

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

STEPHEN MERRILL, GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 94-2

an order establishing the State Welfare Reform Council

WHEREAS, this administration is committed to reforming New Hampshire's welfare system and in working to lower the cost of public assistance and to encourage personal responsibility within the system; and

WHEREAS, the present caseload is increasing, notwithstanding the fact that New Hampshire has the second lowest per capita AFDC caseload and the lowest per capita Food Stamp population in the Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Human Services has recently completed an extensive study of current and past AFDC program participants identifying New Hampshire welfare characteristics and revealing that a New Hampshire participant's length of stay on AFDC is less than the national average; and

WHEREAS, the State will be required to respond to national proposals but should develop a welfare reform plan that is both reflective of New Hampshire values and responsive to State specific needs; and

WHEREAS, successful welfare reform requires the participation of several agencies, in particular those with an understanding of health, education, job placement, job development and training issues; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEPHEN MERRILL, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby establish the New Hampshire Welfare Reform Council to design and implement the State Welfare Reform Plan. The Council is charged with the following responsibilities:

to evaluate the ability of each agency to contribute to welfare reform efforts and implement inter-agency programs that will most efficiently provide services to the citizens of New Hampshire;

to oversee the process of reform, securing and implementing the advice and expertise of each agency;

to eliminate repetitive programs, paperwork and administration concerning each agency;

to effectively coordinate existing resources within each agency and to assure maximum use to the participants of all monies allocated;

to include the private sector in New Hampshire welfare reform initiative;

to focus reform efforts in the areas of employment opportunity, dependence prevention and personal responsibility;

to submit to the Governor periodically a progress report providing recommendations for policy and legislative changes necessary for further implementation of the Governor's plan;

I therefore establish, effective May 18, 1994, the New Hampshire Welfare Reform Council to be comprised of the following membership:

Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services
Commissioner of the Department of Employment Security
Executive Director of the Job Training Council
Commissioner of the Department of Resources and Economic Development
Commissioner of the Department of Education
Commissioner of the Department of Post Secondary Education

Given at the Salem District Court,
site of the Governor and Executive
Council Meeting in Salem, this
eighteenth day of May, in the year of
Our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-four, and of
the independence of the United States of America
two hundred and eighteen.



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Stephen Merrill

GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

By His Excellency, Governor

ATTEST:

William W. Gardner