

SENATE BILL 677

F1, O4

5lr0762
CF HB 1069

By: **Senator Ferguson**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 20, 2015

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Professional Development for Teachers and Providers of Early**
3 **Childhood Education – Master Plan**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education, in collaboration with the
5 Maryland Higher Education Commission and certain representatives from certain
6 institutions of higher education, to develop a certain master plan that focuses on
7 certain issues relating to qualified providers of early childhood education services;
8 providing for the contents of a certain master plan; requiring the Department and
9 the Commission to make certain recommendations; requiring the Department and
10 the Commission to submit a certain plan and certain recommendation on or before a
11 certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
12 professional development in the early childhood education workforce.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That:

15 (a) The State Department of Education, in collaboration with the Maryland
16 Higher Education Commission and representatives from institutions of higher education
17 in the State that offer early childhood education programs, shall develop a master plan to
18 address the critical shortage of qualified professional teachers and child care providers in
19 the early childhood education workforce.

20 (b) The master plan required under subsection (a) of this section shall focus on:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (1) Creating Early Childhood Education bachelor's degree programs at
2 institutions of higher education in the State that focus on educating children both with and
3 without disabilities from birth to age 8;

4 (2) Establishing a continuum of high-quality professional development
5 options in early childhood education for current and prospective providers of early
6 childhood education, including family child care providers, child care center-based
7 providers, and Early Head Start and Head Start staff;

8 (3) Implementing a professional development system that utilizes a
9 nationally recognized early childhood education certificate program that accepts prior
10 learning experience; and

11 (4) Ensuring that regular, ongoing joint training of elementary school staff
12 and early childhood education program staff who receive public prekindergarten funding is
13 available.

14 (c) The Department and the Commission shall jointly make recommendations on
15 methods of:

16 (1) Attracting individuals to the field of early childhood education; and

17 (2) Retaining current teachers and providers in the field of early childhood
18 education.

19 (d) On or before December 31, 2015, the Department and the Commission shall
20 jointly submit to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government
21 Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environment Affairs Committee and the House
22 Committee on Ways and Means:

23 (1) The master plan required under subsection (a) of this section; and

24 (2) The recommendations required under subsection (c) of this section.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
26 1, 2015. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2016,
27 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and
28 of no further force and effect.