

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

WILLIAM F. WELD
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 331

ESTABLISHING A BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION TO STUDY AND OVERSEE
THE RENOVATION AND RESTORATION OF THE STATE HOUSE

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts State House, constructed in 1795,
is a historical and architectural landmark; and

WHEREAS, many of our nation's milestone debates including
those on public education, humane treatment of the insane,
abolition of slavery, women's suffrage, and prohibition have
taken place within the walls of the State House; and

WHEREAS, the State House symbolizes the many contributions
the Commonwealth's great political thinkers have made to the
progress of our country; and

WHEREAS, students of the Commonwealth have traditionally
received their first close look at the workings of a democracy
through visits to the State House; and

WHEREAS, thousands of domestic and international tourists
visit the State House yearly to learn about its history and the
history of our nation; and

WHEREAS, the State House will celebrate its bicentennial in
1995; and

WHEREAS, the continual use of the State House for almost two
hundred years has weakened its structural soundness and
integrity; and

WHEREAS, the condition of the State House falls short of
current state and federal public health and disability access
requirements, thereby endangering the health and safety of
employees and visitors; and

WHEREAS, many years of wear and usage have jeopardized the
continued preservation of the State House's artistic and historic
treasures; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has an obligation to ensure the
care and safekeeping of this valued legacy for future
generations;

NOW THEREFORE, I, William F. Weld, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by virtue of the power vested in me as Supreme Executive Magistrate, do hereby create a Blue Ribbon Commission to Study and Oversee the Renovation and Restoration of the State House and order as follows:

1. The Commission shall consist of 21 members appointed by the Governor, including representatives from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Northeast Document Conservation Center, local schools of architecture, three members each of the House and the Senate, and members of the Executive Branch, including the superintendent of Buildings. The Governor will appoint a chair and a vice chair of the Commission, and the Commission may establish such subcommittees as it deems necessary to fulfill its responsibilities under this Executive Order;

2. The Commission shall coordinate, develop and recommend to the Governor a plan for the restoration and renovation of the State House which will have as its objective the best means of ensuring the continued accessibility of the State House to the citizenry of the Commonwealth and of the Country;

3. The Commission shall identify the renovations which have been completed and the appropriations made to date;

4. The Commission shall evaluate the scope of the renovations which still must be performed including structural work, systems repair, cleaning and painting and the restoration of the valuable pieces of art in the state House;

5. The Commission shall investigate the potential utilization of resources from both the public and private sectors to fund the renovation and restoration project; and

6. The Commission shall plan and coordinate the project so that to the extent possible the work will be complete for the bicentennial celebration in June, 1995.

Given at the Executive Chamber
in Boston this 11th day of
March in the year of our
Lord one thousand nine hundred
and ninety-two.

William F. Weld, Governor
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Michael Joseph Connolly
Secretary of the Commonwealth

GOD SAVE THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS