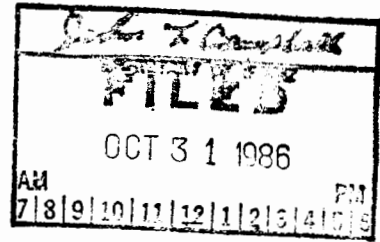


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Executive Department



State of South Carolina

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 86-23

WHEREAS, early childhood development and education programs significantly impact the development of children including readiness for school entry; and

WHEREAS, families and children need access to services, when necessary, which are designed to strengthen the family; and

WHEREAS, there are various public and private agencies which are involved in providing increased opportunities for young children; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to develop interagency capacities in planning for priorities and the allocation of resources in early childhood development and education; and

WHEREAS, the continuity of state policy and organizational alternatives must address accountability, effectiveness and administrative responsiveness in early childhood development and education.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina, I hereby establish the Interagency Coordinating Council for Early Childhood Development and Education in the Office of the Governor. The specific powers, duties and responsibilities of the Council shall include the following functions:

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1. To formulate, or cause to be formulated, a long-range, comprehensive plan for early childhood development and education and to establish priorities for implementing the comprehensive plan;
2. To establish and update annually or as necessary a set of priorities for program emphasis in early childhood development and education and determine the most appropriate and effective service delivery system in each identified program area;
3. To develop and implement a plan for interagency coordination to ensure that the services rendered by each agency related to early childhood development and education shall complement and support those of other agencies in order to achieve the most effective utilization of resources in early childhood development and education;
4. To receive and act upon, through Council review authority, recommendations from state, regional and local advisory groups and/or councils operating under federal or state mandate on matters of concern to children and their families in early childhood development and education;
5. To promote, sponsor or conduct research in the field of early childhood development and education;
6. To evaluate programmatic and fiscal directions of state conducted programs in early childhood development and education in accordance with the comprehensive plan;
7. To survey, inventory and critique all programs that impact young children in the state of South Carolina with the aim to utilize such information to further define coherent state policy for this age group, identify gaps and set priorities;

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The Council shall not provide direct services to children and their families, but may conduct or administer appropriate research, pilot planning and evaluation projects.

The membership of the Council shall consist of the Governor as Chairperson, the State Superintendent of Education, the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Environmental Control, the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, the Executive Director of the Health and Human Services Finance Commission, the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Retardation, and a layperson who shall be appointed by the Governor as a voting member of the Council and who shall have a working knowledge and commitment to early childhood development and education. The membership of the Council shall not be represented by an alternate representative. Each member of the Council may appoint one non-voting staff member to attend council meetings unless advised otherwise by the chairperson, provided the individual appointed shall not be represented by an alternate representative. The Office of the Governor shall also provide for a Director of the Council who also shall serve as Director of the Interagency Advisory Committee. The functions, duties and responsibilities of the Director of the Council shall be established by the Governor upon review of the Council. The Council shall meet semi-annually and additionally, as needed, at the request of the Governor. At the first meeting, the Council shall determine what constitutes a quorum.

The Council, with the approval of the Governor, shall have the authority:

(1) to establish task forces in areas of concern in early childhood development and education; (2) to assign their agency representatives, when necessary, in order to assess and prepare matters which may come before the Council; (3) to apply for, receive, and administer funds which are, or may become, available from public and private sources for programs pertaining to early childhood development and education, including funds for administration, research, pilot planning and evaluation projects; (4) to establish community advisory committees as deemed necessary which shall be composed of a balanced

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combination of professional people in various disciplines, public officials having responsibility in the area of early childhood development and education, lay individuals interested in services for young children, including citizens, representatives of business, labor and private charitable organizations. In a case where a community council already exists, such council, upon request to the Director of the Interagency Coordinating Council, shall serve as the community council provided the community council meets the membership described herein; and, (5) to implement further authority which may be delegated by the Governor.

I also hereby establish the Interagency Advisory Committee on Early Childhood Development and Education in order to provide a forum for information exchange regarding recommendations and priorities in early childhood development and education.

The membership of the Interagency Advisory Committee shall consist of the Director of the Council, a representative from each agency on the Interagency Coordinating Council appointed by the Chief Executive Officer of that agency, and designated representatives from other public agencies which are determined by the Governor to be providers of services to young children, and five individuals appointed by the Governor for a two year term who are involved in early childhood development and education and who represent various geographic sections of the state. With Committee consent, up to three other members may be added as deemed necessary to enable the Committee to advise the Council on matters relating to early childhood development and education. The Governor shall select the chairman of the Committee who shall serve in that position for a two year term. The chairman of this Committee shall serve as the Lay Representative to the Council.

The responsibilities of the Interagency Advisory Committee shall be as follows: (1) to prepare the State Plan for Early Childhood Development and Education for submission to the Council for review; (2) to identify gaps in child development services and other services to children which may impact

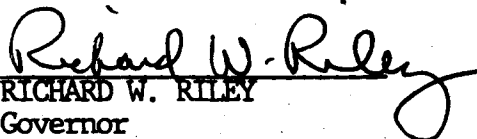
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early childhood development and education; (3) to identify and recommend methods which will facilitate interagency cooperation and coordination in planning and implementing children's service programs.

Further, the Interagency Advisory Committee shall meet bimonthly and additionally, as needed, in order to effectuate the responsibilities as described herein and shall make recommendations to the Council as deemed necessary.

This Executive Order rescinds Executive Order No. 84-24.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS
30th DAY OF OCTOBER, 1986.


RICHARD W. RILEY
Governor

ATTEST:


JOHN T. CAMPBELL
Secretary of State