EXECUTIVE ORDER 99-11
PROVIDING FOR MINNESOTA’S “Y2 ‘O’ K...BE PREPARED” CAMPAIGN AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GOVERNOR’S SUPERBOARD ON Y2K PREPAREDNESS

I, JESSE VENTURA, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the applicable statutes, do hereby issue this Executive Order:

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota, our local units of government and Minnesota businesses have invested billions of dollars in information technology systems and equipment responsible for providing essential services, including public safety, to all Minnesotans; and

WHEREAS, many computers and electronic systems with embedded microchips may be vulnerable to Year 2000 complications resulting from programming shortcuts that used two digits instead of four to represent a year, and that may fail to recognize dates beyond 1999; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota’s information technology systems are ninety-six percent Year 2000 compliant, but some local units of government and Minnesota businesses remain at risk for Year 2000-related system failures; and

WHEREAS, the complicated nature of the Year 2000 issue makes it difficult to predict where and when failures may occur, including dates before or after the widely known January 1, 2000 date;
NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby order that:

1. Minnesota's Y2"O"K...Be Prepared campaign is a statewide community preparedness priority.

2. Each department and agency in the executive branch of the state shall test essential systems for potential failures and prepare contingency plans to assure continued operations and services. All state agencies shall report any problems identified during the test period to the Year 2000 Project Office in the Department of Administration, as the Office requires.

3. Each agency shall protect its essential systems from corruption by other systems that are not Year 2000 compliant.

4. State agencies, as appropriate, shall assist communities, schools and neighborhoods in their organization efforts to reduce the impact of potential Year 2000 related failures.

5. State agencies, as appropriate, shall assist Minnesota businesses in their endeavors to ensure that all commercial and industrial operations are not adversely affected by the Year 2000 transition.

6. The Emergency Management Division in the Department of Public Safety shall collaborate with local government personnel to adequately plan for potential public failures in local communities.

7. Local governments shall continue to identify Year 2000 problems and allocate adequate resources to fix these problems. Local governments shall also prepare contingency plans to assure continued operations and services and promote public awareness through communications with citizens.

8. Individuals shall take the necessary responsibility to prepare themselves, their organizations, families and communities for potential Year 2000 problems.

9. The Governor's Superboard on Y2"O"K Preparedness shall be created to:
   a) oversee statewide readiness efforts;
   b) identify sectors that are lagging in preparedness and connect troubled sectors with the resources necessary to address their problems;
   c) encourage partnerships among state agencies, local units of government, businesses, higher education institutions and community groups;
   d) identify social issues that may jeopardize public safety;
   e) develop a united Y2"O"K...Be Prepared public relations campaign to increase public awareness;
   f) engage the media to project the importance of the awareness and preparedness message to the public; and
   g) address the "ripple effect" that the Year 2000 may have on our long-term economy.
10. The Superboard shall have up to 15 members selected by the Governor from the public, private and nonprofit sectors to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.


12. All departments, agencies and other state entities shall cooperate with the Governor’s Superboard on Y2"O"K Preparedness, the Office of Technology and the Departments of Administration and Public Safety to increase public awareness, provide good information to all sectors of Minnesota’s economy and ensure public safety for all Minnesota citizens.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 4.035, subd. 2, this Order shall be effective fifteen (15) days after publication in the State Register and filing with the Secretary of State and shall remain in effect until rescinded by proper authority or it expires in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 4.035, subd. 3.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand this nineteenth day of April, 1999.

JESSE VENTURA
Governor

Filed According to Law:

MARY KIFFMEYER
Secretary of State