

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 98-14
PROVIDING THAT THE MINNESOTA YEAR 2000 PROJECT
BE THE FIRST TECHNOLOGY PROJECT PRIORITY**

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 State of Minnesota has a multi-billion-dollar investment in numerous information technology systems and equipment responsible for providing services and improving public safety for all Minnesotans; and

WHEREAS, most computers and automated systems worldwide are threatened by the Year 2000 problem which, because previous date standards represented a year with only two digits instead of four, fails to recognize dates beyond 1999; and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of Minnesota's automated systems is at risk from the Year 2000 problem and a great many automated systems with mission-critical applications will be negatively impacted; and

WHEREAS, the complex nature of the problems and the time necessary for Minnesota entities to detect Year 2000 problems, devise solutions and adequately test information systems, make time of the essence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby order that:

1. The Minnesota Year 2000 Project is the first technology project priority.
 - a) With due consideration to mandated initiatives, each agency shall defer commencing new computer projects until essential systems are Year 2000 compliant.
 - b) Agencies shall secure and allocate the appropriate human and monetary resources.
2. Each agency in the executive branch of the State shall be responsible to find and fix Year 2000 problems, or develop solutions that assure continued function of essential systems and services. Each agency shall also protect its essential systems from corruption by other systems that are not Year 2000 compliant.
3. State agencies shall not purchase new systems, hardware, software or equipment that is not Year 2000 compliant or fails to contain Year 2000 contract language.
4. State agencies that employ internal auditors shall conduct internal audits of Year 2000 progress.
5. All State departments and agencies are directed to communicate with their constituencies to ensure that any Year 2000 issues and incompatibilities are fully addressed.
6. Each agency shall provide status reports to the Minnesota Year 2000 Project Office, as the Office requires.
7. Local governments shall endeavor to review their systems and allocate adequate resources to alleviate any impact from the Year 2000 problem.
8. Emergency Management shall consult with local government to adequately plan for potential civic failures that may occur.

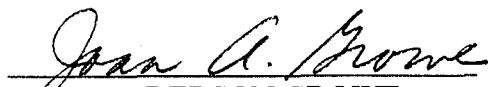
9. State agencies, as appropriate, shall assist communities, schools and neighborhoods in their endeavors to organize their efforts to ensure that services are not impacted by technology errors as the Year 2000 approaches.
10. State agencies, as appropriate, shall assist Minnesota businesses in their endeavors to ensure that all commercial and industrial applications are not adversely affected by the Year 2000 transition.
11. All departments, agencies and commissions are directed to work in cooperation with the Office of Technology and the Department of Administration to ensure that there is an ongoing public awareness effort so that adequate information resources are available to all sectors of the Minnesota economy and its citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand this twenty-second day of October 1998.



ARNE H. CARLSON
Governor

Filed According to Law:



JOAN ANDERSON GROWE
Secretary of State

