CHAPTER 385

(House Bill 268)

AN ACT concerning

Welfare to Work - Job Skills Enhancement Program - Green Jobs

FOR the purpose of codifying the requirement that the Secretary of Budget and Management develop and implement a plan for hiring within State government certain welfare recipients; clarifying that a certain hiring plan includes certain current and former Family Investment Program (FIP) recipients, children of current or former recipients, foster youth, and certain obligors; clarifying that the Secretary of Human Resources and certain local directors develop and implement certain local government hiring plans for current and former FIP recipients, children of current or former recipients, foster youth, and certain obligors; requiring that the job skills enhancement program include job training for employment in certain energy efficiency and renewable energy industries and construction; authorizing the Secretary of Human Resources to access certain federal stimulus dollars funds for job training in certain industries; requiring that certain procurement subcontracts be designated as appropriate for the execution of certain hiring agreements; clarifying that certain model hiring agreements include certain current and former FIP recipients, children of current or former recipients, foster youth, and certain obligors; clarifying that certain Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Program funds used in certain low-income and moderate-income sectors include certain current and former FIP recipients, children of current or former recipients, foster youth, and certain obligors; requiring that certain Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Program funds be used as grants to the job skills enhancement program for job training in certain industries; altering the membership of the Strategic Energy Investment Advisory Board to include the Secretary of Human Resources or the Secretary's designee; requiring the Secretary of Human Resources to submit a certain report on a certain program reports by a certain date: altering a certain definition; defining requiring the Secretary of Budget and Management, in consultation with the Secretary of Human Resources, to issue certain reports to certain legislative committees on or before certain dates; defining certain terms; and generally relating to welfare for work and job training and the hiring of current and former Family Investment Program recipients, certain former recipients, children of current or former recipients, foster youth, and obligors.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Human Services Section 5–304 and 5–318 Annotated Code of Maryland (2007 Volume and 2008 Supplement) BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – State Finance and Procurement

Section 13-224

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2006 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article - State Government

Section 9-20B-02 and 9-20B-07(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2004 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - State Government

Section 9-20B-05(f) and (h) and 9-20B-07(c)(4)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2004 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

BY repealing

Chapter 486 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1999 Section 4

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Human Services

5-304.

- (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
- (2) "CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS" MEANS MINORS WHO:
 - (I) ARE AT LEAST 14 YEARS OLD; AND
- (II) RESIDE WITH CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS OF BENEFITS.
- (3) "FORMER RECIPIENT" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO RECEIVED BENEFITS UNDER FIP IN THE PAST 5 YEARS.
 - (4) "FOSTER YOUTH" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

- (I) IS AN ADULT IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATE; OR
 - (II) IS AN ADULT UNDER THE AGE OF 25 YEARS; AND
- (III) WAS IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATE ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S 18TH BIRTHDAY.
- (5) "OBLIGOR" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 10–101 OF THE FAMILY LAW ARTICLE.
- (A) (B) (1) THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE SECRETARY, SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PLAN FOR HIRING CURRENT AND FORMER RECIPIENTS, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS BY THE PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENTS WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF STATE GOVERNMENT.
- (2) FOR EACH PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT, THE PLAN SHALL INCLUDE:
- (I) THE UNITS THAT MOST EASILY COULD HIRE CURRENT AND FORMER RECIPIENTS, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS;
- (II) THE POSITIONS MOST SUITABLE FOR CURRENT AND FORMER RECIPIENTS, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS;
- (III) A PROPOSAL FOR RECRUITING CURRENT AND FORMER RECIPIENTS, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS;
 - (IV) JOB RETENTION STRATEGIES; AND
- (V) A TARGET NUMBER OF CURRENT AND FORMER RECIPIENTS, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS TO BE RECRUITED.
- (3) On or before November 1 of each year and in <u>IN</u> consultation with the Secretary, the Secretary of Budget and Management shall report, subject to § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Appropriations Committee of the General Assembly, on:

