

SENATE BILL 793

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2000 Regular Session  
0lr2854  
CF 0lr2540

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By: **Senators Kasemeyer and Hoffman**  
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000  
Assigned to: Rules

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Judith P. Hoyer Early Care and Education Centers and Education**  
3 **Enhancement Grant Program**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Judith P. Hoyer Early Care and Education  
5 Centers and Education Enhancement Grant Program for the development of  
6 collaborative approaches to delivery of full-day early care and education and  
7 family support services; defining certain terms; designating the Department of  
8 Education as the agency supervising the grant; requiring the Department to  
9 distribute the grant funds under the program created by this Act to local school  
10 systems on a competitive basis; limiting local school system use of funds to  
11 certain purposes; requiring the Department to select an evaluator through a  
12 competitive process to measure the effectiveness of the collaborations; requiring  
13 the Department to submit certain reports; prohibiting awards under this Act  
14 from supplanting other funding; and generally relating to the Judith P. Hoyer  
15 Early Care and Education Centers and Education Enhancement Grant  
16 Program.

17 BY adding to  
18 Article - Education  
19 Section 5-213  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (1999 Replacement Volume)

22 Preamble

23 WHEREAS, Recent brain research confirms that the most rapid brain growth  
24 occurs in the first three years of life; and

25 WHEREAS, A stimulating environment is essential to brain development and  
26 has a major impact on a child's language and cognitive and emotional development;  
27 and

28 WHEREAS, The overwhelming evidence suggests that it is best to capitalize on  
29 the brain's elasticity before age 5, the age at which public education is guaranteed;  
30 and

1 WHEREAS, High quality early care and education programs make a significant  
2 contribution to the development of skills required by young children to succeed in  
3 school; and

4 WHEREAS, Not all Maryland children have access to quality early care and  
5 education programs; and

6 WHEREAS, There is an imperative need to improve access to quality early care  
7 and education programs through collaborative partnerships; and

8 WHEREAS, Judith P. Hoyer dedicated her life to the education and care of  
9 young children and their families; now, therefore,

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

12 **Article - Education**

13 5-213.

14 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
15 INDICATED.

16 (2) "ACCREDITATION" MEANS THE DETERMINATION THAT A PROGRAM  
17 MEETS QUALITY STANDARDS DEFINED BY THE ACCREDITING AGENCY BEYOND  
18 STATE CHILD CARE REGULATIONS.

19 (3) "ACCREDITING AGENCY" MEANS A NATIONAL OR STATE AGENCY  
20 THAT HAS DEVELOPED A RECOGNIZED ACCREDITING PROCESS.

21 (4) "CREDENTIALING" MEANS THE PROCESS IN WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL  
22 IS AWARDED A PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE BASED ON EDUCATION AND  
23 EXPERIENCE.

24 (5) "FULL DAY" MEANS A PERIOD OF TIME DURING THE DAY THAT:

25 (I) MEETS THE NEEDS OF WORKING FAMILIES; AND

26 (II) IS NOT LESS THAN 7 HOURS OR MORE THAN 12 HOURS PER DAY.

27 (6) "PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS" INCLUDES:

28 (I) PUBLIC PREKINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS;

29 (II) HEAD START PROGRAMS;

30 (III) FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES;

31 (IV) LOCAL INFANTS AND TODDLERS PROGRAMS;

32 (V) CHILD CARE CENTERS AND FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES;

1 (VI) FAMILY SUPPORT CENTERS;

2 (VII) HEALTHY FAMILY SITES;

3 (VIII) PARENT INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMS;

4 (IX) EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS AFFILIATED WITH  
5 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION; AND

6 (X) OTHER HOME VISITING, COMMUNITY HEALTH, FAMILY  
7 SUPPORT SERVICES, AND CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL AGENCIES.

8 (B) THE JUDITH P. HOYER EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION CENTERS AND  
9 EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM IS ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE  
10 SCHOOL READINESS THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND  
11 EXPANSION OF COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES TO DELIVERY OF HIGH QUALITY,  
12 COMPREHENSIVE, FULL-DAY EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND  
13 FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES.

14 (C) THE GRANT FUNDS SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND  
15 USED TO SUPPORT AND EXPAND COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES TO EARLY CHILD  
16 CARE AND EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES THROUGH COORDINATION  
17 WITH PARTICIPATING PROGRAMS AND AGENCIES.

18 (D) A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT UNDER THIS  
19 SECTION.

20 (E) EACH APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT SHALL INCLUDE:

21 (1) A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LOCAL SCHOOL  
22 SYSTEM, AS REQUIRED TO BE ESTABLISHED UNDER ARTICLE 49D, § 11 OF THE CODE,  
23 AND THE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS THAT INCLUDES:

24 (I) THE TERMS OF THE COLLABORATION TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY  
25 THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM AND THE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS;

26 (II) THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL SCHOOL  
27 SYSTEM AND THE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS; AND

28 (III) A PLAN FOR ESTABLISHING ONGOING COMMUNICATION  
29 BETWEEN NONPUBLIC SERVICE PROVIDERS AND PUBLIC SCHOOL EARLY  
30 EDUCATION PROGRAMS;

31 (2) DOCUMENTATION THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S EARLY CHILDHOOD  
32 ASSESSMENT SYSTEM WILL BE USED TO DETERMINE:

33 (I) MEASURABLE OUTCOMES TO BE ACHIEVED BY THE  
34 COLLABORATION; AND

35 (II) PROCEDURES FOR MEASURING ANNUAL PERFORMANCE;

1 (3) DOCUMENTATION THAT EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION  
2 PROGRAMS:

3 (I) MEET VOLUNTARY STATE ACCREDITATION BASED ON  
4 NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CRITERIA; OR

5 (II) HAVE INITIATED THE PROCESS OF VOLUNTARY STATE  
6 ACCREDITATION BY DECEMBER 1, 2000; AND

7 (4) DOCUMENTATION THAT THE COLLABORATION WILL PROVIDE  
8 COMPREHENSIVE, FULL-DAY EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION, AND FAMILY  
9 SUPPORT SERVICES.

10 (F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

11 (1) ESTABLISH APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR THE GRANT;

12 (2) SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND THE AVAILABILITY OF  
13 FUNDS IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET, AWARD 3-YEAR FUNDING TO LOCAL SCHOOL  
14 SYSTEMS ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS;

15 (3) SUPERVISE AND MONITOR THE GRANT FUNDS; AND

16 (4) VERIFY THAT GRANT RECIPIENTS ARE MEETING ANNUAL  
17 BENCHMARKS.

18 (G) LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS SELECTED TO RECEIVE GRANTS UNDER THIS  
19 SECTION SHALL:

20 (1) PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE, FULL-DAY EARLY CARE AND  
21 EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES IN COLLABORATION WITH THE  
22 PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS;

23 (2) ADMINISTER THE GRANT AWARD ON BEHALF OF THE  
24 PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE COLLABORATION;

25 (3) SUBMIT FISCAL AND PROGRAM REPORTS AS REQUIRED BY THE  
26 DEPARTMENT; AND

27 (4) COORDINATE THE INVOLVEMENT OF ALL PARTICIPATING AGENCIES  
28 AND PROGRAMS IN THE EVALUATION PROCESS CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

29 (H) GRANTS AWARDED TO LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS UNDER THIS SECTION  
30 SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE SUPPORT OF ACTIVITIES THAT CREATE OR ENHANCE THE  
31 COLLABORATIVE DELIVERY OF SERVICES THROUGH PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND  
32 PROGRAMS INCLUDING:

33 (1) ASSISTING EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS TO MEET  
34 VOLUNTARY STATE ACCREDITATION STANDARDS;

1           (2)     PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES LEADING TO INCREASED  
2 COMPETENCY AND APPROPRIATE CREDENTIALING RELATED TO EARLY CARE AND  
3 EDUCATION SERVICES;

4           (3)     MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES;

5           (4)     THE PURCHASE OF AND CONTRACTING FOR EARLY CARE AND  
6 EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES; AND

7           (5)     PERSONNEL TO COORDINATE THE COLLABORATION.

8     (I)     GRANTS AWARDED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE USED:

9           (1)     TO SUPPLANT EXISTING FUNDING FOR ANY PARTICIPATING  
10 PROGRAM OR SERVICE; OR

11          (2)     FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS.

12     (J)     THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT THROUGH A COMPETITIVE BIDDING  
13 PROCESS AND SUPERVISE AN EVALUATOR WHO SHALL DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT AN  
14 EVALUATION PROCESS TO MEASURE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE  
15 COLLABORATIONS.

16     (K)     THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL  
17 ASSEMBLY:

18          (1)     ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR, A REPORT DESCRIBING  
19 THE PROGRESS AND THE EXPENDITURES OF THE FUND; AND

20          (2)     ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2004, A SEPARATE REPORT EVALUATING  
21 THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES BASED ON THE  
22 EVALUATION CRITERIA.

23     (L)     THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO ADMINISTER THE  
24 GRANT PROGRAM AND TO REQUIRE THAT ALL EXISTING EARLY ELEMENTARY  
25 EDUCATION PROGRAMS BE NAMED JUDITH P. HOYER EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

26     SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Governor shall  
27 include \$8 million in the fiscal year 2001 budget of the Department of Education to  
28 fund the grant program established by this Act.

29     SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
30 July 1, 2000.