



State of Delaware  
Office of the Governor

Ruth Ann Minner  
Governor

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 6**

WHEREAS Delaware has a special responsibility to children who, for one reason or another, are cared for by people who are not their legal parents; and

WHEREAS Delaware does not have enough foster families to meet the demand placed upon its foster care system; and

WHEREAS recruiting quality foster families and retaining the quality foster families that already exist will be a critical challenge for the state in coming years, given the increased number of children who will enter foster care due to new federal laws; and

WHEREAS the state should also try to ensure that qualified blood relatives are not precluded by financial reasons from caring for children who would otherwise enter foster care;

I, Ruth Ann Minner, on this Eleventh Day of January, 2001, hereby

ORDER:

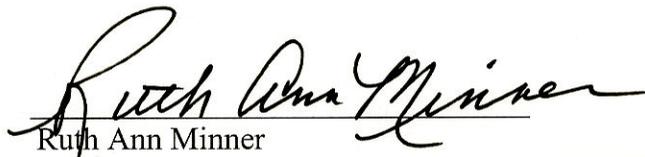
1. The Governor's Foster Care Task Force is created, for the purpose of providing the Governor with immediate advice on the

recruitment and retention of foster families and on the involvement of blood relatives in foster care.

2. The Task Force shall consist of eight members, who shall be selected as follows:
  - a. One representative of the Delaware House of Representatives and one representative of the Delaware State Senate.
  - b. The chair of the Child Protection Accountability Commission
  - c. The Secretary of Services for Children, Youth, and their Families, or her designee.
  - d. Two past or present foster parents, to be appointed by the Governor and to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
  - e. Two at-large members with knowledge of Delaware's foster care system, to be appointed by the Governor and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
  - f. A representative of the Governor's office, to be appointed by the Governor.
3. Staff support for the Task Force shall be provided by the Department of Children, Youth and their Families.
4. The Governor shall select one of the Task Force's members to serve as its chair.

5. Within 120 days after the Task Force's formation, it shall Provide written recommendations to the Governor. The Task Force's written recommendations shall encompass the following subjects:

- a. Steps that the state should take to recruit quality foster families.
- b. Steps that the state should take to retain existing quality foster families.
- c. Steps that the state should take to improve the quality of life of children currently living in foster care.
- d. Steps that the state should take to eliminate financial barriers to blood relatives caring for children who would otherwise enter foster care.

  
Ruth Ann Minner

ATTESTED:

  
Harriet N. Smith Windsor  
Secretary of State

