

Whitburn/Monahan - ^{Mass/Swing}
Time limit exceptions -

Bishops/POTUS - raised fe, Mass
- review evidence POTUS
- stop w/ Mass
(cc JBA/BR)

90 day extension - sim

>90, to 3 panel "mag"

NGA/120 day - decide

Kawada
resolved

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Liana JUL 27 1995

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

Draft response for CHR by: _____

Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by: _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: ☒ _____

Reply using form code: _____

File: _____

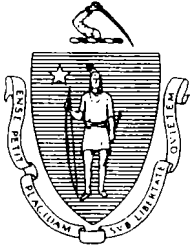
Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? : ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____

Mass welfare waiver



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

(617) 727-3600

WILLIAM F. WELD
GOVERNOR

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

JUL 27 1995

July 21, 1995

Ms. Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President
Office of Policy Development
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Carol:

Just a note to draw to your attention the attached note that I am sending to Donna Shalala today. I know that you and Jerry Whitburn have been talking about our waiver that I hope you and the President will sign off on it in the immediate future.

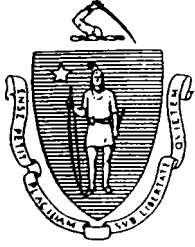
We are anxious to get going in implementing our reform in Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Weld".

William F. Weld

Attachment



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

(617) 727-3600

WILLIAM F. WELD
GOVERNOR

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

July 21, 1995

The Honorable Donna E. Shalala
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Donna:

I understand from the Boston media that Mary Jo Bane and her colleagues are concerned about mail they have received from advocates and academics in opposition to the Massachusetts welfare reform waiver.

In this regard, I wanted to draw your attention to the strong bipartisan support that exists in the Commonwealth for this waiver proposal. The legislation passed the House 133-21, and the Senate 31-3 with 23 Democrats in favor of the measure. Because I know you receive a great deal of mail, I wanted to draw to your personal attention, the attached letter signed by 21 Senate Democrats who favor waiver approval.

It is my continuing impression that this proposal enjoys very broad public support in Massachusetts and we look forward to an early approval of the waiver which, as you know, we submitted back on March 31st.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "W. F. Weld", written over a horizontal line.

William F. Weld

Attachment



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

SENATOR THERESE MURRAY
PLYMOUTH AND BARNSTABLE
DISTRICT

ROOM 511-C
TEL. (617) 722-1330
FAX (617) 722-1072

June 9, 1995

Donna E. Shalala
Secretary, Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

COMMITTEES:
HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY
AFFAIRS (CHAIR)
TRANSPORTATION (VICE CHAIR)
BANKS AND BANKING (VICE CHAIR)
POST AND OVERSIGHT
(VICE CHAIR)
WAYS AND MEANS
RULES
STEERING AND POLICY
PUBLIC SAFETY
HEALTH CARE
COUNTIES
FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

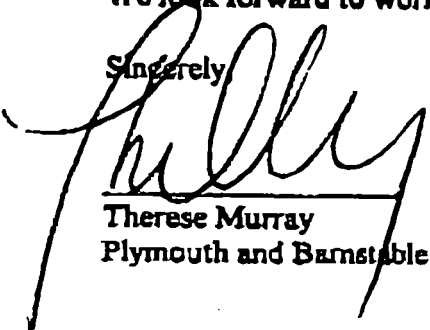
Dear Secretary Shalala:

We are writing as Democratic members of the Massachusetts Senate, who supported the passage of Chapter 5, the Massachusetts Welfare Reform Act of 1995. We respectfully request that your Department grant the federal waivers which would enable the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance to implement this new state law. This reform is a comprehensive plan of transitional assistance promoting self-sufficiency through incentives, education and employment programs and benefits to low-income families.

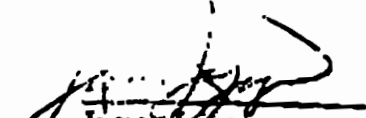
It is our understanding that negotiations are currently underway regarding the federal waiver provisions which comprise a necessary step towards the completion of welfare reform in our state. As you may know, the Massachusetts House and Senate have completed action on the proposed FY96 Budget which will take effect on July 1, 1995. We have fully funded the reform initiatives such as day care, job training and structured settings for teens. It is imperative that these waivers be granted within the time frame needed to conform with the effective date of the FY96 Budget and to fully implement the new law.

