

**NLWJC - Kagan**

**DPC - Box 067 - Folder-003**

**Welfare-Maryland Event**



WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

8:30 a.m.

DATE: 2/9/97

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/10/97

SUBJECT: Remarks to Maryland State Legislature

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McCURRY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BOWLES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McGINTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McLARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NASH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PODESTA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	QUINN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MATHEWS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RASCO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RAINES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	REED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SOSNIK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LEWIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EMANUEL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YELLEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GIBBONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STREETT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPERLING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HERMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HAWLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HIGGINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WILLIAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HILLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RADD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KLAIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Waldman</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BERGER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Elena Kagan</u> →	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LINDSEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Comments to Eli Attie.

RESPONSE:

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON**  
**MARYLAND STATEHOUSE, ANNAPOLIS, MD**  
**Monday, February 10, 1997**

**Acknowledgments:** Gov. Parris Glendening; Lieutenant Gov. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend; Speaker Cas Taylor; President of the Senate Mike Miller; Sen. Barbara Mikulski; Sen. Paul Sarbanes; Rep. Wayne Gilchrest (represents Annapolis); Rep. Ben Cardin (served as Speaker of this body); Rep. Al Wynn and Rep. Elijah Cummings (both served in this body); President of Maryland State Board of Education Christopher Cross; State Superintendent of Education Nancy Grasmick.

I'm pleased to be here today, in the building that served as our nation's first peacetime capitol, to talk about one of the greatest challenges in our peacetime history: preparing America for the 21st Century, and ensuring that all Americans have the tools to make the most of their lives.

It is appropriate that we gather here today, at an important turning point in our history. It was in this statehouse that George Washington resigned his commission as General of the Continental Army -- in fact, it was right down the hall in the Lieutenant Governor's office that Thomas Jefferson wrote General Washington's words of resignation. It was here that the Treaty of Paris was prepared and ratified -- ending the Revolutionary War, and beginning the greatest experiment in democracy and opportunity the world has ever known.

As a country, once again, we face a moment of peace, prosperity, and extraordinary opportunity -- having won the Cold War, reversed the tide of crime and welfare and budget deficits, and built the strongest national economy in a generation. Thanks to Governor Glendening's leadership, there is much to celebrate in Maryland as well: unemployment is at a six-year low. Family incomes here have risen to fourth in the nation. Maryland's welfare rolls have dropped almost a quarter since 1995. Student achievement has risen, with more schools meeting the high standards Maryland had the courage to set.

But today's peace and prosperity is not something we can rest on -- it is something we must build on. That is why I stood before the Congress last week, and issued a call to action. For the first time in decades, we are strong enough to truly prepare ourselves for the 21st Century -- to help all our people seize the promise of the global economy, the Information Age, and life-enhancing new technology. But if we do not all take responsibility, and rise to this challenge -- if we do not summon the energies of all our people, from our statehouses to our schoolhouses, from our homes to our houses of worship -- we could lose this opportunity to shape our future.

That is why I am here today -- with a message I will carry not just to this state legislature, but to other state legislatures, communities, and forums in the months to come. To prepare America for the 21st Century, I am asking for a new kind of partnership -- with the people in this chamber, and people all across America. The era of big government is over. But the era of big national challenges is not. And while national leadership can point the way -- while national leadership can remove some of the barriers that had prevented our states and our people from solving their own problems -- the real responsibility is one we all share. As President, I am prepared to point the way -- to shine a light on what is working -- and to leverage the efforts of

all Americans to meet our challenges. But you must be prepared to work with me, to seize this moment of opportunity while America stands strong enough to do so.

Today, I want to talk about what we must do in two critical areas: giving our children the best education, and breaking the cycle of dependency by moving millions from welfare to work. Taken together, these issues are at the core of what we must do to prepare America for the new Century. We must help everyone have the tools to succeed in this knowledge economy -- and that means high-quality education and training. And we must make sure everyone willing to use those tools -- everyone willing to work hard and take responsibility -- has a chance to do so. Education reform and welfare reform are about bringing all Americans to the starting line of this new economy, and then making sure they are ready to run the race.

Our number-one priority -- the high threshold of the future we must cross -- must be to ensure that all Americans have the best education in the world: that every 8-year-old can read; every 12-year-old can log on to the Internet; every 18-year-old can go to college; and every adult can keep learning for a lifetime.

Education has always been the heart of opportunity in this country. As we prepare for unimagined new work and careers, the best investment we can make is not in land or factories or equipment, but in our minds -- the one asset we can carry with us no matter what the future holds, so we can make and remake our lives at every turn.

We must never forget that one of the greatest sources of our strength throughout the Cold War was a bipartisan foreign policy. Because our future was at stake, politics stopped at the water's edge. Now we need a non-partisan commitment to education -- because education is the critical national security issue for our future, and politics must stop at the schoolhouse door. That is why America's states and businesses, parents and teachers must work with us, above and beyond the old divisions, to renew our schools -- and I am pleased that a number of parents, teachers, and business people could join us today.

In my State of the Union address, I laid out a ten-point plan, a Call to Action for American Education [hold up booklet], that describes the steps we must take -- and the State of Maryland is already doing many of the right things. We must help every child to read by the third grade -- and I am pleased that the University of Maryland at College Park has already pledged more than 2,300 students to work as reading tutors over the next five years. We must expand public school choice -- as Baltimore City is doing through its new charter schools. We must rebuild crumbling schools -- a priority for Governor Glendening as well.

We must open the doors of college wider than ever before -- and I am pleased that the Governor is proposing state HOPE scholarships to open the doors to college. They will complement my national HOPE Scholarships to make the first two years of college as universal as high school -- a \$1,500 tax credit for the first two years of college and a \$10,000 tax deduction for all college costs, plus expanded IRA's to save for college and the largest increase in Pell Grants in 20 years. We must give more of our workers the ability to learn and to earn for a lifetime through my G.I. Bill for Workers -- transforming the tangle of federal training programs

into a simple skill grant that goes directly into workers' hands.

We must teach our children to be good citizens as well as good students -- and thanks to Lieutenant Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, you have begun a comprehensive, statewide program of character education. You have developed a statewide code of discipline, and are removing and helping disruptive students, so all our children have a chance to learn. You have heeded my call to promote community curfews, as part of your plan to prevent youth violence. Again under the leadership of the Lieutenant Governor, Maryland is the only state in America that requires community service to graduate from high school, with the first class of those seniors graduating this year.

My education plan is a comprehensive one. But any education plan can only be as strong as the things our children learn each day. That is why our success depends upon holding our students to the highest standards -- making sure they learn the basics that will be the foundation of success in the 21st Century. When 40% of our fourth graders do not read as well as they should -- when students in Germany or Singapore learn 15 to 20 math subjects in depth each year, while our students often race through 30 to 35 without really learning them at all -- we are not doing what we should to prepare our children for a knowledge economy.

Let's understand why these basics are so important. The point is not merely to teach our children facts and figures, but to teach them the ability to think and reason and analyze -- to give them the tools and skills that will serve them in jobs and careers we cannot even contemplate today.

Maryland is making a good start. You have developed clear standards for what our children should learn by the 3rd, 5th, and 8th grades, in particular in reading and math, and clear tests to measure them, school district by school district, and school by school. You are holding schools accountable for making the grade, rewarding excellence, and intervening in schools that are not performing. Because you have set high standards, Maryland has seen five years of steady, sustained progress in meeting those standards.

But Maryland, and all states, must do more. To compete and win in the 21st Century, we must have a high standard of excellence that all states can agree upon. That is why, in my State of the Union address, I called for national standards of excellence in the basics -- not federal government standards, but national standards, representing what all our students must know to succeed in the 21st Century. I called on every state to test every 4th grader in reading and every 8th grader in math by 1999, to make sure these basic standards are met. ]

We already have widely-accepted, rigorous national standards in both reading and math -- and widely-used tests based on those standards. In reading, Maryland and more than 40 other states have participated in a test called the National Assessment of Educational Progress -- which measures the state's overall performance against a high national standard of excellence. In math, tens of thousands of students across the country have already taken the Third International Math and Science Study -- a test that reflects the world-class standards our children must meet for the new era. Last month, I visited Northern Illinois, where 8th grade students from 20 school

districts took that test, and tied for first in the world in science and came in second in math. We know it is the right standard -- and we know our children can meet it if they are challenged to do so.

