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By: **Delegate Shriver** Introduced and read first time: February 17, 2000 Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 3	Judith P. Hoyer Blue Ribbon Commission on the Financing of Early Child Care and Education
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	FOR the purpose of creating the Judith P. Hoyer Blue Ribbon Commission on the Financing of Early Child Care and Education; providing for the purpose, duties, and membership of the Commission; providing for the terms and compensation of its members; providing for the appointment of its members; requiring the Commission to meet at certain times and issue reports on or before certain dates; providing for the termination of the Commission and the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the creation of a Commission charged with studying the financing of early child care and education in the State.
12	Preamble
13	WHEREAS, Maryland's greatest resource is its children; and
16	WHEREAS, Maryland's youngest children must receive an early child care and education that provide a safe, nurturing, educational, and culturally affirming environment, in order to ensure that they enter the school system prepared to succeed; and
18 19	WHEREAS, In 1999, the State annual average cost for full-time child care for a child 5 years or younger was \$6,112; and
20 21	WHEREAS, Nationally, approximately 60% of the \$40 billion spent annually on early child care and education is paid by the families of those children; and
	WHEREAS, The vast majority of the money spent goes to pay for direct services to children, with only a small percentage supporting infrastructure, such as quality assurance and capital costs for facilities; and
25 26	WHEREAS, A growing body of research has revealed the critical importance of early child care and education to later achievement and learning; and
27 28	WHEREAS, While the State and federal governments support public education and provide substantial support to public colleges, and State and federal

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1 governments make substantial contributions targeted to early child care and

2 education for low-income families, public funding of early child care and education for

3 middle-income families is minimal; and

4 WHEREAS, Nationally, experts in financing are reviewing new approaches to 5 funding early child care and education services, including approaches modeled after 6 the funding mechanisms used for higher education; and

7 WHEREAS, A blue ribbon commission created by the State would make 8 possible an intensive review of innovative approaches to funding early child care and 9 education, including approaches modeled after methods used in financing higher 10 education, transportation, and housing; now, therefore,

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

13 (a) There is a Judith P. Hoyer Blue Ribbon Commission on the Financing of 14 Early Child Care and Education.

15 (b) The purpose of the Commission is to examine the costs and availability of 16 funding for early child care and education.

17 (c) The Commission shall:

18 (1) determine the total costs of early child care and education;

19 (2) develop a coherent funding structure for early child care and 20 education in Maryland, which may include:

21 (i) a tiered reimbursement system for the purchase of early child 22 care and education, under which providers would be reimbursed at scheduled 23 percentages of and above market rates;

(ii) incentives for providers and programs, including wage
supplements and retention grants, that are linked to the educational attainments of
children receiving early child care and education; or

27 (iii) the inclusion of early child care and education, or at least
28 prekindergarten programs, in the State education funding formula;

(3) review and identify the sources for any available and potentially30 available funding from the federal government for early child care and education;

31 (4) review and identify potentially available public and private funding
32 sources, other than the federal government, for early child care and education;

identify methods for reducing the costs to middle-income parents of
 early child care and education; and

35 (6) develop a specific plan and time line for implementation of programs36 developed.

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1	(d)	The Commission consists of 25 members.					
2	(e)	The members of the Commission are:					
3 4 a	as follows:	(1)	two me	mbers of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President			
5			(i)	one member of the Budget and Taxation Committee; and			
6 7	Committee;		(ii)	one member of the Economic and Environmental Affairs			
8 9	follows:	(2)	two me	mbers of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker as			
10			(i)	one member of the Appropriations Committee; and			
11			(ii)	one member of the Ways and Means Committee;			
12 13	12 (3) the House and Senate Chairmen of the Joint Committee on Children, 13 Youth, and Families of the General Assembly;						
14 15	designee;	(4)	the Stat	e Superintendent of Schools or the State Superintendent's			
16		(5)	the Sect	retary of Budget and Management or the Secretary's designee;			
17		(6)	the Sect	retary of Human Resources or the Secretary's designee;			
18		(7)	the Sect	retary of Higher Education or the Secretary's designee;			
19 20	19(8)the Special Secretary for the Office of Children, Youth, and Families20 in the Governor's Office or the Special Secretary's designee;						
21 22	Secretary's	(9) designee;		retary of Business and Economic Development or the			
23 24	Secretary's	(10) designee;		retary of Housing and Community Development or the			
25		(11)	the follo	owing members appointed by the Governor:			
26 27	Network;		(i)	one representative of the Maryland Child Care Resource			
28			(ii)	one representative of the University System of Maryland;			
29			(iii)	one representative of community colleges in the State;			
30			(iv)	two representatives of the Maryland business community;			

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1	(v)	one representative of the banking industry in the State;			
2	(vi)	one representative of family child care providers in the State;			
3	(vii)	one representative of child care centers in the State;			
4	(viii)	two parents of children in child care programs in the State;			
5	(ix)	one representative of a child advocacy group; and			
6 7 strategies.	(x)	one economist who is familiar with innovative funding			
8 (f) (1) 9 July 1, 2000.	A mem	ber appointed by the Governor shall be appointed on or before			
10 (2)	A mem	ber shall serve until the end of December 31, 2001.			
11 (g) The chairman of the Commission shall be appointed jointly by the 12 Governor, the President, and the Speaker on or before July 1, 2000.					
13 (h) (1) 14 September 1, 2000.	The first	st meeting of the Commission shall be held on or before			
15 (2) The Commission shall hold subsequent meetings at times and 16 locations determined by the Commission.					
17 (i) A mem	A member of the Commission:				
18 (1)	may no	t receive compensation; but			
19(2)20Travel Regulations a		ceive compensation for expenses under the Standard State ed in the State budget.			
0,	<ul><li>21 (j) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide the staff for the</li><li>22 Commission from among its fiscal analysts.</li></ul>				
<ul> <li>(k) The Commission shall issue to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the</li> <li>State Government Article, to the General Assembly:</li> </ul>					
25 (1)	on or b	efore December 31, 2000, an interim report on its findings; and			
26 (2)	on or b	efore December 31, 2001, a final report on its findings.			
27 (l) The Co	ommissio	n shall terminate at the end of December 31, 2001.			
28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 29 July 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6 months and, at the 30 end of December 31, 2001, with no further action required by the General Assembly,					

30 end of December 31, 2001, with no further action required by the General Assembly,31 this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.