We are available to address any concerns your Department or the Executive Administration may have as to permitting the requisite waivers. Once again, we greatly appreciate your cooperation and diligence noting your concern as to how the Weld administration will move people into jobs. We look forward to working with you to finalize the process for the granting of these waivers.

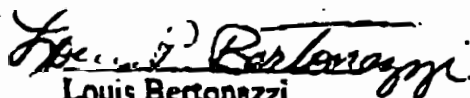
Sincerely,

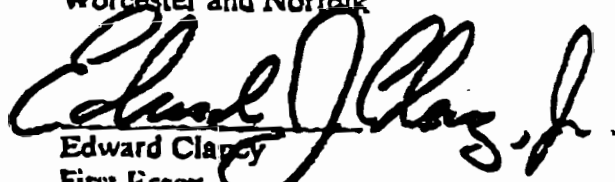

Therese Murray
Plymouth and Barnstable


Linda Melconian
Hampden


James Jafuga
Third Essex


Robert Bernstein
First Worcester


Louis Bertonazzi
Worcester and Norfolk


Edward Clancy
First Essex

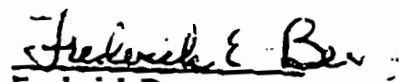

Robert Durand
Middlesex and Worcester


John O'Brien
Second Essex and Middlesex


Stanley Rosenberg
Hampshire and Franklin


William Keating
Norfolk, Bristol, Plymouth

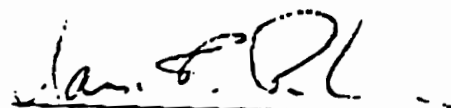

Robert Antonioni
Worcester and Middlesex

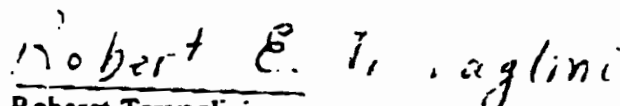

Frederick Berry
Second Essex District

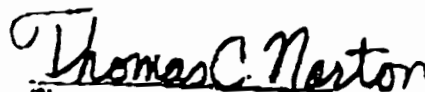

W. Paul White
Suffolk and Norfolk


Michael Creedon
Second Plymouth and Bristol


Robert Havern
Fourth Middlesex


Marc Pacheco
First Plymouth and Bristol


Robert Travaglini
Suffolk and Middlesex


Thomas C. Norton
First Bristol

Marian Walsh.

Marian Walsh
Norfolk and Suffolk

Robert Wetmore.

Robert Wetmore
Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire
and Franklin

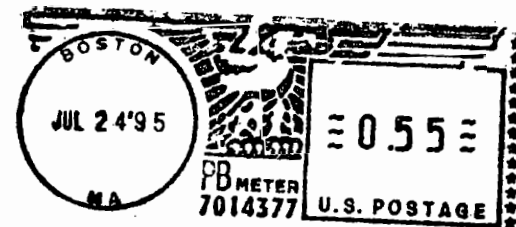
Mark C. Montigny

Mark C. Montigny
Second Bristol

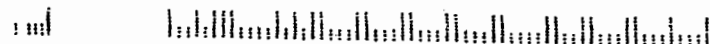
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02133



Ms. Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President
Office of Policy Development
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500



Monahan - short summary for POTUS on waivers

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

12³⁰ today

17-Jul-1995 03:53pm

ADA: def'n an event; not a liberty; stay tuned

TO: Diana M. Fortuna

FROM: Carol H. Rasco
Economic and Domestic Policy

SUBJECT: RE: Conversation with Whitburn

Please remind me to stay on the phone with you tomorrow and let's talk pre-NGA meeting waiver issues.....thanks!

