EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 142

Establishing a Standard of Conduct for Officials and Employees of the Executive Branch of the State of Minnesota

I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, do hereby issue this Executive Order:

WHEREAS, effective government is premised upon public confidence in the integrity and objectivity of government officials; and

WHEREAS, a public official of a free government is entrusted with the welfare, property, security and safety of the people he or she serves; and

WHEREAS, in return for the trust of the public, the people are entitled to know that no conflict exists between private interests and official duties in those who serve them; and
WHEREAS, there is a need to provide standards of conduct uniformly applicable to all officials and employees of the executive branch of state government in order that government integrity remain preserved:

NOW, THEREFORE, I order:

1. That officials and employees of the executive branch of the State of Minnesota should endeavor to pursue a course of conduct which will not raise suspicion among the public that they are likely to be engaged in acts that are in violation of the public trust. Each of us should remain conscious that the appearance as well as the reality of high ethical standards is vital.

2. That no official or employee of the executive branch of the State of Minnesota shall accept part-time employment which will impair his or her independence of judgment in the exercise of official duties. Each of us in evaluating whether or not to accept part-time employment should consider the appearance as well as the reality of a conflict of interest. If an individual has doubt about the propriety, an advisory opinion should be sought from the Minnesota Ethical Practices Commission.

3. That officials and employees of the executive branch of the State of Minnesota shall abstain from making
personal investments in enterprises which they have reason to believe may be directly involved in decisions to be made by them.

4. That no official or employee of the executive branch of the State of Minnesota shall solicit, sell or otherwise engage in a substantial financial transaction with a subordinate or a person or business whom he or she inspects or supervises in his or her official capacity. Private financial transactions are not prohibited per se; however, careful and thoughtful consideration should be given as to how the private financial transaction relates to public employment.

5. That no official or employee of the executive branch of the State of Minnesota shall receive or agree to receive any compensation, reward or gift with a monetary value of greater than $5.00 except from the State of Minnesota for any service, advice, assistance or other matter related to state government employment. While not prohibited each of us should avoid the acceptance of any gratuity of any amount.

This order shall be effective upon publication in the State Register and shall remain in effect until rescinded by the proper authority.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand on this 23rd day of February, 1977.

Rudy Perpich, Governor

Filed according to law:

Joan Anderson Growe
Secretary of State