EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 199

WHEREAS, The presence of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) presents a serious public health concern for the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey presently ranks fifth in the nation with regard to the number of its citizens infected with AIDS and the number of AIDS cases has been steadily increasing; and

WHEREAS, Education and training are the best methods for avoiding the risks of HIV transmission and preventing unlawful discrimination against persons with AIDS or HIV infection; and

WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey, as an employer, has the responsibility to ensure that State employees are trained and educated on issues related to AIDS and HIV; and

WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey, at present, has not established any uniform education and training program for its employees regarding AIDS and HIV;

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 Commissioner of Health and the Commissioner of Personnel shall be responsible for providing information and education to all State departments and their employees on issues relating to AIDS and HIV.

2. An education and training program on AIDS and HIV shall be developed and provided to all State employees. The Commissioner of Health shall, in cooperation the Commissioner of Personnel, develop the curriculum and course content. The Department of Personnel shall administer the program to State employees.

3. Each department, office, division or agency of the State is authorized and directed to cooperate with the Commissioner of Health and the Commissioner of Personnel and to furnish them with such data, information, personnel and support services as the commissioners deem necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Order.

4. This Order shall take effect immediately.