State of New Hampshire
By His Excellency
John H. Lynch, Governor

Executive Order 2011-03

An Order Establishing the Early Childhood Advisory Council

WHEREAS, the healthy development of children provides a strong foundation for competent adulthood, responsible citizenship, economic productivity, strong communities and a prosperous New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, our youngest citizens represent the future of our economy, and their talents are essential for our state to remain competitive in today's global, knowledge-based economy; and

WHEREAS, success in high school, college, and career is directly related to a healthy and engaging early childhood; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire has long worked to ensure all of our youngest citizens are given the opportunities to develop to their fullest potential, laying the foundation for their success in school and in life; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, New Hampshire was named the best state in the country in which to raise children for the fourth year in a row; and

WHEREAS, the federal Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007, Public Law 110-134, requires establishment of a state advisory council on early childhood education and care to carry out the duties as enumerated in the Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN H. LYNCH, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, by the authority vested in me by part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order the following:

1. There is established the New Hampshire's Early Childhood Advisory Council ("the Council").
2. That the Council shall advise, make recommendations and undertake the following:

    a) Strengthening New Hampshire's early childhood infrastructure;
    b) Coordination of the development and implementation of an integrated and comprehensive strategic plan for early childhood in New Hampshire;
    c) Development of a framework to evaluate the Council's outcomes/impacts and the progress of New Hampshire's young children and their families; and
    d) Fostering public awareness of, promoting access to, and building commitment for quality early childhood programs and services.

3. That the members of the Council shall include the following members to be appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor:

a) Administrator of the Child Development Bureau, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
b) Specialist from the Office of Early Childhood Education, Department of Education (DOE)
c) State Director of Head Start Collaboration
d) Title V Administrator for the Maternal and Child Health Section, DHHS
e) Chair of the NH Interagency Coordinating Council or designee
f) Chair of the NH Child Care Advisory Council or designee
g) President of Family Support NH or designee
h) President of the NH Association for Infant Mental Health or designee
i) A representative of Early Learning NH recommended by that organization
j) A representative of the DOE responsible for programs under section 619 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act recommended by the Department
k) A representative of DHHS responsible for programs under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act recommended by the Department
l) A representative of a local educational agency recommended by the NH Association of School Principals
m) A representative of higher education recommended by the NH College and University Council
n) A representative of a Head Start agency recommended by NH Head Start Directors Association
o) A representative of the Children's Alliance of NH recommended by that organization
p) A parent recommended by the NH Head Start State Parent Advisory Council
q) A parent recommended by the NH Parent Information Center
r) Member of the NH House of Representatives or Senate recommended by the Executive Committee of this Council
s) A representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services recommended by the Executive Committee of this Council from a regional interdisciplinary group
t) A representative of the NH philanthropic community recommended by the Executive Committee of this Council.

4. The members of the Council shall hold an organizational meeting prior to October 1, 2011. At their November meeting they shall designate a chairman and a vice chairman from among them. Vacancies on the Council shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments.

5. The members of the Council may appoint an Executive Committee as well as such subcommittees, task forces and work groups as necessary to carry out their duties.

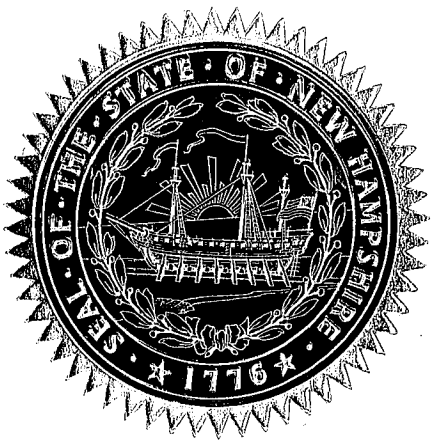
6. The Council shall be allowed to accept grants and other assistance to support its work upon the approval of the Governor and Executive Council. Any such items shall be brought forward by the Department of Health and Human Services on behalf of the Council.

7. All meetings of the Council, its Executive Committee, and any subcommittee, task force or work group established shall be open to the public and noticed in accordance with RSA 91-A.

8. The Council shall submit annually by October 1st beginning in 2012 a report to the Governor, Commissioner of Education and Commissioner of Health and Human Services on its activities, recommendations and plans.

9. The Council is authorized to adopt such additional governing procedures that are consistent with this Order and the Act.

Given under my hand and seal at
the Executive Chambers in Concord,
this 7th day of September, in the year
of our Lord, two thousand and eleven.



Governor of New Hampshire