

SENATE BILL 367

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2001 Regular Session
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By: **Senators Hoffman, Madden, Currie, Hogan, Kasemeyer, Lawlah,
McFadden, Middleton, Munson, Neall, Ruben, Stoltzfus, and Van Hollen**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2001

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation and Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Skills-Based Training for Employment Promotion (STEP) Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of creating a Skills-Based Training for Employment Promotion
4 (STEP) Pilot Program; expressing the intent of the General Assembly; requiring
5 the Governor's Workforce Investment Board, in consultation with the
6 Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, to establish and administer
7 the STEP Program; requiring the STEP Program to provide certain grants on a
8 competitive basis to a certain number of local workforce investment boards;
9 providing for the funding of the STEP Program; specifying the STEP Program
10 application process and application contents; requiring the Board to evaluate
11 certain applications, to consider factors, and to recommend to the Department
12 the distribution of certain grants; requiring the Board to adopt certain
13 performance evaluation standards; authorizing the Board to adopt certain
14 regulations and guidelines; requiring a local workforce investment board that
15 receives a STEP Program grant to develop certain processes and programs,
16 provide for the creation of certain accounts, ensure that eligible individuals
17 make certain applications prior to use of certain funds, coordinate with certain
18 programs that provide wraparound services, assist eligible individuals in
19 making certain applications prior to use of certain funds, collect and report
20 certain data, and comply with certain performance evaluation requirements;
21 requiring a local workforce investment board that receives a STEP Program
22 grant to develop certain employer-based training programs that meet certain
23 requirements; requiring the Department to distribute STEP Program grants
24 consistent with certain recommendations, to establish certain financial and data
25 collection procedures, and to provide certain technical assistance; requiring the
26 Board to submit a certain annual report by a certain date; expressing the intent
27 of the General Assembly if certain funds are used; expressing the intent of the
28 General Assembly that certain funds be directed primarily to certain
29 individuals; defining certain terms; providing for the termination of this Act;
30 and generally relating to the creation of the Skills-Based Training for
31 Employment Promotion (STEP) Pilot Program.

32 BY adding to

33 Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments

Section 18-401 through 18-408, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle
4. Skills-Based Training for Employment Promotion (STEP) Pilot
Program"
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1997 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Fifteen percent of Maryland's children live in poverty and even
more live in near poverty; and

WHEREAS, Nationally almost two-thirds of children in poverty have working
parents; and

WHEREAS, During the past 20 years, low-income families have seen an erosion
in their standard of living, while at the same time the wealthiest families have
experienced a dramatic increase in real income and wealth; and

WHEREAS, While welfare reform efforts have helped many former welfare
recipients move into the labor force, many of these individuals have found work in
entry-level jobs with low wages and without employer provided health care or other
benefits; and

WHEREAS, The long-term success of welfare reform and workforce
development efforts depends on assisting low-income working parents sustain living
wage employment and access career ladders for employment promotion; and

WHEREAS, Helping low-income working parents access career ladders for
employment promotion to better jobs with higher wages and employer provided
benefits can result in long-term improvements in the economic well-being of
low-income families thereby reducing the likelihood of future public assistance needs;
and

WHEREAS, The increased job related skills of parents can also serve to
encourage their children to perform better in school, thereby helping to break the
cycle of poverty; and

WHEREAS, Numerous employers in Maryland are currently suffering
shortages of skilled workers which inhibits the economic growth of the State and the
increased skills-based training of individuals will contribute to both economic
development and prosperity in the State; now, therefore,

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

Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments**SUBTITLE 4. SKILLS-BASED TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION
(STEP) PILOT PROGRAM.**

18-401.

IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE SKILLS-BASED
TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION (STEP) PILOT PROGRAM:

(1) ENABLE LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN
TO PURSUE EDUCATION AND TRAINING DIRECTED AT ATTAINMENT OF IDENTIFIED
SKILLS AND CREDENTIALS;

(2) ASSIST LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN IN
MOVING TOWARD LONG-TERM SELF-SUFFICIENCY WITH SKILLS-BASED TRAINING
THAT WILL:

(I) LEAD TO JOBS WITH FAMILY SUSTAINING WAGES INCLUDING
HEALTH CARE AND OTHER BENEFITS;

(II) PROVIDE ACCESS TO PROFESSIONAL CAREER LADDERS FOR
CONTINUED JOB ADVANCEMENT; AND

(III) ELIMINATE FUTURE NEEDS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE;

(3) CREATE SKILLED EMPLOYEES THAT ARE QUALIFIED FOR
EMPLOYMENT IN AN AREA OF STATE OR LOCAL WORKFORCE SHORTAGE; AND

(4) COORDINATE WITH AND NOT DUPLICATE EXISTING STATE
PROGRAMS.

18-402.

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

(B) "BOARD" MEANS THE GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
ESTABLISHED BY THE GOVERNOR UNDER SUBTITLE 5 OF THE LABOR AND
EMPLOYMENT ARTICLE.

(C) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING, AND
REGULATION.

(D) "ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

(1) IS THE CUSTODIAL PARENT, NONCUSTODIAL PARENT, OR LEGAL
GUARDIAN OF ONE OR MORE DEPENDENT CHILDREN AND IS RESPONSIBLE IN
WHOLE OR IN PART FOR THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE DEPENDENT CHILDREN;

(2) IS A RESIDENT OF THE STATE;

1 (3) LIVES IN A HOUSEHOLD WITH AN INCOME THAT IS NOT MORE THAN
2 200% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL; AND

3 (4) WORKS AT LEAST 20 HOURS PER WEEK IN:

4 (I) PUBLIC OR PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT;

5 (II) FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM WORK ACTIVITY; OR

6 (III) STATE-SPONSORED OR RELATED WORK ACTIVITY; AND

7 (5) HAS WORKED IN ONE OF THE ACTIVITIES LISTED IN ITEM (4) OF THIS
8 SUBSECTION FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS; OR

9 (6) HAS WORKED AT LEAST 20 HOURS PER WEEK IN ONE OF THE
10 ACTIVITIES LISTED IN ITEM (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS IN THE
11 PRECEDING 12 MONTHS.

12 (E) (1) "EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING" MEANS SKILLS-BASED TRAINING
13 THAT:

14 (I) IS APPROVED BY A LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD;

15 (II) IS PROVIDED TO AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL IN COORDINATION
16 WITH THE INDIVIDUAL'S EMPLOYER; AND

17 (III) MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 18-406 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

18 (2) "EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING" MAY INCLUDE APPROVED IN-HOUSE
19 EMPLOYER TRAINING AND EMPLOYER TRAINING PROGRAMS DEVELOPED IN
20 COLLABORATION WITH INSTITUTIONS OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION OR OTHER
21 TRAINING PROVIDERS.

22 (F) "INDIVIDUAL STEP ACCOUNT" MEANS AN ACCOUNT HELD ON BEHALF OF
23 AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL BY A LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD THAT MAY
24 BE USED TO PAY FOR SKILLS-BASED TRAINING AND WRAPAROUND SERVICES AND
25 THAT:

26 (1) MAY CONSIST OF MONEYS CONTRIBUTED BY AN ELIGIBLE
27 INDIVIDUAL OR EMPLOYER; AND

28 (2) SHALL CONSIST OF MONEYS FROM THE STEP PROGRAM.

29 (G) "LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD" MEANS A BOARD
30 ESTABLISHED TO ADMINISTER SERVICES IN A WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA
31 ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBTITLE 5 OF THE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ARTICLE.

32 (H) "SKILLS-BASED TRAINING" MEANS TRAINING APPROVED BY A LOCAL
33 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD THAT RESULTS IN THE ISSUANCE OF A
34 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL DEGREE, THE ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF
35 PROFICIENCY IN A SPECIFIC WORK-RELATED SKILL, OR THE ATTAINMENT OF AN

1 IDENTIFIABLE SKILL THAT IS LIKELY TO LEAD TO FUTURE JOB ADVANCEMENT AND
2 IMPROVEMENT IN AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL'S EARNING POTENTIAL.

3 (I) "STEP PROGRAM" MEANS THE SKILLS-BASED TRAINING FOR
4 EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION PILOT PROGRAM CREATED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

5 (J) "WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA" MEANS A GEOGRAPHIC AREA
6 DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNOR AS A SERVICE DELIVERY AREA UNDER SUBTITLE 5
7 OF THE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ARTICLE.