what's wkg, what not / 3. Work it - cheap
T Trust
Plus gen'l bullet pt briefing

WPost - Harold - place to visit

- LP options today

- long conver w/ DF → CR
mid-aft

7³⁰ next 2 mornings

Heat / Rose Garden

Briefing mats - on computer every mtn

R-table Econf w/ and

Then reception

If prep'g people for work,
solus of ch
early, STW, work

15 people max - 2 or 3 talk; STW - Ed / Labor

} work: prep'd panel mats
on Summits - blegg
on econ panelist

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

14-Jul-1995 06:14pm

TO: Diana M. Fortuna

FROM: Carol H. Rasco
 Economic and Domestic Policy

CC: Jeremy D. Benami
CC: Anna Winderbaum
CC: John B. Emerson
CC: Emily Bromberg

SUBJECT: Call from Mass. re: welfare reform waiver

This is my lucky day! I have just talked with Gerald Whitburn who is HHS Commissioner in Massachusetts, used to be in Wisconsin. He called to let me know that he and the Governor felt the White House should be put on notice that they weren't going to agree to the type changes George Allen agreed to in his waiver even though the waivers as originally submitted were almost identical. I then heard about how Mass. passed their legislation first, Allen borrowed the ideas, submitted his waiver three days before Mass. and got their waiver quickly because Virginia had the advantage of the Washington Post throwing things in the Administration's face daily on it...oh, yes, it was lovely conversation!

He thought I should know that Weld is in the papers there telling the public he is sure Bill Clinton will award this waiver and soon.

This waiver passed overwhelmingly in both Houses where there are few Republicans.

Mass. has super, duper generous benefits, and are even more generous in child care which is they know something the Clinton administration believes in....

And on and on it went.

Bottom line: With Bruce out he wants to hear from my next person on welfare waivers...Diana, you are the lucky person who gets to know now all weekend that you get to start off Monday by calling "Jerry"....he can be reached at 617--727-0077.

We can't wait to hear your report.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

15-Jul-1995 11:11am

TO: Carol H. Rasco

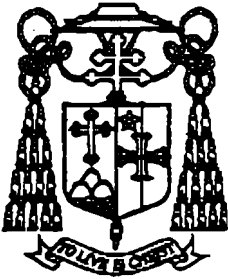
FROM: Emily Bromberg
Intergovernmental Affairs

CC: Diana M. Fortuna
CC: Jeremy D. Benami
CC: Anna Winderbaum
CC: John B. Emerson

SUBJECT: RE: Call from Mass. re: welfare reform waiver

funny you should get this call--as I've been really worrying about the MA waiver, Gov. Weld, and the NGA meeting. The Boston Globe is the largest paper in the Burlington area, and I just know Weld will beat up on us if the waiver isn't granted by then. I'll anxiously await Diana's report. I know HHS has had several meeting on MA over the last week and has had lots of trouble in the negotiations.

Mass Welfare Waiver 114037



CARDINAL'S RESIDENCE
2101 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
BRIGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02135

May 19, 1995

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The purpose of this letter is to share with you my strong opposition to certain aspects of current local and national approaches to welfare reform, particularly as reflected in the Massachusetts Welfare Reform plan now subject to waiver review by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Catholic leadership in Massachusetts, speaking through the Massachusetts Catholic Conference, has been in support of many provisions that comprise the new welfare reform plan. We have supported components that would combat fraud and abuse in the welfare system, that would provide for a work experience for AFDC recipients, that would require teen mothers to live with their parents or in structured settings, that would establish paternity of children born out of wedlock, and that would require absent fathers to provide for the support of their children.

Our faith, however, calls us to demand social justice for the least among us, and to defend the dignity of human life. That is why the four diocesan bishops of Massachusetts have been steadfast in our opposition to both the "time cap," and to the child exclusion, or "family cap" provisions of the Massachusetts plan. For this reason I write to ask you to instruct Secretary Shalala to deny the Massachusetts waiver request.

While the concept behind the "time cap" provision may be a healthy one for many families -- the idea that public assistance should be transitional support and not permanent - it would plunge others into deeper poverty and deprivation than they currently experience on AFDC, further worsening the status of poor children's health and well-being.

The Honorable William J. Clinton
May 19, 1995
Page two

Automatically denying assistance to needy families after a specific time period without substantial investments in education and training may be successful in reducing welfare rolls, but given the situation in Massachusetts, it is likely to do little to move the majority of current AFDC dependents into permanent private-sector jobs at family-supportable wages with benefits comparable to those available through AFDC status. The combination of limited education and limited labor market experience on the part of the recipients, and the increasingly high educational and skills requirements of Massachusetts' labor market conspire to leave tens of thousands of families without subsistence after their defined period of AFDC support would expire.

