EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 28

WHEREAS, Alabama has been named a recipient of the United We Ride grant to develop an educational plan for coordinated human service transportation intended to result in enhanced customer access, at the local level, for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes; and

WHEREAS, a framework for action needs to be developed and implemented in Alabama to help reduce or eliminate restrictive and duplicative laws, regulations, and programs related to human service transportation; and

WHEREAS, successful cost effective strategies in coordinating human service transportation at the Federal, State, Tribal, and Local levels need to be examined, identified, documented and disseminated; and

WHEREAS, the Governor recognizes that employing similar strategies, by the providers and program operators, will not only assist Alabama in its effort to provide access to transportation, but will increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of state funded programs that address this problem.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bob Riley, Governor of the State of Alabama, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, and for other good and valid reasons which relate thereto, do hereby establish the United We Ride Commission to lead and carry-out United We Ride activities in Alabama, and to be responsible for coordinating efforts to combat this critical problem.

BE IT ORDERED that the Executive Director of the Alabama Department of Senior Services, shall serve as the Chair of the Commission, and assign staff to handle all administrative duties related to the meetings which will include keeping minutes and issuing an annual report, and that other members of the Commission shall consist of the following members, or their respective designees where provided, each of whom will have voting rights on the commission:

State Health Officer of the Department of Public Health, or designee;
State Superintendent of the Department of Education, or designee;
Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency, or designee;
Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources, or designee;
Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and Retardation, or designee;
Commissioner of the Department of Rehabilitation, or designee;
Director of the Department of Transportation, or designee;
Director of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, or designee;
Director of the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, or designee;
One representative of the Alabama State House of Representatives, appointed by the Governor;
One representative of the Alabama Senate, appointed by the Governor;
One consumer, appointed by the Governor; and
One representative of the Office of the Governor; and
One At-Large Member appointed by the Governor, or designee.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that all cabinet level agencies shall cooperate to the fullest extent reasonably possible with the Commission and its' Chair, and shall provide all information needed by the Commission to fulfill its mandate under this order.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the Commission shall meet at least four (4) times annually, and shall establish task groups, focus groups, and hold town meetings, forums, and/or any other meetings deemed necessary to carry out the mandate of this order.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the Annual Report shall be submitted to the Governor in November of each year, which shall provide a detailed explanation of the Commission's activities for the preceding twelve-month period, and the impact of the results of these activities on Alabama's transportation problems being addressed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that this Executive Order shall become effective immediately upon its execution and shall remain in effect until amended or modified by the Governor.

DONE and ORDERED this 13th day of April, 2005.

Bob Riley
Governor

Attested:

Nancy L. Worley
Secretary of State