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By: **Delegates Pitkin, Rawlings, Conway, Kopp, McIntosh, Hecht, and Franchot**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998  
Assigned to: Appropriations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Telework and Workforce Development Center Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Budget and Management to establish a  
4 statewide Telework and Workforce Development Center Pilot Program;  
5 requiring the Secretary to adopt policies to administer the Pilot Program;  
6 requiring the Secretary to report in a certain manner on the effect of the Pilot  
7 Program; providing for the purposes of the Telework and Workforce  
8 Development Centers; defining certain terms; providing for the termination of  
9 this Act; and generally relating to establishing a Telework and Workforce  
10 Development Center Pilot Program.

11 BY adding to

12 Article - State Personnel and Pensions  
13 Section 2-801 through 2-804, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 8.  
14 Telework and Workforce Development Center Pilot Program"  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (1997 Replacement Volume)

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

19 **Article - State Personnel and Pensions**

20 **SUBTITLE 8. TELEWORK AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER PILOT**  
21 **PROGRAM.**

22 2-801.

23 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
24 INDICATED.

25 (B) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE TELEWORK AND WORKFORCE  
26 DEVELOPMENT CENTER PILOT PROGRAM.

1 (C) "TELECOMMUTING" MEANS USING TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY  
2 TO WORK AT A LOCATION OTHER THAN A TRADITIONAL OFFICE SETTING.

3 (D) "CENTERS" MEANS THE TELEWORK AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
4 CENTERS.

5 2-802.

6 (A) THE SECRETARY SHALL ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE TELEWORK AND  
7 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER PILOT PROGRAM.

8 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO:

9 (1) OPEN AND OPERATE HIGHLY TECHNICAL TELECOMMUTING AND  
10 TRAINING CENTERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE THAT MAY BE USED BY BOTH THE  
11 PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS;

12 (2) ENABLE STATE EMPLOYEES TO USE THE CENTERS TO  
13 TELECOMMUTE AND RECEIVE TRAINING TO TELECOMMUTE FROM HOME; AND

14 (3) ENABLE INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES TO UTILIZE THE CENTERS  
15 FOR EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES.

16 2-803.

17 (A) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT GUIDELINES AND POLICIES TO ESTABLISH  
18 AND CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM.

19 (B) THESE GUIDELINES SHALL PROVIDE FOR:

20 (1) TRAINING OF EMPLOYEES AND POTENTIAL EMPLOYEES IN  
21 COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY;

22 (2) TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR WELFARE RECIPIENTS;

23 (3) INFORMATIONAL SEMINARS FOR BUSINESSES TO PROMOTE  
24 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN REVITALIZATION AREAS; AND

25 (4) EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED.

26 2-804.

27 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH LOCAL  
28 GOVERNMENTS TO OPERATE THE TELEWORK AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
29 CENTERS AND MAY CONTRACT WITH PRIVATE SECTOR CONTRACTORS FOR  
30 ASSISTANCE IN RUNNING THE CENTERS.

31 (B) THE DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, ENVIRONMENT, AND BUSINESS  
32 AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SHALL PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL AND  
33 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE IN IMPLEMENTING AND OPERATING THE CENTERS.

1 (C) THE CENTERS SHALL BE FUNDED THROUGH FEDERAL GRANTS, FEES  
2 FROM BUSINESS OWNERS WHO USE THE CENTERS, LOCAL FUNDING, AND AS  
3 PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before October 1,  
5 1999, the Secretary of Budget and Management shall submit a report to the Senate  
6 Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee  
7 concerning the Pilot Program.

8 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
9 October 1, 1998. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of  
10 September 30, 2001, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this  
11 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.