8 (K) (1) "WRAPAROUND SERVICES" MEANS SERVICES THAT ARE NECESSARY
9 TO ENABLE AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL TO PARTICIPATE IN AN APPROVED
10 SKILLS-BASED TRAINING PROGRAM.

11 (2) "WRAPAROUND SERVICES" INCLUDES TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH
12 CARE, CHILD CARE, MEALS, TEMPORARY HOUSING, AND OTHER REASONABLE
13 EXPENSES REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE APPROVED SKILLS-BASED
14 TRAINING PROGRAM.

15 18-403.

16 (A) THE BOARD, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT, SHALL
17 ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER THE STEP PROGRAM.

18 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE STEP PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO LOCAL
19 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS TO FUND SKILLS-BASED TRAINING,
20 EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING, AND WRAPAROUND SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE
21 INDIVIDUALS.

22 (C) THE STEP PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE GRANTS ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS
23 TO AT LEAST THREE LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS CONSISTENT WITH §
24 11-704 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

25 (D) THE STEP PROGRAM SHALL BE FUNDED AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE
26 BUDGET WITH:

27 (1) MONEY INCLUDED BY THE GOVERNOR IN THE BUDGET OF THE
28 DEPARTMENT;

29 (2) MONEY FROM ANY PRIVATE SOURCE; AND

30 (3) ANY AVAILABLE MONEY FROM A FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL
31 PROGRAM, INCLUDING MONEY RECEIVED BY THE STATE FROM THE FEDERAL
32 TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) BLOCK GRANT AND THE
33 FEDERAL JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT.

34 18-404.

35 (A) TO APPLY FOR A GRANT UNDER THE STEP PROGRAM, A LOCAL
36 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE BOARD.

1 (B) THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY A LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT
2 BOARD SHALL:

3 (1) IDENTIFY:

4 (I) THE WORK-RELATED SKILLS AND OCCUPATIONS THAT ARE IN
5 SHORT SUPPLY IN THE GEOGRAPHIC REGION SERVED BY THE LOCAL WORKFORCE
6 INVESTMENT BOARD; AND

7 (II) THE SKILLS-BASED TRAINING AND WRAPAROUND SERVICES
8 THAT THE LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD INTENDS TO FUND THROUGH
9 THE STEP PROGRAM; AND

10 (2) PROVIDE OTHER INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE BOARD.

11 (C) THE BOARD SHALL:

12 (1) EVALUATE APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED BY LOCAL WORKFORCE
13 INVESTMENT BOARDS AND RECOMMEND TO THE DEPARTMENT THE DISTRIBUTION
14 OF GRANTS TO LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS UNDER THE STEP
15 PROGRAM;

16 (2) INCLUDE IN THE EVALUATION OF THE APPLICATIONS,
17 CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:

18 (I) THE EXISTENCE OF A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUALS IN
19 THE GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF THE LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD THAT ARE
20 RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OR RECEIVED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE WITHIN THE
21 PRIOR 12 MONTHS;

22 (II) THE LEVEL OF EXISTING LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT
23 BOARD TRAINING PARTNERSHIPS WITH EMPLOYERS; AND

24 (III) THE ABILITY OF THE LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
25 TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 18-405 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

26 (3) ADOPT OBJECTIVE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION STANDARDS THAT
27 MEASURE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STEP PROGRAM AND INCLUDE:

28 (I) AN EVALUATION OF THE DIFFERENCE IN THE TYPE OF JOB AND
29 INCREASES IN WAGES AND BENEFITS OF AN INDIVIDUAL WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF
30 COMPLETION OF SKILLS-BASED TRAINING; AND

31 (II) THE MONITORING OF THE JOB ADVANCEMENT, WAGES, AND
32 BENEFIT LEVELS OF AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS COMPLETED SKILLS-BASED
33 TRAINING FOR A PERIOD OF 2 YEARS AFTER THE TRAINING IS COMPLETED.

34 (D) THE BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES TO IMPLEMENT
35 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

1 18-405.

