Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2007, Section 16B.37, the following administrative reorganization is made with the prior approval of the Governor.

In order to improve the efficiency of state government, the Veterans Homes Board is abolished and its functions, powers, duties and responsibilities are hereby transferred to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The purpose of this transfer is to consolidate the programs and services provided to veterans and their families, and to provide for the improved governance, leadership, accountability and service delivery of Minnesota's veterans homes.

Consistent with the transfer of powers and duties, all affected personnel, with accrued benefits, are transferred to the Department of Veterans Affairs. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as abrogating or modifying any rights now enjoyed by affected employees under the managerial or commissioner's plan under Minnesota Statutes 2006, Section 43A.18, or the terms of an agreement between an exclusive representative of public employees and the state or one of its appointing authorities.

The Veterans Homes Board will give the Department of Veterans Affairs all contracts, agreements, books, maps, plans, papers, records, supplies and equipment relating to the transferred activities.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will continue the stipulation agreement between the Veterans Homes Board and the Department of Health concerning the monitoring of the Minneapolis Veterans Home.

Rulemaking authority of the Veterans Homes Board is transferred to the Department of Veterans Affairs. All rules adopted by the Veterans Homes Board pursuant to these transferred functions, powers and duties remain in effect and shall be enforced until amended or repealed in accordance with law by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Department of Veterans Affairs is the legal successor in all respects of the Veterans Homes Board. The bonds, resolutions, contracts and liabilities of the Veterans Homes Board become the bonds, resolutions, contracts and liabilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Any proceedings, court actions, prosecution, or other business or matter pending on the effective date of the transfer may be conducted and completed by the Department of Veterans Affairs in the same manner under the same terms and conditions and with the same effect, as though it involved or were commenced and conducted or completed prior to the transfer from the Veterans Homes Board.

The Commissioner of Finance shall make necessary financial determinations in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 2006, Section 16B.37, Subdivision 3. The unexpended balance of any appropriation to the Veterans Homes Board for the purposes of any powers, functions or duties are reappropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs under the same conditions as the original appropriation to the transferring agency.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2006, Section 16B.37, Subdivision 2, copies of this Order were submitted to the secretary of the senate, the chief clerk of the house, and the chairs of the governmental operations committees in the Minnesota Senate and House of Representatives.

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes 2006, Section 16B.37, Subdivision 2, this Order is effective upon filing with the Secretary of State and shall remain in effect until amended, repealed or superseded.