

# STATE OF INDIANA

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT INDIANAPOLIS

EXECUTIVE ORDER 25-01

**FOR: CREATION OF THE GOVERNOR'S CABINET**

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS.

### PREAMBLE

The public servants of the State of Indiana are committed to continually improving the services, performance, and outcomes of state government and realizing a safe, healthy, and prosperous home for all Hoosiers. To achieve these aims, the Governor's Cabinet will oversee the operations of state agencies to optimize government focus, accountability, and commitment to all Hoosiers.

**WHEREAS,** the State of Indiana's government lacks a unified administrative structure with over a hundred agencies operating under a variety of agency structures;

**WHEREAS,** the current fragmented model creates inefficiencies and difficulty in executing policy initiatives critical to Hoosiers;

**WHEREAS,** a streamlined government structure of Cabinet Offices will deliver clear accountability, coordination, and operational efficiency, which will lead to enhanced conditions for Hoosier jobs, lowered taxes, reduced healthcare costs, prudent energy policy, improved education, protection for Hoosier family farms, support for law enforcement, and protection for family and parental rights;

**WHEREAS,** consolidation of agencies under a Cabinet Office, where each agency reports to a Secretary, who has clear responsibility for performance of those agencies, will lead to enhanced accountability, efficient use of resources, improved oversight, effective implementation of policy initiatives and streamlined operations;

**WHEREAS,** each Cabinet Office which will be tasked with overseeing agency policy, budget, and performance within a specific government function and with enhancing state government-wide coordination, will enhance implementation state-wide policy initiatives;

**WHEREAS,** Article 5, Section 1 of the Indiana Constitution vests the executive power of the State of Indiana in the Governor;

**WHEREAS,** the State of Indiana recognizes in Indiana Code § 5-10-7, *et seq.* that intergovernmental cooperation is an essential factor in resolving problems affecting the State of Indiana and the interchange of personnel between governmental agencies is a significant factor in achieving such cooperation; and

**WHEREAS,** through the interchange of existing state personnel provided in Indiana Code § 5-10-7-1, *et seq.*, and the transfer authority of State Budget Agency as provided in Indiana Code § 4-12-1-12, the Cabinet and Cabinet Departments created by this Executive Order can be administered and staffed without increasing the cost of state government;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL K. BRAUN,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby order that:

1. The Governor's Cabinet ("Cabinet") is hereby created. The Cabinet shall consist of

the Governor, the Governor's Chief of Staff, the Lieutenant Governor, the Superintendent of the Indiana State Police, the Adjutant General of the Indiana National Guard, and the Secretaries of Cabinet Offices.

2. The following Cabinet Offices are hereby created, unless already established by law, and the Secretaries of each shall serve on the Cabinet:
  - a. Management and Budget
  - b. Commerce
  - c. Health and Family Services
  - d. Public Safety
  - e. Energy and Natural Resources
  - f. Education
  - g. Transportation and Infrastructure
  - h. Business Affairs
3. Each Cabinet Office shall have a Secretary, who shall be appointed by, be responsible to, and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
4. The Secretary of each Cabinet Office shall be the chief executive officer of that Cabinet Office, will assume oversight of the operations of the agencies within the Cabinet Office, and shall have such additional powers, duties, and responsibilities as designated by the Governor, from time to time, consistent with the Governor's exercise of executive authority under the Constitution and laws of the State of Indiana.
5. The Secretary of each Cabinet Office shall, among other things, undertake the following:
  - a. Evaluate current budgets, identify savings opportunities, and assess funding sustainability across agencies;
  - b. Assess agency management and operations;
  - c. Review regulations and identify opportunities for policy codification and to reduce regulation;
  - d. Identify significant legislative needs;
  - e. Evaluate staffing and vacancies and identify and reorganize key roles to reduce the cost and maximize the efficiency of the agency workforce;
  - f. Make recommendations to the Governor regarding any matter within Secretary's responsibilities;
  - g. Oversee, coordinate, and implement, within the lawful authority of the Cabinet Office, the policy initiatives of the General Assembly and the Governor, including:
    - i. Reforming and reducing the property tax and lowering taxes;
    - ii. Maintaining a balanced budget and reducing the cost of state government;
    - iii. Improving constituent services;
    - iv. Increasing choice and student outcomes throughout the education system;
    - v. Improving public safety;
    - vi. Reducing healthcare costs;
    - vii. Improving and supporting Indiana's economic development and the creation of Hoosier jobs;
    - viii. Developing and supporting the State of Indiana's energy and water resources;
    - ix. Protecting Hoosier family farms; and
    - x. Protecting family and parental rights;
  - h. Oversee collaboration among state agencies to implement, and optimize programs to reach and benefit all Hoosiers;
  - i. Oversee collaboration with business, industry, trade groups, and public officials to determine and meet current and future needs; and
  - j. Promote enhanced opportunities for all Hoosiers.
6. The staff of the Office of the Secretary shall consist of the Secretary, a Chief of Staff