- (I) <u>ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2010, ON</u> THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HIRING PLAN FOR CURRENT AND FORMER RECIPIENTS, <u>CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS</u>, FOSTER YOUTH, AND <u>OBLIGORS</u>; AND
- (II) <u>ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, ON</u> THE NUMBER OF <u>CURRENT AND FORMER</u> RECIPIENTS, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR <u>FORMER RECIPIENTS</u>, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS HIRED AND RETAINED BY THE PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENTS WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF STATE GOVERNMENT.
- [(a)] (B) (C) (1) Working with appropriate local government officials, the Secretary and each local director shall develop and implement a local government hiring plan under which local governments may hire CURRENT AND FORMER recipients, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS.
- [(b)] (2) For each jurisdiction, the local government hiring plan shall include:
- [(1)] (I) a list of the units that most easily could hire **CURRENT AND FORMER** recipients, **CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS**;
- [(2)] (II) a list of the employment positions most suitable for CURRENT AND FORMER recipients, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS;
- [(3)] (III) proposals to recruit CURRENT AND FORMER recipients, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS;
 - [(4)] (IV) employment retention strategies; and
- [(5)] (V) a target number of CURRENT AND FORMER recipients, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS to be recruited.
 - [(c)] (3) Each local director shall:
- [(1)] (I) develop and submit the local government hiring plan in accordance with a schedule and format that the Secretary determines;

- [(2)] (II) implement in a timely manner the proposals and strategies in the local government hiring plan;
- [(3)] (III) achieve the target numbers in the local government hiring plan; and
- [(4)] **(IV)** develop and submit reports to the Secretary in accordance with a schedule and format that the Secretary determines.
- [(d)] **(4)** On or before November 1 of each year and in consultation with the Maryland Association of Counties, the Secretary shall report, subject to § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Appropriations Committee of the General Assembly, on:
 - [(1)] (I) the development of the local government hiring plan; and
- [(2)] (II) the number of CURRENT AND FORMER recipients, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS hired and retained by local governments.

5-318.

- (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
- (2) "CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5–304 OF THIS SUBTITLE.
- (3) "FORMER RECIPIENT" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN \S 5–304 OF THIS SUBTITLE.
- (4) "FOSTER YOUTH" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5–304 OF THIS SUBTITLE.
- (5) "OBLIGOR" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 10–101 OF THE FAMILY LAW ARTICLE.
- (a) (B) (1) In cooperation with the local directors, the Secretary shall establish a job skills enhancement program to provide newly employed current and former recipients, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS with training to:
 - (i) enhance existing job-related skills;
 - (ii) gain additional or alternative job skills; or

- (iii) learn interpersonal, communication, and other related skills.
- (2) The job skills enhancement program shall be established in at least three counties, one of which shall be located in Western Maryland, Southern Maryland, or the Eastern Shore.
 - (b) (C) The job skills enhancement program shall:
- (1) target unskilled and semiskilled former and current recipients, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS who are newly employed in entry-level positions that have limited potential for advancement beyond entry-level; OR
- (2) TARGET JOB TRAINING FOR FORMER AND CURRENT RECIPIENTS, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS FOR EMPLOYMENT IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRIES AND CONSTRUCTION, INCLUDING:
- (I) THE ENERGY-EFFICIENT BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION, AND RETROFITS INDUSTRIES;
 - (II) THE RENEWABLE ELECTRIC POWER INDUSTRY;
- (III) THE ENERGY EFFICIENT AND ADVANCED DRIVE TRAIN VEHICLE INDUSTRY;
 - (IV) THE BIOFUELS INDUSTRY;
- (V) THE DECONSTRUCTION AND MATERIALS USE INDUSTRIES;
- (VI) THE ENERGY ASSESSMENT INDUSTRY SERVING THE RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, OR INDUSTRIAL SECTOR;
- (VII) THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY THAT PRODUCES SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS USING ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE PROCESSES AND MATERIALS;
 - (VIII) THE BROWNFIELDS REMEDIATION INDUSTRY;
- (IX) THE STATE OF THE ART SEPTIC UPGRADES AND SEWAGE TREATMENT INDUSTRY;

- (X) ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, INCLUDING STREAM RESTORATION, REFORESTATION, INVASIVE REMOVAL, AND ACID MINE DRAINAGE;
- (XI) STATE OF THE ART STORM WATER INSTALLATION AND RETROFITS;

(XII) AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION PRACTICES; AND

(XIII) THE GREEN ROOF INDUSTRY AND GREEN ROOF MAINTENANCE INDUSTRY; AND

(XIV) SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING.

