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**By: Delegate Frank**

Introduced and read first time: February 28, 1997

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Computer and Technology-Based Occupations Apprenticeship Assistance Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Computer and Technology-Based Occupations  
4 Apprenticeship Assistance Program in the Department of Labor, Licensing, and  
5 Regulation; requiring the Division of Employment and Training to administer the  
6 Program; requiring the Program to award certain grants as provided by the State  
7 budget and based on certain criteria; authorizing the Secretary of Labor, Licensing,  
8 and Regulation to adopt certain regulations; requiring the Secretary of Labor,  
9 Licensing, and Regulation to adopt certain regulations; requiring the grants to be  
10 distributed at a certain time and to a certain extent; and generally relating to the  
11 Computer and Technology-Based Occupations Apprenticeship Assistance Program.

12 BY adding to

13 Article - Labor and Employment  
14 Section 11-601 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 6. Miscellaneous Programs"  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (1991 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

19 **Article - Labor and Employment**

20 SUBTITLE 6. MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS.

21 11-601.

22 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING TERMS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
23 INDICATED.

24 (2) "PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY" MEANS A PERSON THAT THE MARYLAND  
25 APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING COUNCIL APPROVES UNDER § 11-405(B) OF THIS  
26 TITLE.

27 (3) "COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY-BASED OCCUPATIONS" INCLUDES:

28 (I) COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS;

29 (II) COMPUTER TECHNICIANS; AND

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1 (III) OTHER TECHNICIANS IN TECHNOLOGY-BASED FIELDS.

2 (B) THERE IS A COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY-BASED OCCUPATIONS  
3 APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

4 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY-BASED  
5 OCCUPATIONS APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS TO DEVELOP A  
6 WELL-TRAINED, PRODUCTIVE WORKFORCE IN COMPUTER AND  
7 TECHNOLOGY-BASED OCCUPATIONS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE STATE'S  
8 ECONOMY.

9 (D) THE DIVISION SHALL ADMINISTER THE COMPUTER AND  
10 TECHNOLOGY-BASED OCCUPATIONS APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

11 (E) AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET, THE COMPUTER AND  
12 TECHNOLOGY-BASED OCCUPATIONS APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
13 SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES THAT OPERATE  
14 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS IN THE STATE.

15 (F) THE SECRETARY MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ARE NECESSARY TO  
16 CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

17 (G) BY REGULATION, THE SECRETARY SHALL ESTABLISH:

18 (1) CRITERIA TO DETERMINE THE ELIGIBILITY OF PRIVATE SECTOR  
19 ENTITIES; AND

20 (2) AN APPLICATION PROCESS FOR DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY.

21 (H) GRANTS UNDER THE COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY-BASED  
22 OCCUPATIONS APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF  
23 THIS SECTION SHALL BE GIVEN TO PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES OFFERING  
24 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS LOCATED IN AREAS DESIGNATED FOR GROWTH IN A  
25 COUNTY MASTER PLAN.

26 (I) THE GRANTS SHALL CONSIST OF A MAXIMUM OF \$1,000 FOR EACH  
27 APPRENTICE IN AN ELIGIBLE PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY.

28 (J) THE COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY-BASED OCCUPATIONS  
29 APPRENTICESHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SHALL DISTRIBUTE A GRANT AWARDED  
30 TO A PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY:

31 (1) AT THE END OF A PROGRAM YEAR; AND

32 (2) ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT EACH APPRENTICE HAS COMPLETED  
33 THE PROGRAM YEAR.

34 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
35 October 1, 1997.