WHEREAS, New Hampshire has a rich heritage of cultural and ethnic diversity which has allowed it to grow and prosper as a State;

WHEREAS, as one of the fastest growing communities in the State, the Latino community has had a positive impact upon the State's business, social and cultural fabric; and

WHEREAS, the Latino community should be encouraged to grow and develop within our State and to work with state government to enhance educational, employment, social, and economic opportunities for Latino citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I JOHN H. LYNCH, Governor of the State of New Hampshire, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by Part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order, effective immediately:

1. The establishment of the Commission on Latino Affairs (also referred to herein as "the Latino Commission.")

2. The purpose for the Latino Commission is to promote and advance economic, educational, employment, and social opportunities and equality for New Hampshire's Latino population by advising the Governor regarding issues affecting the Latino community.

3. The Latino Commission shall serve as a resource to the State's departments, commissions, and agencies to assist them in understanding the needs of the Latino community and to communicate ways in which the Latino community can be better integrated into all facets of New Hampshire life.

4. The Latino Commission shall make recommendations to the Governor regarding potential legislation, policies, and programs that will serve and enhance the health, safety, and welfare of Latinos in New Hampshire. Such recommendations shall include but not be limited to proposals to allow for the full integration and participation of Latinos as members of the workforce in the various industries conducting business in the State; strategies that support and develop the academic and educational achievement of Latinos ranging from the pre-school to adult learner population; proposals to promote the active participation of Latinos in the economic development opportunities and initiatives existing within the State; proposals to protect the civil rights of Latinos; and proposals that appropriately recognize the accomplishments and contributions of Latinos to the State.
The commission shall submit an annual report to the Governor on issues affecting the Latino community in New Hampshire.

5. The members of the commission shall consist of 19 members to be appointed by the Governor who are residents of New Hampshire, who are representatives of the State's Latino community and who reflect the diversity of the Latino population in the State. The Latino Commission shall be non-partisan.

6. The Governor shall appoint each member of the Latino Commission for a full term of three years each, with the exception of the initial appointees as set forth below. Members of the Latino Commission shall be limited to two consecutive terms. The initial appointees to the commission shall serve the following terms: the first seven persons appointed shall serve one-year terms; the second six persons appointed shall serve two-year terms; and the last six persons appointed shall serve three-year terms. If a vacancy occurs on the commission, the Governor shall appoint a new member to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

7. The Governor shall appoint a Chair from among the members of the commission. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the Chair and shall be held within sixty days of this Order. Twelve members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

8. The commission shall establish rules and procedures for its governance that are consistent with this Order.

9. This Order shall continue to be effective unless revised or modified by the Governor.

Given under my hand and seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord, this 15th day of September, in the year two thousand and five.

[Signature]
Governor of New Hampshire