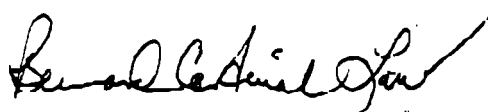
The "family cap," which withholds help to children solely because they are conceived while their mother is an AFDC recipient, needlessly punishes poor children when they need help the most. I am gravely concerned about the general increase in poverty that is likely to occur as a direct result of this component of the new law, particularly child poverty. Also expected is an increase in homelessness, hunger, child abuse and neglect -- and an increase in abortions.

As a state providing Medicaid funded abortions, but denying assistance to children conceived on welfare, Massachusetts would be unfairly tilting its AFDC mothers in crisis pregnancies further toward abortion.

Please know that we understand that the issue of welfare reform is highly complex and subject to frequent changes triggered by environmental and systemic causes. We also understand the role of politics in this volatile issue. The function of public welfare, however, is to provide care for those who are unable to do so for themselves. We are responsible for one another. Because neither the time cap nor the family cap provisions of the Massachusetts waiver request will advance the cause of true welfare reform, I urge you not to allow our federal government to permit such experimentation in the lives of desperate families.

With warm personal regards, and asking God to bless you, I am

Yours Sincerely,



Archbishop of Boston

BERNARD
CARDINAL
LAW

June 29, 1995

His Eminence Bernard
Cardinal Law
Archbishop of Boston
2101 Commonwealth Avenue
Brighton, Massachusetts 02135

Dear Cardinal Law:

Thank you for expressing your concerns about provisions of the Massachusetts welfare reform demonstration. I'm glad to know we share a deep concern for the health and well-being of our nation's families.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) received Massachusetts' welfare reform application on April 3, 1995, and it is currently under review. HHS is aware of the issues you have raised, and they are working with the Governor's office to craft a waiver plan that will reflect our shared desire for responsible welfare reform. I have forwarded your letter to Secretary Shalala, and I know that she will take your views into careful consideration.

Consistent with my Administration's commitment to give states the flexibility to test their own ideas for welfare, HHS has approved 32 welfare reform demonstrations in 29 states. In doing so, we have worked hard to protect children and to help families move from welfare to jobs and stay on the path to independence.

As we work to build a brighter future for all Americans, I value your involvement in this crucial issue.

Sincerely,

Cardinal Law asks Clinton to reject Mass. welfare curb

Melanne Verveer

By Doris Sue Wong
GLOBE STAFF

Cardinal Bernard Law is calling on President Clinton to reject two principal features of Massachusetts' new welfare law, features sharply criticized in a report released today by the Archdiocese of Boston.

Drawing from existing studies, the 40-page archdiocese report assails provisions in the new welfare law that limit the amount of time recipients can spend on welfare and deny additional aid to recipients who have more children. The report said the changes will likely plunge families deeper into poverty.

"Unfortunately, the current welfare reform law is likely to make the already arduous lives of welfare recipients more difficult," the report said.

The time limit would restrict Aid to Families with Dependent Children benefits for able-bodied recipients to two years within a five-year cycle. Currently, families may receive welfare benefits as long as they financially qualify for the aid.

The so-called family cap would deny additional cash benefits for children who are born onto welfare. The state now provides \$90 a month for the children.

Although the changes are slated to go into effect July 1 under state law, they may not be implemented unless and until the Clinton administration grants a federal waiver to the state. A spokesman for Catholic Charities, the social services branch of the Catholic Church, said Law will shortly be sending a letter to Clinton urging rejection of the waiver.

The archdiocese report was written by researchers at Brandeis University's Heller Graduate School for Advanced Studies in Social Welfare. The report calls assumptions in the

law "critically flawed."

"One wonders if the policy analysts and politicians who designed this program have reviewed the relevant data and substantial literature that have been produced on the status of the labor market, the skills levels of welfare recipients and the fertility decision of AFDC mothers," the report said.

Citing studies by the Weld administration's Department of Employment and Training, the report says labor market trends showing a decline in manufacturing jobs do not bode well for welfare recipients, mostly single mothers, half of whom never finished high school.

Given these trends, the report states that recipients who are pushed off welfare will be unable to find and keep jobs that pay enough to sustain their families. The report said the law fails to give welfare recipients adequate education, job training and support services, such as child care and transportation.

Citing studies by the Urban Institute and University of Wisconsin, the report concludes that recipients who have more children while on welfare are not motivated by the additional \$90 in monthly cash benefits.

