

STATE OF DELAWARE



**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
DOVER**

EXECUTIVE ORDER
NUMBER TWENTY

TO: HEADS OF ALL STATE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES
RE: GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MINORITY HEALTH

WHEREAS, Delaware has significant and increasing minority populations, including African-American and hispanic communities which comprise nearly 20% of Delaware's population; and

WHEREAS, Delaware's racial and ethnic minority populations are adversely and disproportionately affected by death, illness and disability; and

WHEREAS, Delaware's goal of understanding and improving the health status of all its citizens will not be achieved without assessing the health risks faced by its minority communities and targeting health promotion, early intervention and treatment efforts toward those communities; and

WHEREAS, efforts to reform the health care system are underway in the State of Delaware and at the national level; and

WHEREAS, it is important that these health care reform initiatives address the inadequacy of access to primary and preventive health care services in our State's and nation's minority communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS R. CARPER, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, do hereby declare and order the following:

1. The Governor's Advisory Council on Minority Health (the "Council") is hereby established. It shall consist of 15-18 members appointed by the Governor who shall be broadly representative of minority populations throughout the State, with each county represented, and the community at large.

2. A Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be appointed by the Governor from among the members of the Council and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

3. The terms of the members of the Council shall be three years, provided, however, that of the initial appointees to the Council, five shall have one year terms, five shall have two year terms and the remainder shall have three year terms. If any member fails to attend three successive meetings of the Council, the position may be deemed vacant and, upon recommendation of the Chairperson, the Governor may appoint a replacement. Any appointment to replace a member whose position becomes vacant prior to the expiration of the term shall be filled for the remainder of that term.

4. The duties and functions of the Council shall be to advise the Governor, the Secretary of Health and Social Services (the "Secretary") and the Director of the Division of Public Health (the "Director") on minority health issues including:

- a. assisting the Governor, the Secretary and the Director in setting priorities for addressing minority health problems;
- b. promoting and participating in cooperative efforts among state agencies, other advisory groups, other health providers and community-based groups to improve the health of Delaware's minority population;
- c. participating in State efforts and programs to promote health and prevent disease in minority populations; and
- d. advising the Governor and the Secretary on the effects health care reform alternatives may have on minority health status.

5. The Council shall issue periodic reports, including an annual report, on issues related to minority health, and shall issue such other reports or provide assistance as the Secretary or the Governor shall require or request.

6. The Council shall be staffed by the Division of Public Health; and other staff assistance and support shall be provided by the Department of Health and Social Services, as appropriate.

APPROVED this 17th day of
May, 1994.



Thomas R. Kean
Governor

ATTEST:

William J. Duiker
Secretary of State