2 (A) AFTER RECEIVING THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE BOARD,
3 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE AND ADMINISTER THE STEP PROGRAM GRANT
4 FUNDS TO THE LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS IN A MANNER
5 CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

6 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

7 (1) ESTABLISH FINANCIAL PROCEDURES AND REPORTING MECHANISMS
8 TO ENSURE THAT STEP PROGRAM FUNDS ARE BEING APPROPRIATELY USED FOR THE
9 PURPOSES OF THE STEP PROGRAM;

10 (2) ESTABLISH DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES THAT PROVIDE FOR
11 THE COLLECTION, TRACKING, AND REPORTING TO THE BOARD OF STEP PROGRAM
12 DATA NEEDED BY THE BOARD TO COMPLETE THE REPORTING AND EVALUATION
13 REQUIREMENTS OF THE STEP PROGRAM; AND

14 (3) ASSIST IN PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE LOCAL
15 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS.

16 18-406.

17 (A) A LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD THAT RECEIVES A GRANT
18 UNDER THE STEP PROGRAM SHALL:

19 (1) DEVELOP AN ASSESSMENT PROCESS TO IDENTIFY ELIGIBLE
20 INDIVIDUALS WITH EXISTING JOB SKILLS AT A LEVEL SUFFICIENT TO BENEFIT
21 FROM SKILLS-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMS;

22 (2) ENSURE THAT AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL APPLIES FOR ALL
23 AVAILABLE EDUCATION AND TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, OR PROGRAMS
24 PRIOR TO USE OF STEP PROGRAM FUNDS FOR THESE PURPOSES;

25 (3) COORDINATE WITH ALL APPLICABLE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
26 PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE WRAPAROUND SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS AND
27 ASSIST ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS IN APPLYING FOR THESE PROGRAMS PRIOR TO USE
28 OF FUNDS FROM THE STEP PROGRAM FOR THESE PURPOSES;

29 (4) PROVIDE FOR THE CREATION OF INDIVIDUAL STEP ACCOUNTS HELD
30 BY THE LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD ON BEHALF OF AN ELIGIBLE
31 INDIVIDUAL THAT MAY BE USED BY ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS TO PAY FOR
32 SKILLS-BASED TRAINING AND WRAPAROUND SERVICES;

33 (5) DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT AN OUTREACH PROGRAM TO ENSURE
34 THAT ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS AND EMPLOYERS OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS ARE
35 AWARE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED UNDER THE STEP PROGRAM THAT MAY
36 INCLUDE:

37 (I) A TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE HOTLINE;

1 (II) DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATERIALS;

2 (III) MAILINGS AND TELEPHONE CALLS TO FOOD STAMP
3 RECIPIENTS, PARENTS OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THE STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH
4 PROGRAM, INDIVIDUALS THAT RECEIVE FEDERAL AND STATE EARNED INCOME TAX
5 CREDITS, AND FORMER RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE;

6 (IV) OUTREACH AND EDUCATION OF PUBLIC ENTITIES AND
7 COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS;

8 (V) COORDINATION OF OUTREACH AND MARKETING EFFORTS
9 AMONG LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS THAT RECEIVE STEP PROGRAM
10 GRANTS; AND

11 (VI) AN INTERNET WEBSITE WITH INTERNET LINKS BETWEEN THE
12 WEBSITES OF THE DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES, THE
13 DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE MARYLAND
14 HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE EDUCATIONAL
15 INSTITUTIONS, TRAINING PROGRAMS, AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS;

16 (6) ASSIST ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE COMPLETED
17 SKILLS-BASED TRAINING IN OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT WITH INCREASED WAGES
18 AND BENEFITS;

19 (7) COLLECT DATA AND REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT EACH YEAR ON:

20 (I) THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO SUCCESSFULLY
21 COMPLETE SKILLS-BASED TRAINING;

22 (II) THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WHO OBTAIN
23 ADVANCED EMPLOYMENT ON COMPLETION OF SKILLS-BASED TRAINING AND ANY
24 CHANGE IN WAGES AND BENEFITS RECEIVED; AND

25 (III) THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS AND ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS
26 PARTICIPATING IN EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMS; AND

