

By Ms. Gibson of Belmont, petition of Mary Jane Gibson and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish the position of Governor's advisor on family policy and to establish an advisory council on family policy. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GOVERNOR'S ADVISOR ON FAMILY POLICY AND  
ADVISORY COUNCIL.

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

1 SECTION 1. There shall be a Governor's Advisor on Family  
2 Policy who shall be appointed by the Governor and shall regularly  
3 provide counsel, information, and recommendations to the  
4 Governor regarding policies, legislation, and any other matters  
5 which relate to the economic and social support and advancement  
6 of families in the Commonwealth.

1 SECTION 2. The Governor's Advisor shall consult with and  
2 convey to the Governor the recommendations of the Advisory  
3 Council on Family Policy. The Advisory Council shall consist of  
4 fourteen members, to be appointed by the Governor, who shall  
5 include the following: one advocate for the disabled, one advocate  
6 for elders, one childcare advocate, one parental leave advocate,  
7 the Governor's Advisor on Women's Issues, one business  
8 representative, one labor representative, two academic represen-  
9 tatives with specialties in family policy, one medical or health care  
10 representative, two representatives of minority organizations, the  
11 Lieutenant Governor, and one education representative. Each  
12 member of the Council shall serve a four-year term, except that  
13 of those individuals who are initially appointed, six Council  
14 members shall serve two-year terms and seven Council members  
15 shall serve four-year terms. The Governor's Advisor on Women's  
16 Issues shall be a permanent member of the Council.

1 SECTION 3. The Advisory Council shall

2 (1) research and investigate the scope and operation of the laws  
3 and policies of the Commonwealth relating to family policy;

4 (2) identify family needs and articulate an integrated,  
5 comprehensive view of family policy in the Commonwealth;

6 (3) recommend short term and long range proposals for public  
7 policy to serve family needs, which may include but would not  
8 be limited to the following:

9 (a) executive action

10 (b) legislative action

11 (c) improved implementation of existing programs or  
12 legislation

13 (d) public education

14 (e) public information

15 (4) monitor and evaluate changes in family needs and changes  
16 in public policy; and

17 (5) provide information to the general public on family policy.

18 The Council shall strive to include all families in its  
19 investigations and recommendations regardless of structure or  
20 economic status.