Unfortunately, the current tests don't provide individual scores; they only measure how an entire state is doing. What we need are tests that will measure the performance of each and every student, and each and every school. That way, parents and teachers will know how every child is doing compared to students in other schools, other states, and other countries.

That is why I am presenting a plan to help states meet and measure the highest standards. Over the next two years, our Department of Education will support the development of new tests for 4th grade reading and 8th grade math to show how every student measures up to the existing, widely-accepted standards. The tests will be developed by independent test experts in consultation with leading math and reading teachers. The federal government will not require them, but these tests will be available to every state that chooses to administer them. I believe that every state must participate, and that every parent has a right to honest, accurate information about their child's performance.

**To anyone who says that in a country as big as America, we can't possibly have common national tests in the basics, I say: from Maryland to Michigan to Montana, reading is reading and math is math. We have plenty of standardized tests in America today; what we need are tests that reflect standards -- and they are two very different things. If we are serious about holding our children to the highest standards, every state in America must take up our challenge, and test our children in the same rigorous way.**

If anyone understands the importance of high standards, it is the businesses that will depend upon our children in the 21st Century. They know that only by ensuring that we have the best-educated, the best-trained, the best-skilled workforce in the world can we compete and win. Today, I am pleased to announce that National Business Roundtable is endorsing our call for national tests in 4th grade reading and 8th grade math. Together with America's parents, teachers, and lawmakers, they will join our crusade to make American education the best in the world. I want to offer a special word of thanks to Norman Augustine, CEO of Lockheed Martin and head of the Business Roundtable's Education Task Force, who has done so much to help reform Maryland's schools.

To reach high standards, we must also have the best teachers. For years, educators have worked to establish nationally accepted credentials for excellence in teaching. Just 500 of these teachers have been certified since 1995. My new budget will enable 100,000 to seek national certification as master teachers. We should reward and recognize our best teachers -- quickly and fairly remove those few who don't measure up -- and challenge more of our finest young people to consider teaching as a career.

Raising standards will not be easy. Some of our children will not be able to meet them at first. But good tests will show us who needs help, what changes in teaching we must make, and which schools need to improve. We're not doing right by our students when we set low

expectations. For too long, too many students have moved through our schools who could not read and write at the most basic levels. That is why, in addition to the 4th and 8th grade national tests we are urging, states should develop their own comprehensive benchmarks of what student should know to move up in school, and to graduate from high school. It's time to put an end to social promotions, and make sure a high school diploma really means something -- not to put our children down, but to lift them up.

Throughout my career in public life -- as a Governor, and as President -- I have worked harder on education than on any other issue. That is because renewing education, raising our standards, and lifting up our schools is the embodiment of everything we must do to prepare for the 21st Century -- to promote opportunity, demand responsibility, and build community. Nothing will do more to open the doors of opportunity to every American. Nothing will do more to awaken a sense of responsibility from every American, as they work to make the most of their education. And nothing will do more to build a strong, united community of all Americans -- for if every American has the tools to succeed, we can move forward together, as one America.

When it comes to providing the tools to succeed, our other great challenge is helping to move the permanent underclass into our growing middle class. Working together, we ended the old welfare system. Over the past four years, we worked with 43 states to launch welfare reform experiments, moving a record 2.25 million people off our nation's welfare rolls. Here in Maryland, you used your waiver to move 51,000 people off the welfare rolls in the past two years alone -- placing a special focus on teen parents by linking benefits to school attendance, breaking the cycle of dependency and making responsibility a way of life, not an option. You have answered my call to revoke driver's licenses from those who don't pay child support, to demand responsibility from all parents. Now we have enacted landmark national welfare reform, to make responsibility a way of life all across America.

That legislation brought an end to the old welfare system -- but it was really a new beginning. Now that we have demanded that those on welfare take responsibility, we must all take responsibility to see that the jobs are there, so people on welfare can become permanent members of the workforce. Our goal must be to move two million more Americans off welfare by the year 2000.

I have challenged the nation's businesses to join in this effort, and I have offered a plan to help them: Tax credits and other incentives for businesses to hire people off welfare; incentives for job placement firms and states to create more jobs for welfare recipients; training, transportation, and child care to help people go to work. I urge Maryland's businesses, non-profits, and religious organizations -- large and small -- to heed this important call. Each and every one of us must fulfill our responsibility -- indeed, our moral obligation -- to make sure that those who now must work, can work. I am especially pleased that Maryland's religious community is playing a strong role in providing child care, transportation, and job placement, and working closely with the State to make sure that welfare reform succeeds here.

The most direct and effective steps must be taken by the states. The legislation we passed gives states the authority, for the very first time, to take the money that had been used on welfare

checks, and subsidize private sector paychecks. Missouri began doing this under one of our waivers -- and it is working. Now I challenge every state to follow their example. Use the new flexibility you have been given. Turn those welfare checks into paychecks. There is no better way to find jobs for welfare recipients, or to keep them employed.

Second, I urge you to use the money saved from welfare reform to make sure that even more people can move from welfare to work. I know that Maryland has taken its considerable savings from its own welfare reform efforts, and put them into a special "rainy day" fund to create jobs and move people from welfare to work. If welfare reform is to succeed, all states should use those savings on efforts such as child care, wage subsidies, employment incentives, and other ways to help create private sector jobs for welfare recipients.

I also applaud Maryland for using its own money to continue providing benefits for legal immigrants -- even after the federal bans have taken effect. That's the right thing to do, but you shouldn't have to bear that burden alone. That is why every state and every Governor, Republican or Democrat, should join with me to get Congress to restore basic health and disability benefits when misfortune strikes immigrants who came to this country legally, who work hard, pay taxes and obey the law. To do otherwise is simply unworthy of a great nation of immigrants.

We passed historic welfare reform -- giving states the authority and flexibility they had asked for for years. We were right to do it. Now states must live up to their responsibility, and help us finish the job.

On education reform, on welfare reform, on all our major challenges -- let us build new partnerships across old lines of responsibility. Preparing for the 21st Century is not a job for any one level of government alone. Many of our greatest challenges do not fall under the authority of Washington, nor should they. The power to solve our problems rests with all levels of government, and all sectors of society -- and that is where we must forge our solutions as well.

Together, we must seize this moment of opportunity, and prepare our people for the changes and challenges of a new century. Together, we must renew our basic bargain of opportunity, responsibility, and community, and give everyone the tools to make the most of their own lives. If we rise to that challenge, we will enter the 21st Century full of new promise and possibility, for all who share a stake in the American dream.