27 (8) COMPLY WITH THE STEP PROGRAM PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
28 REQUIREMENTS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD UNDER § 18-404 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

29 (B) (1) IN ADDITION TO SKILLS-BASED TRAINING AND WRAPAROUND
30 SERVICES PROVIDED DIRECTLY TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS UNDER SUBSECTION (A)
31 OF THIS SECTION, A LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD THAT RECEIVES A
32 STEP PROGRAM GRANT SHALL WORK IN COORDINATION WITH LOCAL EMPLOYERS TO
33 DEVELOP APPROVED EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMS CONSISTENT WITH
34 PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION.

35 (2) APPROVED EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMS:

36 (I) SHALL BE FUNDED WITH A MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION BY THE
37 EMPLOYER OF AT LEAST 50% IN MATCHING FUNDS;

1 (II) MAY BE PERMITTED TO RANGE FROM SHORT-TERM TRAINING
2 IN SPECIFIC SKILLS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION CLASSES OVER A LONGER
3 PERIOD OF TIME;

4 (III) MAY NOT BE APPLIED TO TRAINING THAT WILL RESULT IN THE
5 ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL REMAINING IN OR MOVING TO A JOB WITH AN EMPLOYER
6 THAT IS AT A MINIMUM WAGE SALARY LEVEL AND THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE
7 HEALTH CARE OR OTHER BENEFITS;

8 (IV) MAY BE PROVIDED IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER EMPLOYERS
9 TO ADDRESS COMMON WORKFORCE NEEDS; AND

10 (V) SHALL INCLUDE AGREED UPON PROCESSES TO FOLLOW UP
11 WITH EMPLOYERS AND EVALUATE THE SUCCESS OF THE TRAINING AND WHETHER
12 IT MEETS THE GOALS OF THE STEP PROGRAM.

13 18-407.

14 (A) BY JANUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE BOARD SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO
15 THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF
16 THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBTITLE.

17 (B) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER INFORMATION DETERMINED BY THE BOARD,
18 USING THE DATA COLLECTED AND PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT, THE REPORT
19 SHALL:

20 (1) SPECIFY THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS THAT:

21 (I) HAVE APPLIED FOR TRAINING AND SERVICES TO BE FUNDED
22 BY THE STEP PROGRAM IN THE PRIOR CALENDAR YEAR;

23 (II) ARE PURSUING SKILLS-BASED TRAINING AND THE EXTENT TO
24 WHICH THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE SUCCEEDING IN THE TRAINING;

25 (III) HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED SKILLS-BASED TRAINING;

26 (IV) ARE RECEIVING WRAPAROUND SERVICES FUNDED BY THE
27 STEP PROGRAM AND THE TYPE OF SERVICES FUNDED;

28 (V) HAVE OBTAINED ADVANCED EMPLOYMENT ON COMPLETION
29 OF SKILLS-BASED TRAINING AND ANY CHANGE IN WAGES OR BENEFITS RECEIVED;
30 AND

31 (VI) ARE PARTICIPATING IN EMPLOYER-BASED TRAINING
32 PROGRAMS AND THE NUMBER AND TYPES OF EMPLOYERS PARTICIPATING IN THESE
33 PROGRAMS; AND

34 (2) PROVIDE THE RESULTS OF THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF THE
35 STEP PROGRAM BASED ON THE STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD UNDER §
36 18-404 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

1 18-408.

2 THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE CITED AS THE "STEP PROGRAM".

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the
4 General Assembly that if a portion of the STEP Program is funded with moneys from
5 the federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grant, a local
6 workforce investment board that receives a STEP Program grant shall make best
7 efforts to direct a proportionate amount of STEP Program funds to services for
8 individuals that are current or recent recipients of TANF Program or Family
9 Investment Program services.

10 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the
11 General Assembly that a local workforce investment board that receives a STEP
12 Program grant shall make best efforts to ensure that STEP Program funds are
13 directed primarily towards services for low income working parents.

14 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 July 1, 2001. It shall remain effective for a period of 4 years and, at the end of June
16 30, 2005, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
17 abrogated and of no further force and effect.