continuously; and

WHEREAS, the well-being of citizens of South Carolina affected with substantial handicaps is a priority concern and responsibility of state governments;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers conferred upon my by the Constitution and Laws of the State, I hereby reestablish the South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council which will be the State's forum for matters pertaining to developmental disabilities and will serve as advocate for persons with those disabilities defined herein.

This Council is also established in accordance with the federal Developmental Disabilities Act of 1984 (Public Law 98-527). The Act defines the term developmental disability as a severe, chronic disability of a person
which is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments; is manifested before the person attains age twenty-two; is likely to continue indefinitely; results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity: self care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living, and economic sufficiency; and disability(ies) reflects the person's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic care, treatment, or other services which are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.

The Council shall at all times include in its membership representatives of the principal state governmental agencies which administer and/or provide services to persons with developmental disabilities, higher education institutions and programs, as well as other related state and local governmental agencies and organizations. The Governor shall appoint the directors of the following public agencies and programs:

South Carolina Department of Education
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
South Carolina Department of Mental Health
South Carolina Department of Mental Retardation
South Carolina Department of Social Services
South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department
South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind
South Carolina Commission for the Blind
South Carolina Department of Corrections
South Carolina Department of Youth Services
South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
South Carolina Health and Human Services Finance Commission
These agencies shall be represented by their director or his designated representative who shall have full power and authority to act in his stead in any and all deliberations of the Council.

Additionally, in order to provide a continuum to its advocacy efforts, the Council shall include representation of nongovernmental agencies and organizations concerned with the developmentally disabled. At a minimum, the following private organizations and programs shall be represented by a board member or their chief administrative officer who shall be empowered to act on behalf of the organization in any and all deliberations of the Council:

- Easter Seal Society of South Carolina, Inc.
- Association for Retarded Citizens/South Carolina
- South Carolina Epilepsy Association
- South Carolina Society for Autistic Children

No less than one-half of the total Council membership shall consist of consumer representatives who are not officers or have ownership or controlling interest of any entity, or who are not employees of any state agency which receives funds and provides services under the Developmental Disabilities Act. Of the consumer members, at least one-third shall be persons with developmental disabilities; and one-third shall be immediate relatives or guardians of persons who have mentally impairing developmental disabilities with at least one of these having a family member in an institution; the remaining one-third shall be representatives from any developmental disabilities consumer category.

The consumer members of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor from among the residents of the state to serve at his pleasure on a rotating basis. Terms of office shall be four years and no member shall serve more than two consecutive terms.
The Chairman of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor for a term of one year with a limit of one successive term. The Chairman shall be selected from the active consumer members of the existing Council. For purposes of appointment, consumer members may not be providers of services. The Council shall submit recommendations of names of persons to be considered by the Governor. All other officers of the Council shall be elected by the membership of the Council and election shall not be limited to consumers.

Representatives of other agencies and organizations or individuals who deal with persons with developmental disabilities may be appointed by the Council chairman to serve in an ex-officio, non-voting capacity as selected by the Council to complement their efforts.

The Council shall promulgate by-laws for the orderly conduct of its business, and in discharging its responsibilities, the Council shall:

- Develop jointly with the designated administering agency(ies) the Developmental Disabilities State Plan, and approve the State Plan for the provision of services for persons with developmental disabilities.

- Monitor, review, and evaluate the implementation of such state plan and the state program.

- Formulate its program and recommendations in accordance with the Act upon review and comment of all state plans and other activities in the State which relate to the developmentally disabled population.

- Submit to the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, through the Governor, such periodic reports on its activities as may reasonably be requested, and keep such records and afford access thereto as the Secretary finds necessary to verify such reports.

In support of the Council, the Governor shall house the Council staff within the Office of the Governor and shall provide as appropriate the support of the Office of Executive Policy and Programs.
State agency(ies) to administer the state program shall be designated by the Governor and described in the state plan.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately revoking Executive Order 85-12.


RICHARD W. RILEY
Governor

ATTEST:

JOHN T. CAMPBELL
Secretary of State