WHEREAS, spatial data, data that can be analyzed based on its geographic location, is essential to planning and operations in many levels of government and private sector;

WHEREAS, LOUISIANA: VISION 2020 has identified public policy goals which require dependable, accurate spatial data resources, and the private sector has a similar need for dependable and accurate spatial data;

WHEREAS, in 1995, the Louisiana Legislature created the Louisiana Geographic Information System Council (hereafter “LGISC”) to guide the sound development of geographic information systems and geographically related information technology for the state of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, the LGISC has developed guidelines and mechanisms for the required sharing of spatial data resources;

WHEREAS, a need for a National Spatial Data Infrastructure (hereafter “NSDI”) to provide a framework for organizing a wide variety of critical data sets nationwide was addressed by Presidential Executive Order No. 12906;

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana recognizes the need to take part in the NSDI by establishing and maintaining a Louisiana spatial data infrastructure;

WHEREAS, the LGISC has supported the Framework Implementation Team Initiative (I-Team), the project designed by the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to implement state and regional portions of the NSDI, and has led the I-Team in Louisiana;

WHEREAS, the I-Team has been incorporated into two federal programs, the National Map and Geospatial One-Stop, which the LGISC fully supports;

WHEREAS, the LGISC promotes the development of key framework layers as the foundation of Louisiana’s spatial data infrastructure, (hereafter “LouisianaMAP”);

WHEREAS, to be effective LouisianaMAP must continually identify and catalog all spatial data developed and maintained by public and private entities; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana will benefit from the cost savings created by eliminating the duplication of data collections, creation, and maintenance by establishing LouisianaMAP as a comprehensive program that would leverage the state's financial resources with those of the federal government and the private sector to meet both state and federal data development goals;

NOW THEREFORE I, KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO, Governor of the state of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the state of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: The LouisianaMAP program is hereby established within the executive branch,
Division of Administration, Office of Information Technology, Office of Electronic Services, and under the direction of the LGISC.

SECTION 2: The LGISC is hereby granted the authority to extend participation in LouisianaMAP to all sectors of the geospatial community, including all levels of government, geospatial users, academia, and the private sector.

SECTION 3: The LGISC shall designate a LouisianaMAP Coordinator.

SECTION 4: LouisianaMAP shall develop and manage the Louisiana spatial data infrastructure and involve all sectors of the Louisiana geospatial community. The program shall include, but is not limited to, the following areas:

A. Definition of the requirements and prioritization of geospatial data;
B. Establishment of processes for the access and usage of data;
C. Outreach to the user community; and
D. Providing training resources.

SECTION 5: By September 1, 2005, and annually thereafter, the LGISC shall submit to the governor, a detailed report on the issues set forth in Section 4 of this Order.

SECTION 6: Support staff, facilities, and resources for LouisianaMAP shall be provided by the Office of Information Technology, Division of Administration.

SECTION 7: All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the state of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate with LGISC in implementing the provisions of this Order.

SECTION 8: This Order is effective upon signature and shall continue in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the governor, or terminated by operation of law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the city of Baton Rouge, on this 16th day of November, 2004.

/S/ Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY
THE GOVERNOR

/S/ Fox W. McKeithen
SECRETARY OF STATE