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STATE OF COLORADO

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

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Denver, Colorado 80203-1792
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Roy Romer
Governor

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EXECUTIVE ORDER

CREATION OF THE ENERGY ASSISTANCE REFORM TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, over 200,000 Colorado households have trouble meeting home energy needs; and

WHEREAS, the State of Colorado recognizes the need for energy assistance for low income families; and

WHEREAS, the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP), a federally funded grant program administered by the Colorado Department of Human Services, has been the primary source of energy assistance over the past 15 years; and

WHEREAS, Colorado has lost over \$18 million in such federal energy assistance since 1985 and the state anticipates further reductions in these funds; and

WHEREAS, Weatherization programs, which are also funded in part through federal programs, are a way to reduce the need for long-term financial assistance to low-income people; and

WHEREAS, funding for Weatherization programs has also been reduced; and

WHEREAS, since 1988 the Colorado Energy Assistance Foundation has consistently developed innovative ways to increase funds available for energy assistance; and

WHEREAS, the State of Colorado recognizes the need to develop, in part through public/private partnerships, a cohesive and effective strategy to address home energy needs for low income Coloradans.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Roy Romer, Governor of the State of Colorado pursuant to the authority vested in me under the statutes and the constitution of the State of Colorado, DO HEREBY ORDER THAT:

1. The Colorado Energy Assistance Reform Task Force (Task Force) is hereby created. Members shall be appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Governor shall appoint one member to serve as the chair of the Task Force.
2. The Task Force shall be composed of not more than 22 members, with representation from each of the following categories:
 - a) state government, including, but not limited to representatives from the Department of Human Services, the Colorado Office of Energy Conservation, and the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies;
 - b) utility companies, both public and private;
 - c) energy assistance providers, both public and private;
 - d) representatives of energy assistance recipients (consumers); and
 - e) representatives of general business and financial community.
3. The Task Force shall develop a strategy to address energy needs of low income Coloradans that recognizes federal funding levels have been cut and that future cuts are possible, if not probable. The development of this strategy may include, but is not limited to, the completion of the following tasks:
 - a) Determine the number of low-income Coloradans who are in need of some form of energy assistance, as well as the resources necessary to address that need;
 - b) Determine the most cost-effective balance of funding levels between reducing energy use and cash assistance programs that help pay energy costs;
 - c) Recommend options for streamlining administrative and service delivery while maximizing client benefit;
 - d) Define measurable outcomes of program(s) performance;
 - e) Recommend options for new or innovative financing; and
 - f) Identify additional opportunities and initiatives to support a public/private partnership.
4. The Task Force will issue a final report no later than November, 1997. The Task Force shall sunset not later than November, 1997 unless reviewed by the Governor for appropriate action prior to that date.

5. The Task Force shall meet at times and in places upon which members mutually agree, as necessary to achieve the goals of this Executive Order.
6. This Executive Order expires on November 30, 1997, unless extended by the Governor.



GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado this twenty-fourth day
of October, 1996.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy Romer".

Roy Romer
Governor