Thank you, God bless you, and God bless America.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
February 7, 1997

COPY BPC  
STAFF

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT**

**FROM:** KITTY HIGGINS *SH*

**SUBJECT:** HOT ISSUES -- MARYLAND

**Baltimore School Funding:** A controversial plan supported by Governor Glendening would settle three lawsuits by giving the state a bigger role in running Baltimore's schools in return for \$254 million in extra aid over five years. The plan is contingent on approval by the state legislature, which held its first hearings on the issue January 30. The plan has raised some class, racial and regional tensions. Legislators and local officials in Maryland's DC suburbs have voiced opposition to the plan, stating that they, too, need more state support for public schools. The cost of the plan is also a concern, especially given the projected cost of the Governor's other initiatives in education and other areas. (EDUC)

**Baltimore School Privatization:** On January 23, Baltimore's school board approved a plan to allow nonprofit groups with close ties to parents to operate nine public schools. The plan has been compared to a charter schools plan, but Maryland has no charter schools legislation. (EDUC)

**Group Urges Public Funding for Private Schools:** On February 3, more than 1000 parents of private school students rallied in Annapolis to urge Governor Glendening to pay for transportation and textbooks for private schools. (EDUC)

**Graduation Testing Program:** A report delivered to the Maryland State Board of Education suggests that 50 percent of high school students may have to retake one or more of the ten graduation tests to be required starting with the class of 2004 under the state's education reform law. Parents, school officials and the board's consultants have urged the board to start with less stringent standards, according to a February 2 *Washington Post* article. (EDUC)

**Welfare Reform:** Maryland legislators have dropped plans to require chemical drug tests of all welfare applicants, proposing instead to have applicants interviewed about possible drug use and to withhold benefits if substance abusers decline treatment. Members of the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Welfare Reform said that they dropped the urinalysis proposal because it would be costly and might prompt lawsuits to challenge test results. The panel's new proposal would still make Maryland the first state to require a substance abuse examination of any kind as a condition of receiving benefits. (HHS)

**Child Support Enforcement:** On February 3, Maryland began suspending driver's licenses of child support obligors who are behind in their payments by more than sixty days. Over 4,000 licenses have been suspended this week. (HHS)

**Poplar Island - Beneficial Use of Dredged Material:** You have been personally involved in making Army Corps of Engineers funding available to Maryland (at the Governor's request) to restore an 1,110-acre island in the Maryland portion of the Chesapeake Bay using clean sediments dredged from approach channels to Baltimore Harbor. Half of this island will be restored with intertidal wetland habitat. The project has broad support from state and federal agencies because it will help keep the Port of Baltimore open and competitive and provide an opportunity for large-scale habitat restoration. The Maryland General Assembly has been cool to the project because of its high long-term cost. (DOC)

January, 7, 1997

**MEMORANDUM TO ELENA KAGAN**

**FROM:**

  
**JOHN MONAHAN, HHS, IGA**  
**MELISSA SKOLFIELD, HHS, PA**

**SUBJECT:**

**Maryland Welfare Information**

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**Per your request, this packet contains information describing welfare reform issues in the state of Maryland. Enclosed you will find:**

**WELFARE**

- **Current Maryland TANF plan and other relevant Maryland state welfare statistics.**
- **Maryland TANF submissions compared with neighboring states.**
- **State Legislative Action: summary of past and present activity (attached articles and summary of the MD Welfare Innovation Act of 1997)**
- **Summary of the Maryland Welfare Program: The Family Investment Program (FIP)**

**CHILDREN'S HEALTH**

- **Summary of "Thriving by Three," Governor Glendening's proposed health care expansion to cover pregnant women and kids from ages 0-3**

**BIOGRAPHIES**

- **Governor Parris Glendening**
- **Senate President Thomas Mike Miller (D)**
- **Senate Minority Leader F. Vernon Boozer (R)**
- **House Speaker Casper Taylor (D)**
- **House Minority Leader Robert Kittleman (R)**

**MARYLAND****FUNDING UNDER NEW WELFARE LAW**

**Family Assistance Grant:** The new welfare law provides \$16.389 billion to all states in FY 1997, an increase of \$1.460 billion over FY 1996 combined grants for AFDC, EA, and JOBS. Maryland will receive \$229,098,032 in FY 1997, an increase of \$16,790,420 over its FY 1996 grants.

**Child Care:** Under the new welfare law, up to \$1.922 billion of mandatory and matching child care funds is available to all states in FY 1997, up \$630 million over the Title IV-A child care grants they received in FY 1996. Maryland could receive up to \$36,968,426 in mandatory and matching child care funds in FY 1997, up \$14,380,241 over FY 1996.

**STATISTICS RELATED TO WELFARE REFORM**

**AFDC:** The total number of AFDC recipients in Maryland has decreased 16 percent, from 221,338 in January 1993, to an estimated 185,100 in October 1996.

**Teen Pregnancy:** According to the CDC, the birth rate for teens aged 15-19 dropped an estimated 3 percent between 1994 and 1995 and 8 percent from 1991 to 1995. Pregnancy rates for teens aged 15-19 declined 3 percent from 1991 to 1992. In Maryland, teen pregnancy rates dropped by 3.5 percent.

**Child Support Enforcement:** In FY 96 Maryland distributed an estimated \$287,923,031 in child support collections, up from \$194,008,629 in FY 1992 (close to 46.8 percent increase). In addition, the number of cases in which families received child support services rose approximately 32.0 percent, from 296,942 in FY 1992 to 362,345 in FY 1995.

**TANF PLAN SUBMISSION STATUS**

TANF plan submitted 9/27/96 and certified complete on 1/10/97.

The "Family Investment Program" incorporates and builds on the welfare reform waivers that the state received under the Clinton administration. Maryland will work be extending the flexibility the new welfare law gives states to design its welfare-to-work programs to the counties. The counties will then be able to develop programs most suited to their local needs. Statewide, assistance is limited to five years. The counties may offer diversion payments, Welfare Avoidance Grants, to families which will enable families to stay off of welfare. All parents will be required to participate in work or work activities, except for parents with children under 1 years old and with disabled children under 16. The counties may offer child care and medical assistance instead of a cash grant to families. Parents who do not comply with the work requirements will have the entire family's benefit terminated. Maryland's waivers were approved on

August 14, 1995 and amended on August 16, 1996.

Maryland's Family Investment Program while setting strong work requirements extends the state's new flexibility in program design to the counties which administer welfare directly. This flexibility will give counties the opportunity to design programs that will meet particular economic conditions. For instance, urban areas might emphasize subsidized employment while rural areas will focus on transportation to job needs. The state would hold counties accountable for meeting results in moving people to work. California is also proposing a similar plan.

**WELFARE REFORM DEMONSTRATIONS APPROVED BY THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION**

The Clinton Administration has approved two welfare waivers for Maryland.

1. Maryland's "Family Investment Program" (FIP), currently operating as a pilot demonstration in Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties and parts of Baltimore, requires able-bodied AFDC applicants to participate in job search as a condition of eligibility. After six months of non-compliance, the case will be closed, resulting in denial of AFDC benefits for the entire family. Closed cases can be reopened only if applicant complies with JOBS for 30 days. Closed cases may receive up to three months of non-cash transitional assistance through a third party, such as a non-profit organization.

Also under the pilot, the income of dependent children will not be counted in determining AFDC eligibility, and the resource and vehicle value limits will be raised to \$5,000. The principal wage earner in two-parent families can work more than 100 hours a month, and individuals sanctioned by Child Support Enforcement will be required to participate in JOBS. Families facing a short-term financial crisis can receive a one-time payment equal to three months of benefits rather than applying for AFDC.

Statewide, FIP eliminates automatic benefit increases for additional children conceived while receiving AFDC. The family can retain child support payments for the additional child, however, and the state will issue voucher payments for the purchase of goods for the child, up to the amount of increase the family would otherwise receive. Unmarried minor parents must reside with a parent or guardian and must attend family health and parenting classes.

Maryland's application was received March 1, 1994, amended in May, 1995, and approved August 14, 1995. The demonstration is scheduled to be implemented in June of this year.

2. Maryland amended FIP to expand most provisions statewide and

add a number of new provisions to encourage work and aid the transition to self-sufficiency.

Original provisions, which now apply statewide, include requiring able-bodied applicants for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) to participate in job search as a condition of eligibility, with some exceptions. Full-family sanctions may be imposed for failing to cooperate with JOBS requirements, and JOBS services will be available to non-custodial parents unable to pay child support.

Resource limits are increased, and earned income of dependent children is disregarded. Benefits will be provided for children age 18 and 19 who are full-time secondary school students, and a parent will be able to work more than 100 hours a month and retain eligibility. Families facing a short-term financial crisis will be able to receive a one-time payment to meet immediate needs rather than applying for AFDC.

Under new statewide provisions, case managers can certify AFDC benefits for up to one year, based on individual circumstances, and must re-establish eligibility before the certification period ends. Twenty percent of earned income and 50 percent of self-employment income will not be counted in figuring eligibility. Mothers will not be exempt from JOBS participation because of pregnancy, unless a doctor provides a medical exemption.

