

Dear Commission Members,

I appreciate you being so open to explore how best to revise Massachusetts' mandated reporting policies. Please find attached several articles that address this issue.

The *Comparison of State Online Mandated Reporter Training* paper (also available [online](#)) will give you a lay of the land regarding what various trainings do and do not include.

The *Practical and Conceptual Considerations* paper describes the program that my team has created. Of note, this program has now been adapted in Pennsylvania for use by all mandated reporters, and we are finding that people who not in the field of early childhood education (eg, law enforcement, healthcare providers, teachers) report the same level of satisfaction with the training (mean = 9 out of 10) as early childhood professionals, and would recommend it to others.

The op-ed from [The Imprint](#) talks about the importance of having mandated reports think about what they're doing, and speaks to the need to be careful about the collateral damage that can happen if any and all concerns are reported to DCF.

I've also included data from a paper that we anticipate being published by the end of the Summer (2021), but has not yet been accepted. This paper examines the correlation between various statutory wording (that should trigger mandated reporters to make a report) and the likelihood of a report being screened-in and subsequently substantiated. As soon as we finish the revisions that have been requested by the journal, I would be happy to send this paper to you as well.

I look forward to speaking with you at our scheduled meeting on May 6th.

Kind Regards,
Benjamin

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