- (e) (D) Participation in the job skills enhancement program shall be voluntary.
- (2) Individuals participating in the job skills enhancement program shall sign a training agreement with the local department.
- (d) (E) To be eligible to participate in the job skills enhancement program, an individual shall:
- (1) (I) have been a recipient during the 36 months before beginning participation in the job skills enhancement program; **OR**

(II) A FORMER RECIPIENT, A CHILD OF A CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENT, A FOSTER YOUTH, OR OBLIGOR;

- (2) have been employed in entry-level employment for at least 6 months before beginning participation in the job skills enhancement program;
- (3) provide employer validation or other documentation of employment status;
 - (4) have limited job skills; and
- (5) have limited opportunity for advancement in the individual's current employment.
- (e) (F) The local department shall contract for training services to be provided under the job skills enhancement program, as provided in § 5–306 of this subtitle.

- (f) (1) The local department may work with businesses to train and place **CURRENT AND** former recipients, **CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS** in positions that meet the requirements of paragraph (2) of this subsection.
 - (2) Participating businesses shall:
 - (i) provide employment with benefits paid to employees;
 - (ii) provide employment that has a defined career path;
- (iii) demonstrate the active involvement and financial commitment of the business; and
- $% \left(iv\right) =0$ (iv) provide a match with cash or in–kind contributions on at least a one–to–one basis.
- (g) (H) (1) At the discretion of the Secretary and in consultation with the local director, the job skills enhancement program shall be administered by the local department or through the State workforce investment area system under the Workforce Investment Act.
- (2) The Administrator of the program under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall:
 - (i) manage each participant's training plan;
 - (ii) maintain a database of appropriate training vendors; and
- (iii) compile necessary fiscal reports on the job skills enhancement program.
- (H) (I) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER FUNDS AVAILABLE TO FUND THE JOB SKILLS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM, THE SECRETARY SHALL ATTEMPT TO ACCESS RELEVANT FEDERAL STIMULUS DOLLARS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE STATE UNDER THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT AND ANY OTHER FUNDS DESIGNED TO REDUCE ENERGY USE AND GLOBAL WARMING EMISSIONS THAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR JOB TRAINING IN THE INDUSTRIES LISTED UNDER SUBSECTION $\frac{(B)(2)}{(C)(2)}$ OF THIS SECTION.

Article - State Finance and Procurement

13-224.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) "CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5–304 OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ARTICLE.

- (2) (3) "Department" means the Department of Human Resources.
- (3) (4) "Eligible contract" means a procurement contract Θ R SUBCONTRACT designated by the Board as appropriate for the execution of a hiring agreement.
- (4) (5) "FIP" means the Family Investment Program established under Title 5, Subtitle 3 of the Human Services Article.
- (6) "FORMER RECIPIENT" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5–304 OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ARTICLE.
- (7) "FOSTER YOUTH" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5–304 OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ARTICLE.
- (5) (8) "Hiring agreement" means an agreement entered into by the Department or a local department and an entity doing business with the State under which the Department or the local department and the entity agree to work cooperatively in endeavoring to identify and hire CURRENT AND FORMER FIP recipients, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS to fill job openings of the entity.
- (6) (9) "Local department" means a local department of social services in a county or in Baltimore City created or continued under $\$ 3–201(a) of the Human Services Article.

(10) "OBLIGOR" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 10–101 OF THE FAMILY LAW ARTICLE.