The report notes that the state Department of Transitional Assistance, formerly the welfare department, estimates mothers on welfare account for between 9 and 10 percent of all births in Massachusetts. Other studies have indicated women on welfare give birth at a much lower rate than women who are not on welfare.

Given all these factors, the report says the family cap would have marginal, if any, impact on births to welfare mothers and its unintended consequences could include increased abortions, adoptions, destitution and family stress and violence.

Cardinal - FYI

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

10-Feb-1995 02:50pm

TO: Diana M. Fortuna

FROM: Bruce N. Reed
 Domestic Policy Council

SUBJECT: RE: Waivers

I'll talk to Rahm about it.

Weld signed the Mass. welfare bill into law today. It's actually a pretty good plan -- if we could get a plan like that out of Congress, we'd be thrilled. Since it passed by an overwhelming majority in an overwhelmingly Democratic legislature, I think we've got to approve it. Weld has talked to the President about it, and I'm sure the President promised speedy action.



FAX TRANSMISSION

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Secretary

To: Diara Fortuna

Organization: _____

From: Jahr Morahan / PA
Intergovernmental Affairs

Date: 2/2

Intergovernmental Affairs
200 Independence Ave., SW
Room 630 F
Washington, DC 20201
phone: (202)
fax: (202) 690-5672

Recipient's Fax Number: 456-7028

Number of pages including this sheet: 2

Remarks:

JAN-27-95 FRI 11:10

FAX NO. 06

P.02



Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare
600 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02111

January 26, 1995

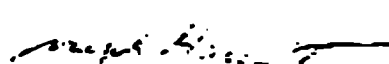
Hugh F. Galligan, Regional Administrator
Department of Health and Human Services
Administration of Children and Families
John F. Kennedy Federal Building
Room 600
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Mr. Galligan:

This letter will formally notify you that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts intends to withdraw its AFDC state plan, and hence withdraw from the AFDC program, if the Massachusetts Legislature does not appropriate additional funds for the state appropriations accounts which authorize AFDC expenditures, Item Nos. 4403-2000, 4000-0200, and 4000-0210. The Department of Public Welfare projects that funding in the AFDC account will run out on February 15, 1995. Because Massachusetts law prohibits expenditures in excess of appropriations, the substantial shortfall in AFDC appropriations for this fiscal year will constitute an effective withdrawal from the AFDC program on February 15, 1995.

Governor William Weld and the Massachusetts Legislature are currently addressing the status of the AFDC accounts, and the Department of Public Welfare does not anticipate that the withdrawal will take effect. The Department will notify you as soon as funding for the program has been restored.

Sincerely,


Joseph Gallant
Commissioner

JG:rdl

cc: Thomas Finnerman, Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee
Thomas Birmingham, Chairman, Senate Ways and Means Committee
William Kilmartin, State Comptroller

John,

Wed

DWH alert
Phil G.

Subject to your and Karen's clearance this will be
sent to Mass. on Thur.

Joseph Gallant
Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare
600 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111

DRAFT - Never Sent

Dear Mr. Gallant:

I am in receipt of your letter of of January 26, 1995 regarding the possible withdrawal of the State of Massachusetts from the Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC) program, Title IV-A of the Social Security Act. This Department strongly hopes that the State will not take this action. In the event you determine to do so, I am writing to specify the procedures that the State should follow to effect a withdrawal, to describe the actions that the Federal government will have to take with respect to federal funds if the State does withdraw from the program, and to alert you to the possible implications of a withdrawal on the State's eligibility for federal financial participation in other state-federal programs.

To formally withdraw from the program, the State should provide this Department, by the proposed withdrawal date, with an amendment to its AFDC State Plan indicating that the State is withdrawing from the program. The program will be considered terminated as of the date specified. Withdrawal from the AFDC program shall be deemed to be a withdrawal from the those programs that may operate only in conjunction with an AFDC program--i.e., Emergency Assistance, the Title IV-F JOBS program, and the Title IV-A Child Care program. Withdrawal from the AFDC program would also terminate the Section 1115 demonstration projects currently being conducted by the State.

Once the State has withdrawn from the AFDC program, it is not eligible for federal financial participation in any costs associated with the on-going operation of the program incurred after the termination date, except for those administrative expenses necessary to effectuate the orderly closing down of the program. As of the date of withdrawal, this Department will cancel applicable lines of credit and claims will be paid solely on a reimbursement basis. All claims will be reviewed to determine whether they are for allowable costs incurred before termination of the program or for administrative costs necessary for the orderly termination of the program.

