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**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
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**DEVAL L. PATRICK**  
GOVERNOR

**TIMOTHY P. MURRAY**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**

**DEVAL L. PATRICK**  
GOVERNOR

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 507**

**Reestablishing the Governor's  
Commission on Mental Retardation**

**(Revoking and Superseding Executive Order 459)**

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Commonwealth to safeguard the health, safety and well-being of its residents with mental retardation;

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth recognizes the value inherent in receiving ideas and maintaining communication with family members, advocates, public officials, and members of the public interested in enhancing the well-being of people with mental retardation;

WHEREAS, it is important that people with mental retardation, their families and the public be provided with a forum to discuss issues affecting individuals served by the Department of Mental Retardation pursuant to its statutory authority;

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth's network of individualized services designed to address the wide variety of needs of people with mental retardation must be continually evaluated to ensure its quality and effectiveness;

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SECRETARY OF STATE  
RECORDS DIVISION

WHEREAS, the Governor's Commission on Mental Retardation, initially established by Executive Order 356, amended by Executive Order 371, reestablished by Executive Order 396, reestablished by Executive Order 429, amended by Executive Order 448, and reestablished by Executive Order 459, continues to be an important part of the Commonwealth's efforts to enhance the well-being of people with mental retardation; and

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing role for the Commission to ensure that people with mental retardation are provided with quality services and to protect the rights of people with mental retardation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution, Part 2, c. 2, § 1, Art. 1, do hereby revoke Executive Order 459 and reestablish the Governor's Commission on Mental Retardation, as follows:

#### ARTICLE I. Purpose and Scope of the Commission

##### 1.1 The Commission shall:

- (a) provide advice and counsel to the Secretary with respect to the Commonwealth's services designed to address the needs of people with mental retardation;
- (b) working in collaboration with the Department of Mental Retardation, provide a forum to review public policy as it affects persons with mental retardation; and
- (c) work cooperatively with the Department of Mental Retardation in connection with its mission to support people with mental retardation, and to support the Department to ensure the quality and effectiveness of the Department's programs.

#### ARTICLE II. Membership and Structure of the Commission

- 2.1 The Commission shall consist of no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members appointed by the Governor.

Members will be appointed to staggered terms of three (3) years. The Governor shall appoint four members for a term of three (3) years; four members for a term of two (2) years; and the remaining members for a term of one (1) year.

2.2 The Governor shall appoint a Chair of the Commission from among its members. The Chair shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

2.3 Members shall be persons with demonstrated interest, experience and expertise in mental retardation. No employee of the Department of Mental Retardation may be a member of the Commission except that the Commissioner or her designee shall sit upon the Commission as a non-voting member. Members shall be special state employees subject to Chapter 268A of the Massachusetts General Laws.

2.4 Members shall serve without compensation, but may receive reimbursement for necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in fulfilling their duties, subject to appropriation or allocation.

2.5 Members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Members shall continue in their positions until such time as they are re-appointed or until a successor member is appointed.

2.6 There shall be an Administrator of the Commission who shall be selected by the Governor. The Administrator shall be an employee of the Commonwealth. The Administrator shall have knowledge of the mental retardation service system and agencies delivering such services and have experience in administration and quality assurance.

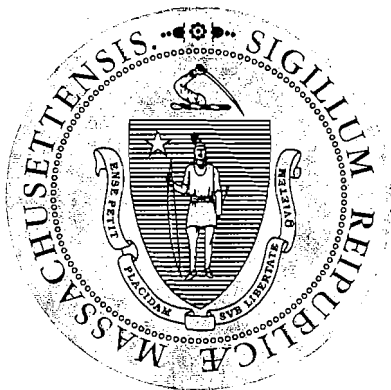
### Article III. Powers and Duties of the Commission Generally

3.1 The Commission shall adopt internal procedures appropriate for the effective performance of its duties.

3.2 The Commission may, in conjunction with the Department of Mental Retardation, hold public hearings or educational forums. The results of such hearings shall be reported to the Governor, the

5.2 The Commission and the Administrator shall be provided with resources necessary to meet their responsibilities.

5.3 The Department of Mental Retardation and the Commission shall work collaboratively for the benefit of people with mental retardation.



Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight and of the Independence of the United States two hundred and thirty-two.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deval Patrick", written over a horizontal line.

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Francis Galvin", written over a horizontal line.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

**GOD SAVE THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**