

an interagency basis in the belief that better coordination of services will result in the appropriate intervention on behalf of children and families. Since 1990, the General Assembly has enacted legislation that mandates the establishment of local management boards (LMBs), the establishment of the Subcabinet Fund, and the development of a plan for a continuum of care and services that is family and child oriented, and emphasizes prevention, early intervention, and community-based services. It is the intent of the General Assembly that dollars fund the needs of children rather than specific programs and that the implementation of the Systems Reform Initiative continue to move forward. However, there are critical issues that need to be resolved in the areas of State and local coordination, funding, fiscal management, and programmatic accountability.

In this regard, the General Assembly requests that an executive task force, whose members are representatives of foundations, advocacy organizations, private service agencies, and other applicable organizations, be established. The task force should also include representatives of the executive and legislative branches of State government and local government representatives. This task force should perform a comprehensive assessment of the initiative and develop recommendations that should be implemented during fiscal 1997. The General Assembly shall have 30 days to review and comment on the task force's recommendations.

Until the General Assembly has had an opportunity to comment on the task force's recommendations regarding implementation of the Systems Reform Initiative, \$10 million in funds provided for the expansion of the Systems Reform Initiative shall not be expended. However, it is the intent of the General Assembly that local management boards that have received