We are examining the effects that withdrawal from AFDC will have on a number of other programs whose funding formulas or eligibility requirements are related to the existence of an AFDC program in the State. These include Title XIX Medicaid, which uses both AFDC receipt and the State Plan standard of need as bases for eligibility, and Title IV-E foster care, which provides

federal funds for foster children eligible for AFDC. The absence of an AFDC program may preclude any federal funding of some or all participants in these programs.

Because the AFDC program is so vital to the needs of children and parents, we hope that the State will quickly find a way to avoid withdrawing from the program. If withdrawal does occur, we will be available to work with you on the orderly closing down of the program.

Sincerely,

Hugh F. Galligan
Regional Administrator

2/21/95

Illinois
AFDC in Mass
Calif.

W - elim?

- SRA
- lookback

VonLare - how to write
- major elements
WRA did it

Schepach

Overall context of cuts - FS + M more inst
Base year / Fed tax cut 866 state law
out soon
Fed oversight vs. penalties
Unlt meas of need - mut agreement upon

bankruptcy

Indiv - Pole, Padward - R's in S split
- not big Δ vs last yr
- H not 21st

Cyclic prob -

Demog adj - Fla ex - "natural growth" vs freeze
Temple - 1st vs 2nd point

This + last had deal with
with the sub...

W - Just Govs, advisors
H + FS - many more players

FS - nada prob; old policy stds; will take action to Δ prob w/ R's

2-3 who poll Govs

Or do nada + let policy cont advoc

FS is big - matter you pass - comprehensive
H + R - optimize re pol with salary, energy, new expenditure

Mass Waiver Waiver

OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 630F
Washington, DC 20201



F A X C O V E R S H E E T

DATE: October 6, 1995 TIME: 3:48 PM
TO: Reed, Bromberg PHONE:
Fortuna FAX: 6-2889, 6-7028
FROM: John Monahan PHONE: 401-5631
Michael King FAX:
RE:
CC:

Number of pages including cover sheet:

Message: Attached is the letter that ACF intends to send to Mass. regarding their waiver. Congressional calls and calls to friends will be made today. ACF will release the letter at COB today. If you have any concerns or questions call John or I at 690-6060 or 401-5631.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

DRAFT**ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Office of the Assistant Secretary, Suite 600

370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20447

Mr. Gerald Whitburn
Secretary
Massachusetts Office of Health and Human Services
One Ashburton Place, Room 1109
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Dear Mr. Whitburn:

As you know, on August 4, Secretary Shalala informed Governor Weld of the approval of the "Welfare Reform '95" demonstration for Massachusetts. Subsequently, on October 2, you indicated your desire to amend this project before implementing it.

I am pleased to inform you that your request for amendments of your waiver demonstration "Welfare Reform '95", as set forth in your letter of October 2, are approved upon written acceptance of the enclosed Waiver Terms and Conditions.

The project period for these activities as specified in the Waiver Terms and Conditions, is amended to begin November 1, 1995, and to run for 10 years. At your request, we have removed all reference in the enclosed terms and conditions and waiver list to time-limited benefits. Several other changes requested in your letter and agreed to in mutual discussion, are reflected in the amended terms and conditions as well. The title IV-A waivers necessary to implement the demonstration as amended are identified in the enclosed listing.

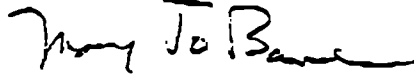
This Administration believes that the Federal Government must give states the flexibility to design new approaches to their local problems, provided that these proposals meet Federal standards. We believe Massachusetts's proposals will add to the information base for new policy directions for welfare reform.

If you have any questions regarding this amendment of your terms and conditions, please contact Peter Germanis, the Federal Project Officer for these projects. His address is: Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20447; telephone (202) 401-9316.

Page 2 - Mr. Gerald Whitburn

I commend you and staff of the Department of Social Services for seeking alternatives to improve the public assistance system and to assist families in becoming self-sufficient. I look forward to working with you and your agency on this important initiative.

Sincerely,



Mary Jo Bane
Assistant Secretary
for Children and Families

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Hugh Galligan
ACF Regional Administrator