

ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT, OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES BASED ON THE EVALUATION CRITERIA:

(I) THE JUDY CENTERS; AND

(II) EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION SERVICES AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES THAT ARE PURCHASED WITH FUNDS FROM EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT GRANTS.

(L) THE DEPARTMENT ~~SHALL~~ MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM AND TO REQUIRE THAT ALL EXISTING EARLY ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS BE NAMED JUDITH P. HOYER EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAMS AS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Governor shall include ~~\$8 million in the fiscal year 2001 budget of the Department of Education to fund the grant program established by this Act~~ the following appropriations in the fiscal year 2001 budget of the Maryland State Department of Education to fund the Judith P. Hoyer Early Child Care and Education Enhancement Program established under this Act: (1) \$4,000,000 for Judy Center Grants; (2) \$1,000,000 for Early Child Care and Education Enhancement Grants to be awarded to providers of early child care and education services who have voluntarily obtained accreditation or have voluntarily initiated and are actively pursuing accreditation; (3) \$1,300,000 for statewide implementation of the Department's early childhood assessment system; and (4) \$700,000 to cover the costs incurred by the Department in implementing the Program.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding § 7-317(d) and (g) of the State Finance and Procurement Article, in fiscal year 2001, the Cigarette Restitution Fund established under § 7-317 of the State Finance and Procurement Article may be used to fund implementation of the Judith P. Hoyer Early Child Care and Education Enhancement Program established under this Act. In fiscal year 2001, the Governor may transfer funds by budget amendment from the Cigarette Restitution Fund to the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of funding the Judith P. Hoyer Early Child Care and Education Enhancement Program in the amounts specified under Section 2 of this Act.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

May 18, 2000

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today