State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER EIGHTY-TWO

WHEREAS, protecting the health, safety and welfare of Iowa's children is of the utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, all Iowa children deserve the best care and education we can provide; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Juvenile Home is a comprehensive residential facility for children and is entrusted to provide effective interventions for the most troubled youth in the State; and

WHEREAS, the culture at the Iowa Juvenile Home must focus on high quality care and education; and

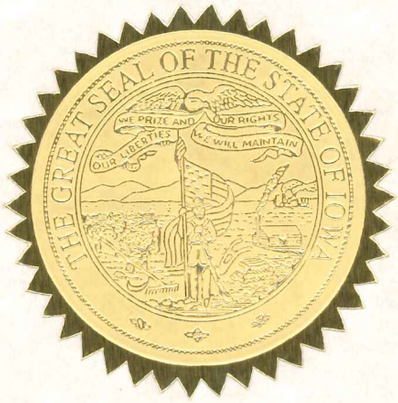
WHEREAS, treatment for children, including the use of seclusion or restraint, should only be employed in a safe and transparent manner consistent with the highest standards and practices set for similar private sector facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terry E. Branstad, Governor of the State of Iowa, declare that the interests of Iowa's youth are best served by holding the Iowa Juvenile Home to the same standards for restraints and use of control rooms as private comprehensive residential facilities for children and outlined in 441-Iowa Administrative Code chapter 115.6-115.7. I hereby order the Department of Human Services to schedule trauma-informed care training for staff at the Iowa Juvenile Home within thirty (30) days and I hereby order the creation of the Iowa Juvenile Home Protection Task Force ("Task Force").

The Task Force shall be composed of no more than five members appointed by the Governor. Each member will serve at the pleasure of the Governor without compensation and in an advisory capacity. The Task Force shall include the Director of the Iowa Department of Human Services and four individuals with expertise in child advocacy, special education, behavioral issues and other relevant experience. The Task Force's meetings shall be open pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 21. The Department of Human services shall provide staff support to the Task Force, as needed, to enable the Task Force to fulfill its responsibilities. The Task Force shall:

a. Make recommendations about how to improve services for residents;
b. Review incident data to ensure a high-level of care is delivered at the Iowa Juvenile Home;
c. Recommend a strategy for the permanent elimination of seclusion rooms outside the cottage setting;
d. Recommend a strategy outlining the transition of the Iowa Juvenile Home's education plan from being managed from the Department of Human Services to Area Education Agency 267; and
e. Reach other goals and objectives as requested by the Office of the Governor.

All agencies, departments and boards of the State of Iowa shall cooperate fully with the Task Force. The Task Force may seek the expertise and services of individuals and entities outside its membership for research, advice and other needs as required, and shall collect input and feedback from members of the public to accomplish its mission. The Task Force shall report its findings and make them available to the public no later than October 15, 2013.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 20th day of August, in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen.

TERRY E. BRANSTAD
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

MATT SCHULTZ
SECRETARY OF STATE