The state will retain all child support payments. Failure to cooperate with child support enforcement requirements can result in the entire family being ineligible for cash assistance and the adult being ineligible for Medicaid. Conviction of fraud by any member of the family will also result in the entire family being ineligible for cash assistance.

Maryland's amendments were received April 26, 1996, and approved August 16, 1996.

#### PENDING AND ANTICIPATED WAIVER REQUESTS

None.

#### ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

##### CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

~~Maryland began suspending driver's licenses of child support obligors who are behind in their payments by more than sixty days on Monday, February 3, 1997. According to The Washington Post, over 4,000 licenses were suspended.~~

##### WELFARE REFORM

An article in "The Washington Post" indicated that Maryland

legislators dropped plans to require chemical drug tests of all welfare applicants, proposing instead to have applicants interviewed about possible drug use and to withhold benefits if substance abusers decline treatment. Members of the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Welfare Reform said that they dropped the urinalysis proposal because it would be costly and might prompt lawsuits to challenge test results. The panel's new proposal would still make Maryland the first State to require a substance abuse examination of any kind as a condition of receiving benefits, according to the Legal Action Center, a New York-based group that monitors welfare issues.

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

HB14/SB157 are two of the domestic violence related bills that have been introduced this session in the Maryland State Legislature which requires "law enforcement officers.... to accompany the complainant to the family home...so the complainant may remove any medicine or medical devices of the complainant or any child in the care of ....", to expanding the time limit of protective orders from 200 days to up to 18 months and including domestic abuse as grounds for divorce.

Lieutenant Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend and State Attorney General Joseph Curran have participated in hearing throughout the State on Domestic Violence, serve on the Maryland Domestic Violence Coalition and testified in support of some of the domestic violence bills.

**TANF Plan Characteristics as of: February 7, 1997**

	DC	DE	MD	PA	VA	WV
Date Submitted	12/3/96	1/22/97	9/27/96	1/22/97	12/6/96	11/26/96
Date Complete			1/10/97			
Implementation Date	3/1/97	3/10/97	12/9/96	3/3/97	2/1/97	1/11/97
Dates of Public Comment	12/3/96 - 1/18/97	1/22/97 - 3/9/97	10/25/96 - 12/8/96	1/17/97 - 3/2/97	12/6/96 - 1/19/97	11/26/96 - 1/10/97
Transfer to CCD Funding	No	No	No	Yes	No	No
Transfer to Title XX	No	No	No	Yes	No	No
TANF Passed Through to Subdivisions		No	Partial <sup>2</sup>	No	No	No
Less Than 60 Month Limit	No	48 Mos. <sup>1</sup>	No	No	24 Months	No
Family Cap	No	Yes	Yes <sup>1</sup>	No	Yes	No
Individual Responsibility Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>1</sup>
Option/Interstate Immigrants	Lesser	Same	Lesser	Lesser	Same	Same
Coverage of Non-Citizens		Yes, if elig. 8/22/96 No, for arrivals after 8/22	Yes- Elig. w/Tanf \$\$ Yes- Incl. State \$\$	Yes	Yes	Yes, if elig. 8/22/96 No, for arrivals after 8/22
Screening for Domestic Violence		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Comm. Service After Two Months	No	No	No		No	No
Privatization	No	No	No	No	No	No
Exemption for Child < 12 Mo.	Yes	Under 13 weeks	Yes	Yes	Under 18 months	Yes - 1st child. Six Mos. each subsequent.
Retained 1115 Waiver		Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Agency Responsible for Administration of TANF Program	Dept. of Human Services	Dept. of Health & Social Services	Dept. of Human Resources	Dept. of Public Welfare	Dept. of Social Services	Dept. of Health & Human Resources
Annual TANF Grant Amount *	\$93 mil.	\$32 mil.	\$229 mil.	\$720 mil.	\$158 mil.	\$110 mil.
Sanction-Failure of Minor Dependent Child To Attend School		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes <sup>1</sup>



	DC	DE	MD	PA	VA	WV
Sanction-Person >20 and <51 yrs. Not Attempting HS or GED	No	No	No	No	No	Yes <sup>1</sup>
Emergency Assistance		Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes
Welfare Avoidance Grant	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes <sup>3</sup>
Individual Development Accounts	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes <sup>4</sup>	No
Failure to Cooperate with CSEA	Terminate	Terminate	Terminate	Pro Rate reduction, but not less than 25%.	Pro Rate <sup>4</sup> Reduction or 25% Terminate aft. 6 mo.	Reduce 1/3 Reduce 2/3 Terminate <sup>5</sup>
Services to Non-Custodial Parents	No <sup>6</sup>	Yes	Yes	No	No	No

<sup>6</sup> Annual TANF grant amounts rounded to nearest million.

<sup>1</sup>Delaware - Up to a 12-mo. extension with prior approval for good cause.

<sup>4</sup>Maryland - Cash assistance not provided for an additional child. However, there is a "child specific benefit" which is paid to a third party for baby needs. This amount is equal to the pro-rata share for an additional person.

<sup>2</sup>Maryland - Emergency Assistance - Not an entitlement or statewide program. Each local department will develop its own EA program.

<sup>1</sup>Va. - This penalty is for failure of the recipient to identify a child's father.

<sup>2</sup>Va. - Provision applicable in only those localities where VIEW waiver has been phased in.

<sup>3</sup>W. Va. - Provisions applicable in only those counties where WV WORKS has been phased in.

**NATIONAL TANF STATUS: PLANS SUBMITTED**  
 42 State/Territory  
 1 Tribal

**PLANS CERTIFIED**  
 35 State/Territory  
 0 Tribal

**Certified: None this week**

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 This information has been prepared by ACF Region III, and is subject to revision based on ongoing communications with our States.

**MARYLAND - WELFARE REFORM LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY****1996 Legislative Activity:**

Prior to passage of the PRWORA, Maryland passed its own welfare reform program (SB779), the Family Investment Program (FIP). Governor Glendening designed FIP to build on the following principles: work, strong families, and forging partnerships among families, businesses, religious and non-profit communities and governments. Some advocacy groups opposed the program because it effectively ended the entitlement guarantee to cash assistance and services. Despite this opposition, the legislation passed comfortably and was signed into law. A summary of FIP is attached.

**Highlights of the program include:**

- o Customers must request child support services at application and assign child support right to Maryland for reimbursement of any cash assistance paid to a family;
- o There will be an assessment of applicants and recipients to determine their reasons for applying or for their continued reliance on assistance, with emphasis on their skills, needs and job readiness;
- o Welfare avoidance grants may be given to avoid continuing cash assistance;
- o Child care and medical assistance may be offered by a local department instead of cash assistance;
- o Family Responsibility Plans will require cooperation with child support enforcement and specify program activities and supportive services;
- o A decision on an application will be made promptly, but no later than 30 calendar days from the date of the signed application;
- o Maryland may administer and provide services through contracts with charitable, religious and private organizations.

**1997 Legislative Activity:**

The Glendening administration and state legislative leaders believe that the 1996 FIP legislation makes all the necessary changes to Maryland state law that are required by the federal welfare statute.

However, there is some new legislative activity related to welfare reform. Based on the recommendations of a Joint Committee on Welfare, the legislature is currently considering the Welfare Innovations Act of 1997. The legislation shares bipartisan support and is currently in similar form in the state House and Senate.

A major feature of the Act would have welfare applicants interviewed about possible drug use and withhold benefits if substance abusers decline treatment. An earlier version of the Act would have required chemical drug tests for all welfare applicants. This harsher proposal was dropped because of its cost and the fear of lawsuits.

If the current version of the Act is passed, Maryland would be the first state to require a substance abuse examination of any kind as a condition of receiving benefits.

The Act would also include continuing temporary cash assistance and other benefits for legal immigrants who enter the country both prior to or after August 22, 1996 if they meet all of the eligibility requirements.

