

By Mr. Olver, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 754) of John W. Olver for legislation to establish an advisory council for the planning, operating, coordinating and monitoring of programs for the prevention of mental illness. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-one.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE PLANNING, OPERATING, COORDINATING AND MONITORING OF PROGRAMS FOR THE PREVENTION OF MENTAL ILLNESS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 19 of the General Laws is hereby amended by in-
 2 serting after Section 12, the following new section: —
 3 *Section 12A.* There shall be an advisory council for the
 4 planning, operating, coordinating and monitoring of programs
 5 for the prevention of mental illness consisting of the com-
 6 missioners of mental health, public health, social services, pub-
 7 lic health and education *ex officio* and two persons from each
 8 mental health region to be appointed by the governor, who
 9 shall include representatives of non-governmental organiza-
 10 tions or groups concerned with education, employment, wel-
 11 fare, health, mental health prevention and interested citizens.
 12 Upon the expiration of the term of office of an appointive
 13 member, his successor shall be appointed for a term of four
 14 years. No member shall be reappointed for more than two
 15 terms. The council shall annually or upon a vacancy elect a
 16 chairman from its members. The council shall annually hold
 17 at least one public meeting in each mental health region. The
 18 council shall issue a report every two years on the status of
 19 preventive programs and plans for the future. Members of
 20 said council shall serve without compensation but each mem-
 21 ber shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth for all expenses
 22 incurred in the performance of his official duties.