- (b) On or before October 1, 1998, the Board, in consultation with the Department, shall designate the types of procurement contracts **AND SUBCONTRACTS** that are eligible contracts.
- (c) (1) On or before December 1, 1998, the Department shall develop a model hiring agreement form that shall be completed by the Department or a local department and an entity in conjunction with the award of an eligible contract.
- (2) The model hiring agreement form shall include the following provisions:
 - (i) the entity will:

- 1. inform the Department or the local department, as appropriate, of all of the entity's job openings;
- 2. declare the Department or the local department, as appropriate, its "first source" in identifying and hiring candidates to fill those job openings;
- 3. work cooperatively with the Department or the local department, as appropriate, to develop any necessary training programs that will enable **CURRENT AND FORMER FIP** recipients, **CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS** in qualifying for and securing the positions;
- 4. give first preference and first consideration to the extent permitted by law and any existing labor agreements to candidates referred to the entity by the Department or the local department, as appropriate;
- 5. agree to give candidates referred to the entity by the Department or the local department, as appropriate, priority in the filling of a job opening if the candidate meets the qualifications of the position;
- 6. provide the Department or the local department, as appropriate, with information on the disposition of all referrals made by the Department or the local department, as appropriate, including an explanation of why any such candidate was not hired or considered qualified;
- 7. provide the Department or the local department, as appropriate, with information regarding the progress and employment status of those candidates referred by the Department or the local department, as appropriate, that the entity hired; and
- 8. designate a specific individual that the Department or the local department, as appropriate, may contact in regard to the provisions of the hiring agreement; and
- (ii) the Department or the local department, as appropriate, will assign an account representative to the entity who will:
 - 1. receive and process all of the entity's job notifications;
- 2. refer only screened and qualified candidates to the entity;
- 3. assist in the development of any mutually agreed upon training programs, internship programs, or both that will better prepare

CURRENT AND FORMER FIP recipients, CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS for employment with the entity;

- 4. arrange follow-up and post-hire transitional/supportive services, such as child care and transportation, as necessary and appropriate; and
- 5. review and evaluate the effectiveness of the hiring agreement with the entity and make modifications in the agreement as necessary and appropriate.
- (d) Each year, the Department and any local departments that have entered into hiring agreements shall submit a report to the Board, the Joint Committee on Welfare Reform, and, subject to § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on:
 - (1) the number of hiring agreements executed;
- (2) the number of **CURRENT AND FORMER** FIP recipients, **CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS** hired by an entity with which a hiring agreement was executed; and
- (3) the effectiveness of each hiring agreement in obtaining employment for **CURRENT AND FORMER** FIP recipients, **CHILDREN OF CURRENT OR FORMER RECIPIENTS, FOSTER YOUTH, AND OBLIGORS**.

Article - State Government

9-20B-02.

There is a Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Program in the Maryland Energy Administration.

9 20B 05

- (f) The Administration shall use the Fund:
 - (1) to invest in the promotion, development, and implementation of:
- (i) cost-effective energy efficiency and conservation programs, projects, or activities, including measurement and verification of energy savings;
 - (ii) renewable and clean energy resources;
- (iii) climate change programs directly related to reducing or mitigating the effects of climate change; and

- (iv) demand response programs that are designed to promote changes in electric usage by customers in response to:
 - 1. changes in the price of electricity over time; or
- 2. incentives designed to induce lower electricity use at times of high wholesale market prices or when system reliability is jeopardized;
- (2) to provide targeted programs, projects, activities, and investments to reduce electricity consumption by customers, INCLUDING CURRENT AND FORMER FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS, in the low-income and moderate-income residential sectors;
- (3) to provide supplemental funds for low-income energy assistance through the Electric Universal Service Program established under § 7–512.1 of the Public Utility Companies Article and other electric assistance programs in the Department of Human Resources;
- (4) to provide rate relief by offsetting electricity rates of residential customers, including an offset of surcharges imposed on ratepayers under § 7–211 of the Public Utility Companies Article;
- (5) to provide grants, loans, and other assistance and investment as necessary and appropriate to implement the purposes of the Program as set forth in § 9-20B-03 of this subtitle;
- (6) to implement energy-related public education and outreach initiatives regarding reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions; and
 - (7) to pay the expenses of the Program.
- (h) (1) Energy efficiency and conservation programs under subsection (x)(3) of this section include:
 - (i) low-income energy efficiency programs;
 - (ii) residential and small business energy efficiency programs:
 - (iii) commercial and industrial energy efficiency programs;
 - (iv) State and local energy efficiency programs;
 - (v) demand response programs;
 - (vi) loan programs and alternative financing mechanisms; and