House and Senate hearings on the bill are scheduled in mid-February. Although the Glendening Administration did not initiate the Welfare Innovations Act, the Governor is supporting it.

# Welfare Panel In Md. Alters Drug Strategy

## Lawmakers Now Proposing Interviews, Not Urine Tests

By Joe Jeter

Maryland legislators dropped plans yesterday to require chemical drug tests of all welfare applicants, proposing instead that applicants interview about possible drug use and to withhold benefits if substance abuse declines treatment.

An earlier proposal to require urine tests of all welfare applicants had ignited public protests about costs and fairness.

Health officials say urine tests are expensive for detecting recent drug use. However, many say, less expensive, in-depth interviews conducted by trained professionals might be more useful for detecting drug dependency.

Members of the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Welfare Reform said they dropped the urine test proposal because it would be costly and might prompt lawsuits to challenge test results. The panel's new proposal, to be formally introduced today, still would make Maryland the first state to require a substance abuse assessment of any kind as a condition of receiving benefits, according to the Legal Action Center, a New York-based group that monitors welfare issues.

Under the plan, applicants who admitted to having a drug problem could receive welfare benefits if they took part in state-paid treatment programs. Benefits could be denied if such a program was available but an applicant refused treatment or continued to abuse drugs.

Interviewers might employ both direct and indirect questions about drug use, including queries about family history and legal, financial, workplace or medical problems. Some tests include computer analysis and follow-up interviews, according to David Strickland, a research organization based in Washington. Opponents say the proposed legislation is intended to stabilize poor families headed by drug-dependent mothers and to steer taxpayers' dollars to needy children rather than to their parents' drug habits.

"The concept has always been in seeking to encourage responsible behavior on behalf of welfare recipients," said Del. Samuel J. Rosenberg (D-Baltimore), House chairman of the joint welfare reform committee. "And we'll help to ensure that tax dollars are going where they should go."

Critics say that it is unclear whether poor people are more prone to drug abuse than other people are and that the Maryland proposal would target poor mothers exclusively. Business owners, college students and others receive government aid without being questioned about drug use, the critics say.

Critics also say there is a shortage of beds in treatment programs in Maryland for substance abusers.

# Md. Foes of Welfare Drug Screening Say Revised Plan Is Better but Still Unfair

WELFARE FROM CI

At the same time, welfare advocates were encouraged by yesterday's announcement.

"Changing it from drug testing to drug screening is certainly much better," said Ann Clebot, a spokeswoman for Action for the Homeless, a Maryland advocacy group. "We still don't support sanctions" against welfare recipients who don't comply with drug screening, "but this doesn't criminalize poor people nearly as much."

The proposal to require some form of drug testing for welfare benefits appears to have broad support in the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates.

State Sen. Martin G. Madden (R-Howard) said studies suggest that about 16 percent of Maryland's 60,000 adult welfare recipients would test positive for substance abuse. Treatment for such a group would cost about \$10 million a year, he said. Estimates of illegal drug use in the general population typically are 10 to 15 percent.

However, Madden said, the state would save \$2.4 million a year by using interviews to screen applicants

rather than urine analysis, which entails sending urine samples to laboratories.

Welfare applicants who admitted to substance abuse problems would not be penalized automatically. But detection through the screening process would result in a reduction in benefits of about \$81 a month—out of a total monthly payment of \$373—for a family of three.

Some lawmakers questioned whether state-paid health maintenance organizations, which would interview welfare applicants, would be diligent about steering them into drug treatment programs. HMOs are paid a set rate for providing health care to welfare recipients and would receive no additional money for treating substance abuse, said House Majority Leader John A. Hureon (D-Montgomery).

"The whole idea of trying to increase treatment slots is a laudable goal, but we're a long ways from that," Hureon said. "All this does is perpetuate the stigma that welfare recipients are drug addicts, and I don't think that's true. . . . If we have any sense of community as a state, this kind of legislation is really inappropriate."

From WASHINGTON POST  
January 30, 1997

House Sponsors: Rosenberg, T. Branch. + other members of H+H Service Subcommittee

Welfare Innovation Act of 1997

● **Substance Abuse**

- ▶ As an additional requirement to obtain FIP assistance, applicants and recipients for FIP will be required to sign and return to their managed care organization a medical release form that would allow the Department of Human Resources or its designee to receive the results of any substance abuse screening, assessment, or other test performed on the applicant or recipient for the purpose of determining the applicant's or recipient's need for substance abuse treatment.
- ▶ At initial application with a local department, local departments will be required to assess the needs of applicants for substance abuse treatment.
- ▶ Local departments will be required to use an enhanced assessment to determine whether applicants may have a need for substance abuse treatment.
- ▶ Local departments will be required to inform each applicant of the requirements of the FIP regarding substance abuse treatment.
- ▶ After an applicant is certified eligible to receive temporary cash assistance (TCA) and Medical Assistance, managed care organizations are required, as already required by regulation, to screen the applicant for substance abuse as part of the applicant's initial health screen.
- ▶ If the initial health screen or any follow-up diagnostic testing or treatment performed by the managed care organization reveals that the recipient has a substance abuse problem, the managed care organization must refer the recipient to appropriate substance abuse treatment (which is already required by regulation).
- ▶ Managed care organizations will be required to notify the local department when a recipient is referred for substance abuse treatment.
- ▶ As part of its notification, a managed care organization must notify the local department if the recipient: (1) is complying with the treatment protocol; (2) is not complying with the treatment protocol; (3) is awaiting the availability of appropriate treatment; or (4) has successfully completed the treatment.
- ▶ A managed care organization also is required to notify a local department whenever there is any change in the status of the recipient as previously notified above.
- ▶ A recipient who complies with the requirements of FIP in regard to substance

abuse treatment: (1) shall receive the full temporary cash assistance (TCA) benefit as long as the recipient continues to meet other TCA eligibility requirements; and (2) may be exempt from the work requirements for a period of time, as determined by the local department.

- ▶ A recipient may be considered not in compliance with FIP requirements, if the local department receives a notice from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene or its designee that the recipient: (1) has not completed the required initial health screen; or (2) has been referred for substance abuse treatment, but the recipient failed to satisfactorily comply or complete a substance abuse treatment protocol.
- ▶ If local department receives a notice for either (1) or (2) above, the local department sends a notice to the recipient.
- ▶ The notice shall: (1) inform the recipient that the recipient is not in compliance with FIP detailing the reasons why the recipient is considered not in compliance; and (2) inform the recipient that TCA benefits will be reduced in 30 days by that amount in cash benefits that apply to the adult recipient and the remainder of the benefit that includes a child or children in the FIP case will be paid to a third party payee.
- ▶ A local department shall reduce a recipient's TCA as described above if the recipient: (1) receives the initial health screen and the initial health screen or the results of any follow-up diagnostic testing or treatment reveal that the recipient is a substance abuser; and (2) refuses to participate in available and appropriate substance abuse treatment.

The local department shall continue to pay the reduced TCA to a third party payee until the local department receives notice from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene or its designee that the recipient is complying with the appropriate substance treatment indicated by the managed care organization.

- ▶ The local department may not reduce a recipient's temporary cash assistance if the recipient: (1) receives the initial health screen and the initial health screen or the results of any follow-up diagnostic testing or treatment reveal that the recipient is a substance abuser; and (2) agrees to participate in appropriate substance abuse treatment, but the appropriate substance abuse treatment is not available.
- ▶ If a recipient's TCA benefit is reduced because the recipient failed to receive the initial health screen, the local department shall continue to pay the reduced FIP benefit to a third party payee until the local department receives notice from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene or its designee that the recipient has received the initial screen.

