EXECUTIVE ORDER 92-4

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON PREVENTION OF CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has declared that lead poisoning is one of the most common and preventable pediatric health problems in the United States today and has revised downward the 1985 blood lead intervention level of 25 ug/dl to 10 ug/dl; and

WHEREAS, the symptons of lead poisoning are silent and largely invisible at first, but without appropriate interventions can result in decreased intelligence, developmental disabilities, behavioral disturbances and disorders of blood production; and

WHEREAS, studies by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and the Arizona Department of Health Services have shown that blood lead levels in children under six years of age who reside in smelter communities are significantly elevated over those in non-smelter communities; and

WHEREAS, no current information exists concerning blood lead levels in Arizona children who reside in major population areas; and

WHEREAS, Arizona residents have indicated a high degree of concern about the problem in general and specifically about services for blood lead testing, paint testing, soil testing, environmental evaluation and remediation of lead-based paint and lead-contaminated soil; and

WHEREAS, expanding the focus of prevention from merely identifying and treating individual children to preventing exposure to lead before children become poisoned will require a shared responsibility among many public and private agencies;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arizona by the Constitution and laws of this State, I, Fife Symington, hereby create the Governor's Task Force on Prevention of Childhood Lead Poisoning and order and direct:

1. The Task Force shall:

   * Review the Centers for Disease Control statement on Preventing Lead Poisoning in Young Children, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Strategic Plan for the Elimination of Childhood Lead Poisoning, Arizona Department of Health Services investigations, and other relevant documentation regarding lead poisoning in children.

   * Evaluate current State laws, public policies and procedures regarding administration of the State childhood lead poisoning prevention program, current prevention activities, plans for expanding blood lead screening activities, mechanisms for reporting and following cases with elevated blood lead levels, mechanisms for assuring diagnostic evaluation and medical management of cases, laboratory services, investigation and management of environmental lead hazards, education and outreach activities and financing.

* Solicit comments, opinions and suggestions from interested and involved public officials, public agencies, private groups, affected populations, and the general public.

* Develop methods to encourage increased communication and and cooperation among all public and private agencies concerned about the issue.

* Develop a comprehensive state strategic plan with proposed public policies for prevention of childhood lead poisoning in the State of Arizona.

* Consider any other issues, programs, or proposals that the Governor and the Chairperson believe are appropriately related to the responsibilities of the Task Force.

* Submit a final report containing findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House.

2. The Task Force shall be appointed by, and serve without compensation, and at the pleasure of the Governor.

3. The Governor shall designate from among the membership a Chairperson.

4. The Task Force shall meet at the call of the Chairperson.

5. The Task Force shall report to the Governor its initial findings and and recommendations no later than October 1, 1992, and submit a final report by January 1, 1993. The Task Force shall complete its work no later than January 1, 1993.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix this Twenty-second Day of January in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-two and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Sixteenth.

ATTEST:

Secretary of State