

STATE DOCUMENT  
**The State of Wisconsin**



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

EXECUTIVE ORDER #103

Relating to creating the Governor's  
Commission on Children and Families

RETURN TO  
LEGISLATIVE  
REFERENCE BUREAU  
P.O. BOX 2037  
MADISON WI 53701-2037

WHEREAS, the President of the United States called a summit with the Nation's Governors to address the issue of education, which resulted in the establishment of National Education Goals; and

WHEREAS, one of the National Education goals provides that all children in America will start school ready to learn; and

WHEREAS, parents, business leaders, child and family advocates, educators, public officials and the media are all concerned about the type of education and child care services being provided for the children of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, it is important that state and federal governments provide a coordinated effort with resources to ensure that programs for children and families will result in significant reductions in later expenditures for remediation, welfare, adjudication and rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, quality programs for children and families may strengthen our society by providing our children with the foundation on which to learn the basic skills necessary to be productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, the availability of parent and family support services including day care and early education opportunities falls short of the existing need; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Head Start program has 25 years of exemplary experience in providing comprehensive child development and family involvement program and can serve as a model for community based services; and

WHEREAS, there is currently a need for a more organized system for coordinating programs and services with the public and private sectors at both the state and local level; and

WHEREAS, expansion of services requires the coordination of resources from all available funding sources, including federal, state, local, business and the families themselves;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by Wisconsin Statute section 14.019, do hereby:

1. Establish a Governor's Commission on Children and Families consisting of the Governor, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services, the Secretary of the Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations, and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (or their respective designees) and twenty-one members, all of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, to serve at his pleasure. A chairperson shall be designated by the Governor, and serve at his pleasure. Members shall represent a wide variety of interests surrounding the delivery of services to children and families.

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Legislative Reference Bureau

2. Provide that staff services to the Commission shall be provided by the agencies represented on the Commission. The Department of Administration shall serve as the fiscal agent for the Commission.

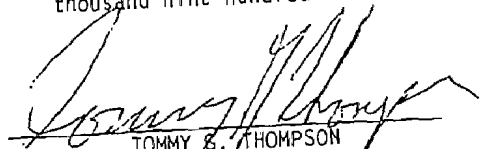
3. Direct that the Commission:

- a. Assess the status and scope of all programs related to children and families at the state level and effect coordination of services among state agencies.
- b. Incorporate the Head Start model into the development of expansion of services to young children and their families.
- c. Facilitate the coordination of existing state programs and new state programs for children and parents, including early childhood education, child care, parental involvement, and parent education.
- d. Identify gaps and overlaps in existing children's services and programs and seek elimination of unnecessary administrative costs.
- e. Provide leadership in the development and use of both human and financial resources to deliver coordinated, effective services for child care, education, parent involvement, parent education and family support.
- f. Develop a plan for local coordinating councils on children and families to assist in the effective delivery of children's services throughout the state ensuring participation of all public and private sector providers of day care and education services.
- g. Review and consider implementation of the recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on Family and Children's Issues and the State Superintendent's Task Force on Early Education, Child Care, and Family Involvement.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this First day of August in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety.



By the Governor:

  
TOMMY S. THOMPSON  
Governor

  
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State