The State of Texas  
Executive Department
Office of the Governor
Austin, Texas

July 13, 1981

EXECUTIVE ORDER
WPC-21A

Executive Order WPC-21A is amended as follows and shall be known as WPC-21A.Amending the Governor's Task Force on Higher Education, prescribing its duties, functions and method of operation.

WHEREAS, the role of government in our society is not to guarantee our citizens success, rather, it is to guarantee them the opportunity to achieve success; and

WHEREAS, higher education is an important component of that effort by government; and

WHEREAS, Texas has an outstanding higher education system; and

WHEREAS, Texas is a leader in higher education with 30 universities, 47 junior college districts, and eight medical facilities; and

WHEREAS, Texas now has a public or private college, junior college or university within commuting distance of 99 percent of our population; and

WHEREAS, there is also need for coordination in higher education; and

WHEREAS, now is the logical time for Texas to do a thorough review of its higher education system and to start preparing for the new demands of the future; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a permanent task force on higher education to have direct input to the Governor and the Legislature of Texas will greatly assist the Governor, the Legislature and providers of higher education in the performance of their duties; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Texas is the highest elected officer of this state and designated by law as the chief planner for the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William P. Clements, Jr., Governor of Texas, under the authority vested in me, do hereby create and establish the Governor's Task Force on Higher Education.

Said task force will consist of no more than thirty members broadly representative of public and private providers of higher education with a composition of both professionals in higher education and concerned laymen. One member will be designated by the Lt. Governor, one member will be designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the remaining members designated by the Governor.

Members will serve for one year and at the pleasure of their appointing authority.

The Governor shall designate a Chairman and Vice-Chairman who shall hold such designation at the pleasure of the Governor.

Members will serve in a voluntary capacity without State pay and without State reimbursement for travel and subsistence expenses to attend regularly scheduled monthly meetings of the task force. Travel and subsistence expenses for other necessary committee activities, such as task force hearings and conferences, shall be reimbursed as authorized by the Chairman.

Said task force is directed to meet monthly in various locations throughout the state and at other times as may be directed by the Chairman.

Said task force is directed to hold hearings and conferences as may be directed by the Chairman.

Said task force will complete a thorough review of higher education in Texas which shall include but not be limited to examining such issues as the role of public versus private institutions of higher education, the role of state versus the federal government in higher education, an analysis of the various and different systems of higher education; an analysis of tuition charges for residents of Texas versus out-of-state and foreign students; coordination of activities, courses, teaching methods, etc., for the maximum delivery benefits to the students and such other issues identified by the Governor.

Said task force shall present a written report no later than one year from the date of this executive order to the Governor, Lt. Governor and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Said task force shall make such studies and reports as the Governor may, from time to time, request and shall keep the Governor advised of the task force's activities.

All state agencies, boards, commissions and institutions of higher education are hereby directed to assist fully the Governor's Task Force on Higher Education in addition to aid and staff support from the Governor's Office.

This executive order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in full force and effect until modified, amended or rescinded by me.

Given under my hand this 13th day of July, 1981.

WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS, JR.
Governor of Texas

ATTEST:

George W. Strake, Jr.
Secretary of State