EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 87-34

WHEREAS, South Carolina has historically been a rural and agricultural state; and

WHEREAS, agriculture is a major industry in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, economic development of the state should extend and encompass rural areas of our state and not be centralized with urban growth areas only; and

WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina should strive to develop a diversified economy based on the abundance of natural resources available; and

WHEREAS, the State rural and agricultural communities desire to expand and prosper; and

WHEREAS, rural economic development is vital to the overall economic prosperity of the State of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, in agriculture there exists a need to define better state policy for agri-business, diversification and marketing, aquaculture, agricultural financing and forestry;

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WHEREAS, in rural economic development, there is a need to define better policies and goals for infrastructure, leadership, quality of life, human resource development, entrepreneurship and business development.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers conferred upon me by the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina; I hereby establish the Governor's agricultural and rural economic development task force. The Task Force shall be composed of fifteen (15) members to include the Commissioner of Agriculture; who shall serve as Chairman of the Task Force; the Chairman of the Coordinating Council on Economic Development, who shall serve as co-chairman of the Task Force; Clemson University Vice-President of Agriculture and Natural Resources; the President of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation; the Chairman of the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee; the Chairman of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee; the Chairman of the South Carolina Agriculture Commission; the Chairman of the Legislative Rural Caucus; the Chairman of the House Medical, Municipal, and Military Affairs Committee; and six other individuals selected by the Governor.

The duties and responsibilities of the Task Force shall include the coordination of information, studies, and hearings undertaken by committees established in this order. The Task Force will be responsible for developing an in-depth, comprehensive review and evaluation of the current situation and outlook for the agricultural and rural economies of South Carolina. In addition to its review of the situation and outlook for these areas, the Task Force shall develop a suggested strategic plan to address the needs and problems identified in the Task Force’s findings. The Task Force shall coordinate its work with the Coordinating Council on Economic Development’s strategic planning process.

The Governor’s Task Force shall have an advisory board consisting of persons appointed by the Governor who shall chair specified committees in agriculture and rural economic development. These committees shall gather
INFORMATION AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE ADVISORY BOARD IN A TIMELY MANNER IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE ADVISORY BOARD TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE TASK FORCE.

STAFF SUPPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE, ADVISORY BOARD, AND COMMITTEES SHALL COME FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY, SOUTH CAROLINA FARM BUREAU, AND THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE. THE TASK FORCE SHALL SOLICIT VOLUNTEERS FROM THE BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT, AGRICULTURAL, AND ACADEMIC COMMUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN ITS EFFORTS TO CARRY OUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES SPELLED OUT IN THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER. ANY FUNDS THAT ARE NEEDED BY THE TASK FORCE TO FULFILL ITS RESPONSIBILITIES MAY BE PROVIDED BY THE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

A FINAL REPORT FROM THE TASK FORCE TO THE GOVERNOR WILL BE DUE ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1988. THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON SIGNATURE.


CARROLL A. CAMPBELL, JR.
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

JOHN T. CAMPBELL
SECRETARY OF STATE