

B 002 08

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Continuing the Statewide Independent Living Council

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, I, Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order continuing the Statewide Independent Living Council (“the Council”).

I. Background and Need

The State of Colorado operates an independent living rehabilitation program funded under the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and authorized under C.R.S. §§ 26-8.1-101 to 26-8.1-106. Sections 704 and 705 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, require the State to establish the Statewide Independent Living Council. The Council acts in partnership with Colorado Rehabilitation Services to help plan independent living programs in the State.

II. Membership and Organization

A. The Council shall consist of not more than twenty-three (23) members, appointed for three-year terms. The Council shall be composed of members who provide statewide representation, who represent a broad range of individuals with disabilities and organizations interested in individuals with disabilities.

1. The Council shall include the following:

- a. At least one director of a center for independent living chosen by the directors of centers for independent living within the State; and
- b. A representative from Colorado Rehabilitation Services, who shall serve as an *ex-officio*, non-voting member.

2. The Council may include the following:

- a. Other representatives from centers for independent living;
- b. Parents and guardians of individuals with disabilities;

- c. Advocates of and for individuals with disabilities;
 - d. Representatives from private businesses;
 - e. Representatives from organizations that provide services for individuals with disabilities;
 - f. Other appropriate individuals; and
- B. Except for one director of a center for independent living chosen by the directors of centers for independent living within the State, all members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- C. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 796d(b)(1), the Governor shall make appointments after soliciting recommendations from representatives of organizations representing a broad range of individuals with disabilities and organizations interested in individuals with disabilities.
- D. A majority of the Council's voting members shall be individuals with disabilities, as described in 29 U.S.C. § 705(20)(B), and not employed by any State agency or center for independent living.
- E. The Council shall select a chair from among its voting membership.

III. Duties

The Council shall:

- A. Jointly develop and submit (in conjunction with Colorado Rehabilitation Services) the State Plan for Independent Living Services, as required by C.R.S. § 26-8.1-106;
- B. Monitor, review and evaluate the implementation of the State Plan;
- C. Coordinate activities with the State Rehabilitation Advisory Council and councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and issues under other federal law;
- D. Ensure that all regularly scheduled meetings of the Council are open to the public and sufficient advance notice is provided;
- E. Submit to the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration such periodic reports as the Commissioner may reasonably request; and

F. Keep records that allow the Commissioner to verify such reports.

IV. Directive

The Statewide Independent Living Council is hereby continued without interruption. This Executive Order shall repeal and supercede all previous Executive Orders pertaining to the Statewide Independent Living Council and specifically Executive Order B 002 04.

V. Duration

This Executive Order shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded by future Executive Order of the Governor.

GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado this sixteenth day of
January, 2008.

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor