

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 91-19  
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A  
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

I, ARNE H. CARLSON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the applicable statutes, do hereby issue this Executive Order:

WHEREAS, the management of geographic information about the character and location of the state's natural and cultural resources, and the human and economic activities that affect and are affected by those resources, is essential to all levels of government, state, local, and federal, in the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to coordinate the various activities in geographic information systems (GIS) and land information systems (LIS) in order to better exchange and share information and to enhance the stewardship of geographic information in the management of public resources; and

WHEREAS, the current Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium, a volunteer organization, has been engaged in a variety of educational, communications, and information sharing activities but lacks explicit authority to recommend standards, policies, and guidelines; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to recommend standards, policies, and guidelines to the Information Policy Office and other units of government for developing and sharing geographic information; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to avoid duplication of effort so as to reduce the costs that would otherwise be involved if each organization developed its own GIS capabilities independently; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish a formal forum in order to discuss, debate, and decide issues related to geographic information; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to prioritize and schedule the development of public-funded data programs, define the roles and responsibilities for data stewardship, and formulate the policies for the access, distribution, and pricing of data; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to initiate a geographic information clearinghouse in order to consolidate data into libraries, integrate data into common formats, and distribute data to users; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide organizational structure, financial support, and personnel direction to a statewide approach for developing and managing geographic information; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide education, training, and support for users of geographic information toward their better management of public resources;


NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby order that:

1. The Governor's Council on Geographic Information (hereinafter referred to as Council) shall be formally established.

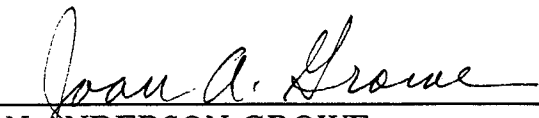
2. The Council shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Administration who shall solicit nominations from the Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium and other interested groups, and shall be composed of not more than 15 members with knowledge and interest in the GIS field representing state government, higher education, local government, federal government, and GIS user(s) in the private sector. The Council shall elect a chair.
3. The Council shall formulate and adopt a charter for its own operation and the formation of topical advisory committees.
4. The Council shall receive administrative staff support from the Information Policy Office, technical staff support from the Land Management Information Center, and advice from the Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium.
5. The Council's first annual report on June 30, 1992 shall include recommendations for legislation to establish a permanent organization to supersede this Council and recommendations for addressing the needs described in this executive order.
6. Until such time that a permanent organization is established to supersede this Council, it shall prepare an annual report by June 30th of each year for the Governor, to be submitted through the Commissioner of Administration, describing accomplishments from the previous year and plans and recommendations for the future.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 1990, Section 4.035, subd. 2, this Order shall be effective fifteen (15) days after publication in the State Register and filing with the Secretary of State and shall remain in effect until rescinded by proper authority or it expires in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 1990, Section 4.035, subd. 3.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand this sixteenth day of September,  
1991.


  
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ARNE H. CARLSON  
Governor

Filed According to Law:

  
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JOAN ANDERSON GROWE  
Secretary of State

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FILED

SEP 16 1991

  
Secretary of State