

THE STATE OF TEXAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUSTIN, TEXAS

October 5, 1979

EXECUTIVE ORDER

WPC - 13

ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON HANDICAPPED CITIZENS

WHEREAS, The White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals in which a delegation of distinguished Texans participated, has made significant recommendations to improve the capacity of persons with disabilities to live with full satisfaction in our society; and

WHEREAS, their recommendations have been placed in an Implementation Plan which is the culmination of an unprecedented effort that has involved participation by thousands of handicapped individuals, their families, providers of services and other advocates; and

WHEREAS, the Implementation Plan has merit and is the most definitive documentation of the needs and required actions of handicapped Americans to date; and

WHEREAS, the Implementation Plan has been forwarded to the State of Texas for its consideration; and

WHEREAS, this Implementation Plan is worthy of implementation by the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to review the Implementation Plan in order to identify how specific departments, agencies, councils and commissions of the State can most effectively implement the recommendations contained in the Plan in consonance with their respective statutory functions; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish a mechanism to accomplish this review; and

WHEREAS, a Task Force, with a proper understanding of the duties of the respective state agencies would provide such a mechanism.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William P. Clements, Jr. Governor of the State of Texas, under the authority vested in me, do hereby create and establish the GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE FOR HANDICAPPED CITIZENS for the purpose of implementing the recommendations of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals.

The GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE FOR HANDICAPPED CITIZENS (TASK FORCE) shall be composed of no more than thirty members, appointed by the Governor, and a chairman designated by the Governor. The following agencies, departments, commissions and boards shall be represented on the TASK FORCE:

- Texas State Commission for the Blind
- Texas Department of Community Affairs
- Texas Coordinating Board of Colleges and Universities
- Texas Department of Corrections
- Texas Commission for the Deaf
- Developmental Disabilities Council
- Texas Education Agency
- Texas Employment Commission

Equal Employment Opportunity Office
Governor's Office of Budget and Planning
Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped
Texas Department of Health
Department of Highways and Public Transportation
Department of Human Resources
Industrial Accident Commission
Texas State Board of Insurance
Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation
Merit System Council
Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife
Department of Public Safety
Purchasing and General Services Commission
Texas Rehabilitation Commission

All members, including the chairman, shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

The duties of the TASK FORCE shall include but not be limited to:

1. A thorough study and evaluation of the recommendations contained in the Implementation Plan of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals.
2. Identification of those recommendations which are within the authority of the various state agencies and the assignment of those recommended for implementation to the particular agencies.
3. Recommendation of a plan to the Governor for implementation by the state agencies.
4. Securing periodic reports to the Governor from the concerned agencies on the progress of the implementation of the recommendations.

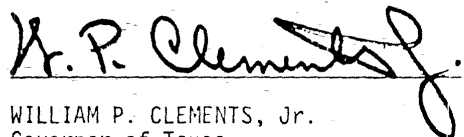
The coordination of the GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE'S activity shall be centered in the Governor's office. The Special Assistant for Administration of the Governor's office shall be the principal coordinator for the GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE. The Special Assistant for Administration shall utilize the services of the Executive Director of the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped as necessary.

All State Agencies, Boards, and Commissions are hereby directed to assist fully the GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON HANDICAPPED CITIZENS in addition to the Governor's office aid and other staff support.


This Executive Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in full force and effect until modified, amended or rescinded by me.



Given under my hand this 5th day of
October, 1979.


WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS, Jr.
Governor of Texas

ATTEST:


GEORGE W. STRAKE, JR.
Secretary of State

Filed in the office of
Secretary of State

OCT - 9 1979

Statutory Documents Div.