(vii) grants to:

training for deployment of energy efficiency and energy conservation technology and equipment; AND

2. THE JOB SKILLS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM UNDER § 5–318 OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ARTICLE TO PROVIDE JOB TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING:

A. THE ENERGY-EFFICIENT BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, AND RETROFITS INDUSTRIES:

B. THE RENEWABLE ELECTRIC POWER INDUSTRY:

C. THE ENERGY EFFICIENT AND ADVANCED DRIVE TRAIN VEHICLE INDUSTRY:

D. THE BIOFUELS INDUSTRY;

E. THE DECONSTRUCTION AND MATERIALS USE

INDUSTRIES;

F. THE ENERGY ASSESSMENT INDUSTRY SERVING THE RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, OR INDUSTRIAL SECTOR;

G. THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY THAT PRODUCES SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS USING ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE PROCESSES AND MATERIALS:

H. THE BROWNFIELDS REMEDIATION INDUSTRY;

I. THE STATE OF THE ART SEPTIC UPGRADES AND SEWAGE TREATMENT INDUSTRY:

J. ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, INCLUDING STREAM RESTORATION, REFORESTATION, INVASIVE REMOVAL, AND ACID MINE DRAINAGE;

K. STATE OF THE ART STORM WATER INSTALLATION AND RETROFITS;

L. AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION PRACTICES; AND

M. THE GREEN ROOF INDUSTRY AND GREEN ROOF MAINTENANCE INDUSTRY.

- (2) Energy-related public education and outreach and renewable and elean energy programs and initiatives under subsection (g)(4)(i) and (ii) of this section include:
 - (i) production incentives for specified renewable energy sources;
- (ii) expansion of existing grant programs for solar, geothermal, and wind programs;
 - (iii) loan programs and alternative financing mechanisms; and
- (iv) consumer education and outreach programs that are designed to reach low-income communities.

9 - 20B - 07

- (a) There is a Strategic Energy Investment Advisory Board.
- (c) The Board consists of the following members:
 - (4) the following nonvoting ex officio members:
- (i) the Chairman of the Public Service Commission or the Chairman's designee:
- (ii) the People's Counsel or the designee of the People's Counsel;
- $\frac{(iii)}{\text{designee; AND}}$ the Secretary of the Environment or the Secretary's
- (IV) THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN RESOURCES OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE.

Chapter 486 of the Acts of 1999

[SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Budget and Management, with assistance provided by the Secretary of Human Resources, develop and implement a plan for hiring welfare recipients by the principal departments within the Executive Branch of State Government. Components of the plan shall include, for each agency: the units that could most easily hire welfare

clients; the positions most suitable for the welfare population; a proposal for recruiting welfare clients; job retention strategies; and a target number of clients to be recruited. The Secretary of Budget and Management shall report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Appropriations Committee, subject to § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, no later than November 1, 1999, on the development of the plan for recruiting and hiring welfare recipients, and annually thereafter on the number of welfare recipients hired and retained by the principal departments within the Executive Branch of State Government.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before September 1, 2009, the Secretary of Human Resources shall report, subject to § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the Joint Committee on Welfare Reform of the General Assembly:

- (1) on the Department of Human Resources plans to:
- (1) increase participation of existing current and former Family Investment Program (FIP) recipients, children of existing or former recipients, foster youth, and obligors in the job skills enhancement program;
- (2) (ii) make <u>current and</u> former FIP recipients, <u>children of current or former recipients</u>, <u>foster youth</u>, <u>and obligors</u> aware of the options for receiving job training through the job skills enhancement program for employment in energy efficiency and renewable energy industries; and
- (3) (iii) access federal stimulus dollars funds available to the State under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and any other available funds to reduce energy use and global warming emissions for job training under the job skills enhancement program; and
- (2) in consultation with the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Governor's Workforce Investment Board, the Maryland Energy Administration, public utility companies, and subcontractors of public utility companies on the hiring plans of the public utility companies and the subcontractors of the public utility companies for staffing the energy efficiency and conservation programs of the public utility companies and the subcontractors of the public utility companies.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2009.

Approved by the Governor, May 7, 2009.