- **If a recipient's TCA benefit is reduced, the recipient remains eligible to receive medical assistance and food stamps, as long as the recipient meets the medical assistance and food stamp program requirements.**

#### **Enhanced Benefit Package**

- **Require managed care organizations to include in their benefit package inpatient, intermediate care, and halfway house substance abuse treatment services for adult substance abusing FIP recipients.**
- **Require the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to seek a federal waiver or take whatever steps are necessary to receive federal matching funds for the reimbursement of inpatient, intermediate care, and halfway house substance abuse treatment services being provided to adult substance abusing FIP recipients.**

#### **Institutions of Higher Education**

- **Require institutions of higher education to develop and implement a program, in cooperation with local departments of social services, that will encourage, identify, and provide volunteers from their student bodies to tutor, mentor, or provide any other services to FIP recipients in an effort to assist them in obtaining employment and in meeting any other FIP requirements.**
- **Require each institution of higher education to submit a report to the Joint Committee on Welfare Reform on their activities under the programs developed above in identifying and providing student volunteers.**

#### **Participation of Nonprofit Organizations**

- **Provisions added to Courts Article including FIP recipient volunteers to Maryland's Volunteer Immunity laws.**
- **Provisions added to Maryland Tort Claims Act to provide protection to nonprofit organizations that assist the State by serving as third party payors for purposes of temporary cash assistance, transitional assistance, and child-specific benefits.**

#### **Fine-Tuning Amendments requested by DEER**

- **Broadening the types of organizations that may act as third party payors for TCA to include for-profit organizations and governmental entities that may include local departments of social services. In addition, an individual may be a third party payor if approved by the Department.**
- **Amendments to allow DEER to retain, as an offset against cash assistance paid, any child support collected for children who are subject to the child-specific benefit provision. DEER states that this is consistent with the way they deal with child**

support for all PIP customers.

#### **Amendments requested by the Local Departments**

- **Authorizing the local departments to pay an administrative fee to third party payees that are assisting the local departments in managing the child-specific benefit or the transitional assistance benefit.**
- **Permitting the local departments to carryover from the current fiscal year to the next fiscal year part of the savings allocated to them under last year's bill.**

#### **Changes to conform to federal law**

- **Provision to clarify that a minor parent is eligible to receive TCA if living in an adult-supervised group living arrangement if the minor parent has not relatives with whom to live or living with the relative could expose the minor parent to possible abuse and neglect or the social worker otherwise believes that living with the relative is not in the best interest of the minor parent.**

#### **Legal Immigrants**

- **Continue TCA cash assistance for legal immigrants who entered the country both prior to or after August 22, 1996 if they meet all of the eligibility requirements and (1) have lived in Maryland for at least 12 months; or (2) previously lived in a state that provided cash assistance to legal immigrants.**
- **Continue Medical Assistance benefits to legal immigrants who entered the country prior to August 22, 1996 who meet Medical Assistance eligibility requirements.**
- **Provide Medical Assistance to legal immigrant children under the age of 18 years entering the country after Aug. 22, 1996 and pregnant women who meet Medical Assistance eligibility requirements.**
- **Provide state-funded food stamp benefits to legal immigrant children under the age of 18 years who meet food stamp program eligibility requirements.**

#### **Funding**

- **Except for the funds transferred to the local departments, uncodified language requires excess fiscal 1997 and 1998 funds be transferred to the Citizens Tax Reduction & Fiscal Reserve Account; funds may only be appropriated through the annual budget bill or by budget amendment after approval by the Legislative Policy Committee after the Legislative Policy Committee has referred the issue to the Joint Committee on Welfare Reform and the budget committee for recommendations.**





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**FAX COVER SHEET**

DATE: 2/7/97

THERE ARE \_\_\_\_\_ PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET

TO: Elena Magan

FAX#: 202-456-5557

FROM: Steve Heyman

COMMENTS: Elena- Thanks for yr help! Attached are summaries of Gov. Glendening's education initiatives/programs, along with his "Thinking by Three" proposal, a summary of his welfare reform plan, and a few bulletts on how Maryland's higher ed. initiatives dovetail with the President's. As I mentioned education is

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The Governor's #1 priority and he was the first governor in America to step up and pay for the benefits of children of legal immigrants. Finally, you should know that the Governor's agenda is "Making Maryland the best place in the nation to work, raise a child and call it T. in hmd. - J.P."

# HOW MARYLAND MEASURES UP:

A synopsis of how Maryland's education initiatives align with President Clinton's Education Goals in the State of the Union Address

President Clinton's Education Preferences	Maryland's Education Reforms
<p>1. Every state should adopt high national standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Federal Government will lead an effort over the next two years to develop national tests of student achievement in reading and math.</li> </ul>	<p>◆ <b>Maryland School Performance Program (MSPP)</b>            For the past five years, through our school reform initiative, the Maryland School Performance Program (MSPP), Maryland has already had high standards, as attested to by the A (100%) Education Week's report card given Maryland in Standards and Assessments. We have already developed a test to measure how well students are meeting these standards — the Maryland School Performance Assessment Program (MSPAP). MSPAP measures how well schools are teaching students the reading, writing, language usage, mathematics, science, and social studies skills they need for future careers.</p> <p>Maryland holds schools accountable to these standards through a variety of measures, including our annual Maryland School Performance Report, a "report card" on our state's schools.</p> <p>In addition, the suggestion of national voluntary tests in reading and mathematics is a good match with Maryland's MSPAP, which very closely relates to the current National Assessment of Educational Progress both in terms of rigor and content.</p> <p>◆ <b>Maryland's Proposed High School Assessments</b>            With the assistance of the College Board and the Pew Charitable Trust, Maryland's proposed High School Assessments would extend the MSPP through high school. The series of 10 end-of-course tests, including three exams in English, two in mathematics, two in science, and three in social studies, will gauge both school performance and individual student performance. They will be graduation requirements beginning with the class of 2004.</p> <p>◆ <b>K-16 Partnership</b>            With support from the Pew Charitable Trust, MSDE, the Maryland Higher Education Commission, and the Chancellor of the University of Maryland System are collaborating in developing the K-16 partnership. The purpose of this partnership is the development of seamless system of education between public schools and institutions of higher education that will allow Maryland students to move easily and directly from high school into the State's colleges and universities. The partnership is working to align content and performance standards of high schools and higher education.</p>



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President Clinton's Education Priorities	Maryland's Education Reforms
<p><b>2. To have the best schools, we must have the best teachers.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal budget will enable 100,000 teachers to seek certification through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.</li> </ul>	<p>◆ <b>Proposed Legislation</b> Currently, MSDE is supporting a bill (SB 460) which would constitute a focused strategy for improving the quality of teaching in Maryland schools by establishing a three-year pilot program to provide state and local support for 48 teachers to pursue National Board Certification every year. The state and local system will pay the certification fees for these teachers. The bill also provides for a statewide staff development plan to utilize the skills and knowledge of these teachers.</p> <p>◆ <b>Professional Development Schools</b> In addition, teacher preparation and professional development are being aligned with our school reform efforts and our new assessments through 14 pilot professional development schools, involving partnerships between local school systems and higher education institutions.</p> <p>◆ <b>Business Partnerships</b> In cooperation with the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education (MBRT), MSDE developed recommendations to revamp teacher professional development.</p> <p>◆ <b>Teacher Licensure</b> No one is allowed to teach in a Maryland classroom unless they have a Maryland teaching license, or are eligible for one.</p>
<p><b>3. We must do more to help all our children read.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The America Reads initiative will use AmeriCorps volunteers and college students to make sure every child can read independently by third grade.</li> <li>• A challenge to parents to read with their children every night.</li> </ul>	<p>◆ <b>Maryland School Performance Assessment Program (MSPAP)</b> In Maryland, third graders must have achieved the ability to read independently, and are tested on that ability through the third-grade administration of the MSPAP, which focuses on both basic and higher order skills.</p> <p>◆ <b>Even Start</b> The Even Start Family Literacy Program focuses on the family and provides participants with a program of early childhood education, adult literacy, basic skill instruction, and parent education. The program currently serves approximately 160 children ages 0-3 and approximately 170 children ages 4-7.</p> <p>◆ <b>Parent and Family Involvement Network</b> MSDE has developed a Parent and Family Involvement Network which includes parents, teachers, PTA presidents and other local liaisons to share best practices for parent involvement. We participate in Partnership 2000, linking schools and communities together to increase student achievement and our Special Education Parent Training Centers provide parenting skills training and help parents meet the special needs of their children in school.</p> <p>◆ <b>Additional Assistance is Always Welcome</b> Additional AmeriCorps volunteers to help some of our high-risk children would still be of great benefit.</p>



