WHEREAS, knowledge concerning the physical environment of the state as well as the world is necessary in order to prepare ourselves for participation as citizens of this state, nation and world; and

WHEREAS, there is a demonstrated lack of knowledge among the people of this state and the nation concerning geography caused by a lack of appreciation of the importance that geography plays in state and world issues and events;

NOW THEREFORE, I, HENRY BELLMON, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, by the authority vested in the Office of the Governor by the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Oklahoma do hereby order:

1. The creation of the "Office of the State Geographer," who will serve as a consultant, advisor, or resource person:

   To state educators on matters such as geography curricula and materials;

   To state officials and business leaders on matters such as mapping, assessing, managing and utilizing the state's environment;

   and to be the state's representative to national geography organizations such as the American Geographic Society, the Association of American Geographers, and the National Geographic Society.

2. The State Geographer shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor and shall serve for a period of two years, with no person serving more than two consecutive terms. The State Geographer shall be a person with a degree in geography with professional knowledge of Oklahoma's geography through teaching, research, or other appropriate activities.

3. The State Geographer shall expend no state funds unless appropriated by the Legislature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, this 30th day of July, 1987.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Henry Bellmon

ATTEST:

Assistant Secretary of State