JAMES B. HUNT JR
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 48

WHEREAS, volunteers dramatically increased and strengthened the ability of government agendas to carry out their programs, services, and activities for the benefit of their fellow citizens, and

WHEREAS, the practice of volunteering enables private citizens enrich their lives and the lives of others through greater citizen awareness of and personal involvement in state government programs, services, and activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

Section 1. I hereby declare the policy of the State of North Carolina to be that every citizen, regardless of his or her present economic condition, political affiliation, religious affiliation, race, sex or age, has the opportunity to be a volunteer in state service. Every state agency is encouraged to involve volunteers to enrich and increase the agency’s ability to deliver services, programs and activities for the citizens of this State.

Section 2. The following definitions are applicable to this order:

(a) “Agency” means any department, institution, commission; committee, board, division or bureau of the State of North Carolina.

(b) “Volunteer” means any person who provides goods or services to any state agency of his or her own free will and for no financial gain.
Section 3. Each state hereby authorized and encouraged to recruit, train and accept the services of qualified volunteers to assist in programs carried out or administered by the state agency or constituent unit thereof for the benefit of the people of this State. While volunteering for service to state agencies, volunteers shall be except from the provision of the State Personnel Act and other provisions of law and regulations governing grievance procedures for state employees. Volunteers shall comply with the appropriate agency rules, regulations and policies pertaining to conduct, record keeping, and any other policy necessary for the operating efficiency of the state agency.

Section 4. Each state agency is encouraged to develop policies for the administration of services by volunteers. Such policies should include rules governing the recruitment, screening, training, enrollment. Responsibilities, and supervision of volunteers: documentation of volunteer activities; recognition of volunteers, contributions and services; performance evaluations of volunteers and the services rendered; and the development of an appreciation between paid staff and volunteers of their respective roles in fulfilling agency objectives.

Section 3. Each state agency shall recognize documented volunteer service as partial fulfillment of training and experience requirements for state employment, pursuant to policies adopted by the State Personnel Commission. To that end, agencies are encouraged to provide letters of documented volunteer service when requested by a volunteer.

Section 6. Volunteers enrolled in service to state agencies are recognized to be covered under Articles 31 and 31A of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, governing Tort Claims Against State Departments and Agencies, and the Defense of State Employees. Volunteer enrolled in service to state agencies are not entitled to benefits under Chapter 97 of the General Statutes, the Worker’s Compensation Act.

Section 7. This Order is effective immediately. It shall remain in effect until rescinded by Order of the Governor or preempted by legislative action.

Done in Raleigh, North Carolina, this the 21st day of April, 1980