<p><b>First Goal: Children's Education Priorities</b></p>	<p><b>Maryland's Education Reforms</b></p>
<p><b>4. Learning begins in the first days of life.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The budget will expand Head Start to one million children by 2002.</li> <li>The President and First Lady will hold a conference on early learning and the brain this spring.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Early Intervention and Prevention Services (EIPS)</b> The Early Intervention and Prevention Services Initiative (EIPS) assists local school systems in improving early learning programs serving all children ages 3 to 9. It directly addresses the first National Education Goal: ensuring that all children start school ready to learn. The program's goal is to help schools and communities provide the most comprehensive and appropriate services possible for all young learners and their families and to heighten public awareness about the programs that are available to help.</li> <li>◆ <b>Head Start Collaboration Network</b> As part of EIPS, MSDE is working with the Governor's Office to develop collaborative models between public schools and the Head Start program. MSDE provides technical assistance to schools looking to develop these models and serves on the Head Start Collaboration Network Advisory Council.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vice-President Gore and Mrs. Gore will hold an annual family conference in June to make sure parents are an active part of their children's learning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Extended Elementary Education Program (EEEP)</b> The Extended Elementary Education Program (EEEP) serves over 8,000 four-year-old children with learning opportunities, health, and other support services.</li> <li>◆ <b>Mandatory Kindergarten</b> Since 1992, Kindergarten has been mandatory in Maryland and, statewide.</li> <li>◆ <b>Early Children Special Education Programs</b> Early Children Special Education Programs, cooperative efforts of MSDE, local school systems, and child care providers, ensure special education and services to children with disabilities. The programs help to prepare children for pre-school, coordinate services between Head Start and local schools, address their daily needs, and place them in the least restrictive school environment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Every state should give parents the power to choose the right public school for their children.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Budget will have additional funding for charter schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Charter Schools</b> Maryland's 24 local school systems are free to establish Charter schools, as evidenced by Baltimore City's plan to privatize 9 schools, under an agreement that would make the schools privately managed, but publicly funded and still accountable in certain basic ways to Baltimore City public schools and the State. Individual schools systems also create their own policies concerning school choice.</li> </ul> <p>The State Board of Education's Task Force on Charter Schools has determined that we have the authority in Maryland to establish Charter schools.</p>





<p>6. Character Education must be taught in schools. And we must continue to promote order and discipline . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No new Budget items.</li> </ul>	<p>◆ <b>Statewide Character Education Initiative</b>                  Maryland has instituted a statewide character education initiative, directed by the State Character Education Office. Currently, there are five county-wide pilot programs — Prince George's, Baltimore, Calvert and Frederick counties and Baltimore City. In these counties, each school has developed a character education program to fit its unique needs. In general, the program focuses on the core ethical values which form the basis of a democratic society — respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, caring, justice and fairness, and civic virtues and citizenship. This program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Education: Partnerships in Character Education.</p> <p>◆ <b>School Order and Discipline Legislation</b>                  In addition, the Governor's bill "School Order and Discipline" went into effect October 1. It contains tough measures to deal more aggressively with students who frequently disrupt the learning of other students, as well as funding for local efforts to solve their violence and disruption problems. Among other things, the law gives principals the authority to suspend students for up to 10 days, requires restitution from students who damage property while violating the law, protects school staff from legal action when they try to prevent violence, and requires state guidelines for a code of discipline.</p> <p>◆ <b>Service Learning</b>                  Currently, Maryland is the only state in the country that requires students to complete 75 hours of student service as a requirement for high school graduation. Each of Maryland's 24 local school systems has developed its own service learning program, designed to help students understand many of the social issues they learn about in school. In addition, service-learning helps students see their roles as citizens, and as active participants in the solutions to some of our most critical problems as a nation.</p>
<p>7. We cannot expect our children to value themselves up in schools that are literally falling down.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes \$5 billion in interest subsidies to help communities finance \$70 billion in school construction over the next 4 years.</li> </ul>	<p>◆ <b>School Construction Funding</b>                  Currently, for FY 98 we have requests for over \$3 billion in school construction funding. Governor Glendening has requested \$138.4 million in his budget. This federal funding would allow us to expand and extend school construction money at both the state and local level.</p>

President Clinton's Education Priorities	Maryland's Education Reforms
<p>8. We must make the 13th and 14th years of education ... universal ... we must open the doors of college to all Americans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>America's HOPE scholarship — 2 year \$1,500 tax credit for college tuition, which is enough to pay for community college.</li> </ul>	<p>◆ <b>Proposed Scholarship Program</b> Governor Glendening has proposed a Maryland HOPE scholarship (SB 231/HB 493), which would pay the full tuition at a Maryland community college or university for students in families with incomes less than \$60,000 who have a B average in high school and maintain that average in college.</p>
<p>9. We must expand the frontiers of learning across a lifetime.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GI bill for America's workers to transform many federal training programs into a simple skill grant directly to workers.</li> </ul>	<p>◆ <b>Community College Career and Technology Programs</b> Maryland has a variety of Career and Technology Programs in our Community Colleges, some of which prepare students for immediate employment, and others which pave the way for transfer to a four year college. While high school students can earn college credit for these programs while still in high school, a skill grant would definitely benefit those adults who wish to return to school.</p> <p>◆ <b>School to Careers</b> Career Connections is Maryland's comprehensive school-to-careers system, supporting school reform, workforce preparation, and economic development. The goal of the program is to ensure that all high school graduates are prepared to enter a career and/or higher education. The program is funded by a federal grant of \$25.2 million over five years.</p> <p>◆ <b>Adult Education</b> In addition, Maryland is serving approximately 42,000 adults with adult basic education and high school credentialing programs. These programs support workforce skills development and family and parenting skills development and support helping these adults earn a high school diploma. Approximately 6,100 adults annually earn their diploma through the GED, and approximately 400 earn their diploma through the Adult External Diploma Program. In addition, adult education classes in literacy skills and high school completion are housed at homeless shelters throughout the state.</p>



President Clinton's Educational Priorities	Maryland's Education Reforms
<p><b>10. We must bring the power of the information age into all our schools.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A challenge to America to connect every classroom for Internet access.</li> </ul>	<p>◆ <b>Educational Modernization Initiative</b>  Maryland accepted this challenge, and through NetWeekend wired approximately 600 schools for Internet access. The Educational Modernization Initiative Technology in Schools is designed to increase the technology capabilities of Maryland schools, and an additional 149 schools are scheduled to be added in the FY 98 budget. In FY 97, \$4.5 million was spent on 90 project schools. The initiative provides schools with a complete building wiring system, as well as hardware, software, and funds for staff training. Maryland also receives federal funds to support school technology through the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund.</p> <p>◆ <b>Business Partnerships</b>  MSDE and the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education (MBRT) have developed <i>The Maryland Plan for Technology in Education</i>, a detailed plan for education technology in Maryland's schools. Norman R. Augustine, President and CEO of the Lockheed Martin Corporation, was the first president of the MBRT and is a strong supporter of Maryland's school reform.</p>



The America's Hope program will provide for a \$1,500 credit for college tuition, which would be enough to pay for a typical community college tuition or provide a solid down payment for four-year colleges and university or for a \$10,000 deduction for any tuition after high school.

The Maryland Hope program provides for free college tuition and mandatory fees for graduating seniors who have a "B" average and whose total family income is less than \$60,000. The scholarship continues as long as the "B" average is maintained.

These two programs will work in tandem to provide a significant portion of the costs of college education and will increase the toolbox of tuition assistance programs currently available. Both seek to reduce the debt burden for college graduates, emphasize the value of postsecondary education, and provide greater access to higher education.

