WHEREAS providing Iowans access to a high quality and affordable health care delivery system is important to our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the application of advanced telecommunications technology to health care shows much promise towards helping achieve this goal; and

WHEREAS, developing telemedicine in Iowa will require the cooperative efforts of numerous individuals and organizations to establish appropriate policies, plans and administrative mechanisms.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terry E. Branstad, Governor of the State of Iowa, by the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State of Iowa do hereby order that:

I. A Telemedicine Advisory Council shall be created to develop a coordinated, cost effective and comprehensive plan for the implementation of a statewide telemedicine program.

II. The Telemedicine Advisory Council shall consist of no more than 18 members and no fewer than 15 members representing Iowa hospitals, health care providers, postsecondary education institutions, and the general public.

III. Experts in such fields as medical education, information management, telecommunications, insurance, finance and patient treatment and care shall be called upon by the Council for advice as is necessary.

IV. State agencies involved with health care, the Iowa Communications Network, and telecommunications shall cooperate with the Council in promoting the objectives of this Council.

V. The members of the Council shall be appointed by and serve at the will of the Governor. The Chairperson will be appointed by the Governor and serve at his pleasure. All appointments will be for one-year terms.

VI. The authorization for the Advisory Council will expire in one year from the enactment of this order, unless otherwise extended by the Governor.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 4th day of March in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-four.