

WHEREAS, The Governor's Council on the Prevention of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities should continue to serve as an advisory council to the Commissioner of Human Services and to the Office for Prevention of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas H. Kean, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. The Governor's Council on the Prevention of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities is hereby extended for a period of one year and shall expire on December 31, 1990.

2. Representation on the Council shall be expanded to include the Public Advocate or his designee.

3. All terms and provisions of Executive Orders Nos. 72 and 178 shall remain in force and effect except as expressly modified herein.

4. This Order shall take effect immediately.

Issued November 22, 1989.

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 224

WHEREAS, The land along the New Jersey/New York border from the Delaware River to the Hudson River (hereinafter referred to as the Skylands region) is an area of significant natural beauty that contains numerous cultural and historic sites and possesses substantial recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Federal, State, county and local governments in both New Jersey and New York own approximately 136,613 acres in this region, managing them as parks, preserves, water supply areas, historic sites and open space; and

WHEREAS, These protected areas offer citizens and tourists throughout New Jersey and New York numerous cultural and recreational opportunities by providing both physical and visual access to the natural resources of the region; and

WHEREAS, In 1987, the President's Commission on American Outdoors called for a network of greenways across the United States

to facilitate the preservation of natural resources for recreational and open space purposes; and

WHEREAS, Greenways provide a mechanism for achieving these preservation goals by creating unbroken corridors of forests, streams, lakes, reservoirs, rivers and public trust lands which protect valuable wetlands, scenic and recreation areas and wildlife habitats, as well as shaping community development and enhancing community pride and beauty; and

WHEREAS, A Skylands Greenway would link the parks, historic sites, wetlands, wildlife habitats, streams, rivers, reservoirs, watersheds, trails, scenic, natural and agricultural lands and other protected areas unique to the region between the Delaware and Hudson Rivers for the enjoyment of future generations; and

WHEREAS, It is in the interest of New Jersey to create a Task Force to study the viability of establishing a Skylands Greenway to protect the unique qualities of the Skylands region;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas H. Kean, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. The creation of a Skylands Greenway Task Force (hereinafter referred to as the "Task Force") to consist of nine members. The makeup of the Task Force shall be as follows:

a. Four public members with expertise in the preservation of natural resources and open space, to be appointed by the Governor of the State of New Jersey.

b. A representative from the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission.

c. Three representatives, one each from the neighboring counties of Bergen, Passaic and Sussex, each to be chosen by the respective County's Board of Chosen Freeholders.

d. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, or his/her designee.

2. In addition to these nine members, the Task Force may invite the following representatives to participate:

a. Two representatives, one each from New York's Orange and Rockland Counties, each to be chosen by the respective County's governing body.

b. The Commissioner of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation and/or of New York's State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, or their designees.

c. A representative appointed by the National Park Service.

d. A representative appointed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

e. A representative from the United States Soil Conservation Service (representing agricultural interests).

3. The Task Force may call to its assistance, and avail itself of the services of, any organizations with involvement and/or interest in the Skylands Greenway. If requested by the Task Force, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection shall provide staff support. The Task Force may call upon the State Planning Commission and Office of State Planning to provide any information deemed necessary, including statistical and planning data.

4. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is authorized and directed, to the extent not inconsistent with law, to cooperate with the Task Force and to furnish it with such information, personnel and assistance as necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Order.

5. The Task Force shall meet as soon as practicable and commence a study which:

a. Shall include each county along the New York/New Jersey border from the Hudson River to the Delaware River.

b. Shall include, but not be limited to, planning and recommending protected linkages of natural, cultural and recreational resources relating to the Greenway and planned in such a way as to enhance indigenous industries such as agriculture and tourism.

6. The Task Force shall conclude its study within one year by filing a report with the Governor of New Jersey, the National Park Service and those Congressional Committees with oversight responsibilities for the establishment of a Skylands Greenway. This report shall include:

a. A brief and general historical overview regarding the lands considered for inclusion in the Greenway designation.

b. An inventory of all public and private lands within the Skylands region, specifying the present use of such lands, facilities exist-

ing thereon for public recreation, and all natural, scenic, cultural, fish and wildlife and other resources in the region.

c. The agency from each jurisdiction managing existing natural resources.

d. A general review of all watershed lands which may contribute to the establishment of the Greenway.

e. Any recommendations, including draft actions, for designation of the lands and waters as part of the proposed Greenway.

7. This Order shall take effect immediately.

Issued December 20, 1989.