



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 335

**Relating to the Creation of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force
on Aquaculture**

WHEREAS, the aquaculture industry is an important part of agricultural diversity in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin boasts more than 300 fish farms that grow and market more than \$45 million in products each year; and

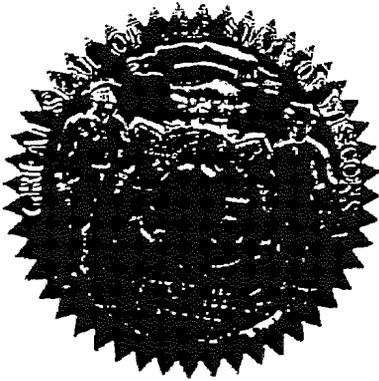
WHEREAS, Wisconsin's 1998 aquaculture survey predicts industry growth of more than sixty percent in the next five years; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is committed to expanding production, marketing and new income in the state's aquaculture industry; and

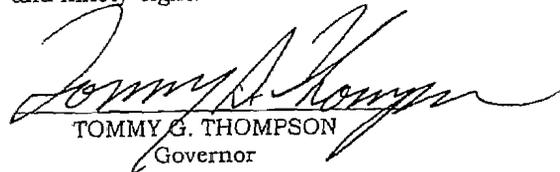
NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by Section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

1. Create the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Aquaculture ("Task Force").
2. Provide that the Task Force shall consist of not more than eleven (11) members appointed by the Governor to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
3. Provide that the Governor shall designate one (1) member on the Task Force as chair to serve in this capacity at the pleasure of the Governor.
4. Require the Task Force to prepare and submit a report to the Governor detailing its findings and proposing recommendations for the growth of Wisconsin's aquaculture industry.
5. Provide that the Task Force shall have the following mission:
 - a. Report on the state of the Wisconsin aquaculture industry; and
 - b. Analyze the potential for aquaculture in Wisconsin, including fish, bait, nonfish aquatic and plant species and genetic strains may be appropriate for Wisconsin; and
 - c. Evaluate the possible domestic and foreign demand for Wisconsin aquaculture products; and
 - d. Assess the current promotional activities for Wisconsin aquaculture products; and
 - e. Review food safety laws and practices to ensure adequate measures are in place to ensure the quality of Wisconsin Aquaculture products.

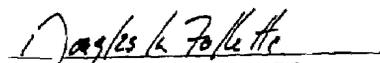
6. Require the Task Force to submit periodic reports to the Governor as the chair deems necessary and a final report to the Governor no later than January 1, 1999.
7. Direct the University of Wisconsin System and other state agencies to provide assistance to the Task Force.
8. Direct the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and the Department of Commerce to provide staff assistance to the Task Force.
9. Direct the Department of Administration to provide the Task Force with such sums of money as are necessary for travel and operating expenses in accordance with Section 20.505 (3) (a) of the Wisconsin Statutes.
10. Provide that the Task Force shall dissolve when its final report is accepted by the Governor.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this twenty-first day of May in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight.


TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State