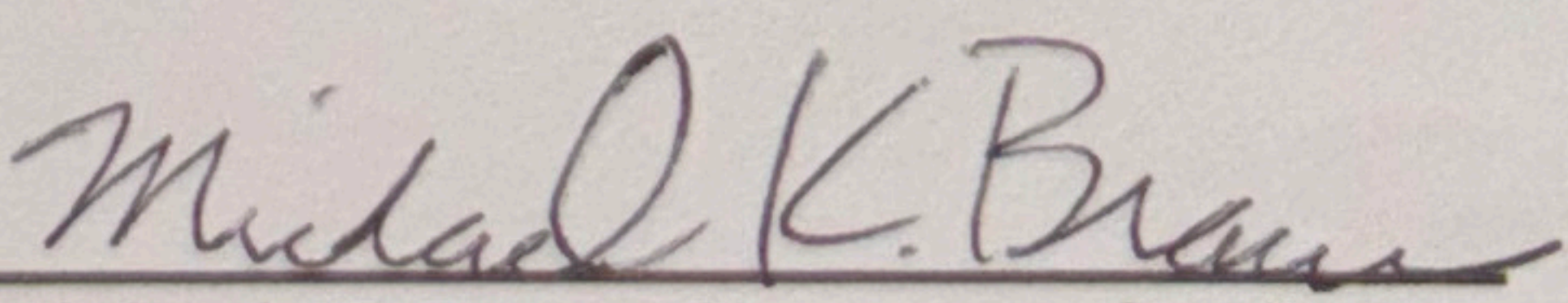
to be appointed by the Secretary, and such other staff to be appointed by the Secretary as may be necessary with approval of the Governor.

7. All state agencies, instrumentalities, authorities, boards, commissions, and officers of the executive, as well as all bodies corporate and politic set up as instrumentalities of the State, that are under a Cabinet Office's authority, shall be responsible to the Secretary of that Cabinet Office to the fullest extent permitted by law.
8. All state agencies, instrumentalities, authorities, boards, commissions, and officers of the executive, as well as all bodies corporate and politic set up as instrumentalities of the State, shall cooperate with, and provide assistance to, the Secretary of the Cabinet Office that exercises authority over the agency in implementing and carrying out this Executive Order to the fullest extent permitted by law.
9. Consistent with the foregoing, each Secretary of a Cabinet Office is authorized and directed to enter into such inter-agency agreements or memoranda of understanding, and to take such other action as may be necessary to implement this Executive Order to the fullest extent permitted by law, to provide for:
  - a. Administrative support for the Secretary;
  - b. The organization of the Office of Secretary to assist the Secretary in performing the duties of the Secretary;
  - c. The hiring, management, and compensation of staff as necessary or appropriate to assist the Secretary in performing the duties of the Secretary;
  - d. Adequate public funds to assist the Secretary in performing the duties of the Secretary;
  - e. The interchange of personnel between governmental agencies as necessary or appropriate to achieve intergovernmental cooperation of the agencies within a Cabinet Office, including with the Office of the Secretary;
  - f. Establishment of a framework of agency rights and obligations, including an agency's obligation to be responsible to or to report to the Secretary; and
  - g. Funding of agency programs and initiatives in order to meet the policy objectives of the Cabinet Office and of the Governor.
11. Furthermore, each agency that is under the authority of a Cabinet Office shall be obligated to enter into such inter-agency agreements or memoranda of understanding as requested by the Secretary of the Cabinet Office to which the agency is assigned to the fullest extent permitted by law.
12. The Secretary of each Cabinet Office shall provide to the Governor such reports as requested by the Governor, including all copies of reports that are required to be submitted to the Budget Committee and the General Assembly.
13. Each Cabinet Office, or the agencies within a Cabinet Office, shall have General Counsels as appropriate who shall be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of the Governor, shall report to the Secretary of the Cabinet Office, and shall be responsible to the Governor's General Counsel.

This Executive Order shall expire upon enactment of legislation by the General Assembly to codify the measures described in this Executive Order.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I,  
Michael K. Braun, have hereunto set  
my hand and caused to be affixed the  
Great Seal of the State of Indiana on  
this 13th day of January, 2025.

  
Michael K. Braun Governor of Indiana

DIEGO MORALES

ATTEST: Diego Morales  
Secretary of State

MISSOURI  
CAPITOL BOND

MISSOURI  
CAPITOL BOND