

By Mr. Rosenberg of Amherst, petition of Stanley C. Rosenberg, Marie J. Parente, Larry F. Giordano and Gloria L. Fox for legislation to establish a task force in the Executive Office of Human Services relative to interagency coordination and cooperation. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES RELATIVE TO INTERAGENCY COORDINATION AND COOPERATION.

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. The Secretary of the Executive Office of Human
2 Services shall establish a working group or task force to study
3 and provide specific recommendations for improving interagency
4 coordination and cooperation for the purpose of increasing
5 efficiency and effectiveness in assigning responsibilities among
6 state agencies for the provision and payment of services for
7 children and families in need.

8 Said task force shall develop and implement protocols, policies,
9 systems, the assignment and divisions of responsibilities within
10 and among state agencies, and other areas needed to ensure the
11 efficient and timely provision of services to children.

1 SECTION 2. Said task force shall consist of members of the
2 Executive Office of Human Services, the Office of the Purchase
3 of Services within the Office of Administration and Finance, the
4 Department of Social Services, the Department of Mental Health,
5 the Department of Mental Retardation, the Office for Children,
6 the Department of Education, members of the House of
7 Representatives and the Senate, provider agencies, consumers,

8 families, and direct care staff, and other persons deemed relevant
9 to the intent and mission of the task force.

10 Findings and recommendations shall be submitted to the
11 Committees, agencies, and others participating in the work of the
12 task force.

13 The Executive Office of Human Services shall determine and
14 utilize the premier elements from each system, and develop
15 consistent policies and uniform care standards.