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is this close enough?



## MARYLAND HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

To recognize the best and the brightest high school students in the State and to encourage them to attend college in Maryland, Governor Glendening has introduced legislation to create the Maryland Hope Scholarship. This program will provide tuition, mandatory fees, and a book allowance, to students who graduate from a Maryland high school with a "B" average and come from a family whose income is below \$60,000. The scholarship can be used at any eligible Maryland institution. The Maryland Hope Scholarship will encourage our students to excel in high school and maintain that excellence throughout college. Their scholarship achievement will be rewarded by making college an affordable reality.

## MARYLAND PREPAID TUITION SAVINGS PROGRAM

Governor Glendening has also introduced the Maryland Prepaid Tuition Savings Program to encourage savings for college by offering a tax incentive and assurance that the plan will cover the cost of tuition according to the prepaid contract. Under this program, taxes on the earnings will be deferred until the beneficiary redeems a contract. Additionally, the earnings will be taxed at the beneficiary's lower tax rate. The contracts, which will be guaranteed by the Program, will provide 2 years at a Maryland community college, 2 years at a community college plus 2 years at a Maryland public college, or 4 years at a Maryland public college. Program funds may also be used at private and out-of-state institutions. A beneficiary must be a Maryland resident at time of enrollment; contributor may be non-resident. The price of the contracts will be based on the age of the beneficiary, the projected tuition and fee growth, enrollment demographics, number of participants in the program, redemptions, withdrawals, administrative expenses, etc.

## ACCOUNTABILITY

Last April, the Maryland Higher Education Commission approved a new accountability process for the State's public colleges and universities. The campuses are required to submit an annual board-approved performance accountability report to the Commission. The heart of this report is a series of key indicators that measure institutional accountability in five areas that respond to concerns often expressed by lawmakers:

- **quality** - how campuses can show whether they are doing a good job.
- **effectiveness** - how campuses can demonstrate whether students are progressing and performing well.
- **access** - how campuses can show whether they are accessible and are meeting the needs of students in all regions
- **diversity** - how campuses can evaluate whether students, faculty and staff reflect Maryland's gender and racial make-up
- **efficiency** - how campuses can determine how productively funds and facilities are being used.

As part of their accountability reports, the public campuses compiled four years of trend data for each indicator and developed a set of benchmarks. This report contains an overview of how well higher education is serving the needs of Maryland and how well the State is funding its colleges and universities.

## **STUDENT OUTCOME AND ACHIEVEMENT REPORT (SOAR)**

In 1990, the Maryland Higher Education Commission established the Student Outcome and Achievement Report to fulfill a mandate from the General Assembly "to improve information to high schools and local school systems concerning the performance of their graduates at the college level."

This process collects information about several aspects of the college performance of new graduates from Maryland high schools: remedial work needed in math; English and reading; grades in their first math and English courses; and cumulative grade point average.

In addition to providing information that can be used for tracking student outcomes at the State level, the report is a tool to help local educators with the evaluation of high school preparatory programs, curriculum development, counseling, and the establishment of education policy. For the past four years, county superintendents and high school principals have received annual reports of how well students from their particular schools performed at the college level.

## **TEACHER EDUCATION REFORM**

The State of Maryland has initiated fundamental changes in the way teachers are educated and certified. The major elements of this design are: (1) decreasing the emphasis on education courses and increasing content knowledge and clinical (classroom) experiences; (2) emphasizing performance-based assessment of pre-service teachers; and (3) focusing on engaging collegiate and K-12 faculty in professional development schools to provide clinical oversight, support and guidance to student interns and in-service teachers.

Reform efforts are based on recommendations contained in a two-year long study of teacher education that involved representatives from all sectors of the education community. The State of Maryland and the Federal Government, through the offices of the U. S. Secretary of Education, Richard Riley, are supporting the implementation of those recommendations through the initiation of several pilot professional development schools. Following an evaluation of the pilot projects, additional professional development schools will be established to gradually provide a critical mass of teachers trained in this new format.

Maryland's teacher education reform initiatives are consistent with the work of the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future, chaired by Governor Hunt. As a result, Maryland is one of just 13 "partner states" that will be implementing the National Commission's Recommendations. Maryland's participation will be overseen by the Maryland Partnership for Teaching and Learning, K-16, a nationally recognized collaboration among leaders in K-16 education, the business community, and local and state government.

### **STUDENT TRANSFER ABILITY**

Today, the majority of college students attend more than one college or university before graduation. The State of Maryland has recognized this trend and has adopted policies to remove barriers to these students in the transfer of credit.

Students who enter an institution of higher education in Maryland are now able to continue their learning throughout their lives. Students who begin their college careers at a community college and transfer to a four-year institution progress from one segment of the public higher education system to another without loss of time or duplication of courses. To accomplish this, the State of Maryland has adopted a common core curriculum for general education in all public colleges and universities.

### **REGULATION OF PRIVATE CAREER SCHOOLS**

Private career schools are a valuable part of postsecondary education. However, the Commission takes seriously its consumer protection role to regulate private career schools that fail to meet Maryland's rigorous minimum standards. Recently, the Commission's actions have closed several serious violators -- schools with default rates exceeding 45 percent and annual gross tuitions in the millions of dollars. In addition, the Commission has worked cooperatively with the Inspector General's Office of the U. S. Department of Education to convict several of the owners and employees of these schools. Among the schools that have been closed are: (1) National Education Center -- a 46.4% default rate and \$1.7 million annual tuition; (2) PSI Institute of Baltimore -- a 65.6% default rate and \$3.9 million annual tuition; (3) PSI Institute of Washington -- a 65.6% default rate and \$1.7 million annual tuition; (4) Philadelphia Training Center -- a 53.3% default rate and \$1.4 million annual tuition; (5) General Communications, Inc. -- a \$3.9 million annual tuition; and (6) Ron Thomas School of Cosmetology (3 schools) -- 56.4% default rate and \$1.8 million annual tuition.

Maryland Governor Parris N. Glendening has announced a major policy initiative - **Thriving by Three** -- that will assure that more children in Maryland have the healthy start they deserve.

- **Thriving By Three demonstrates**

- Maryland's continuing commitment to basic health care for children and pregnant women.
- Maryland's continuing commitment to assure care for little medical problems before they become complex, expensive medical problems.

**Thriving By Three** reflects the Governor's concern about uninsured children and pregnant women. As a father, Governor Glendening can appreciate the anguish that parents face when they have to choose between medical care for their children and basic necessities like housing, food, and utilities.

- **Thriving By Three will cover**

- All uninsured pregnant women and children under the age of four (ages zero through three years) living in families between 185% and 250% of Federal poverty level.
- About 4,230 children under the age of four and 1,020 pregnant women would participate in the first year of the program.

- **Benefits of Thriving By Three will include:**

- For children: Basic check-ups and health screenings, lab tests, x-rays, prescriptions, vision, hearing, and dental care, nutrition counseling
- For pregnant women: Prenatal services and education, delivery fees, prescriptions, lab and x-ray services, family planning services, mental health and substance abuse services

- **The total cost of Thriving By Three is expected to be about \$5.6 million the first year.**

- \$2.9 million for children
- \$2.4 million for pregnant women
- \$0.3 million for outreach and administration\*

- **This represents an investment in our children's futures.**

- Every dollar spent on prevention and primary health care saves many more in costly care of complex medical problems.

\*In addition, \$2.9 in federal funds have been obtained to cover individuals who may be eligible for another program: Medicaid or Maryland Kids Court.



- **Two recent studies show that working families are losing their health care coverage.**
  - **Employer-sponsored coverage dropped from 77.7% of workers in 1990 to 73.9% in 1995.**
  - **The number of uninsured is expected to increase from 39.6 million in 1995 to 45.6 million in 2002.**
  - **Families of workers are those most likely to lose their health insurance as employers increase the amount that workers have to pay to maintain family coverage.**
    - o **In 1988, about 40% of full-time workers had fully-paid health insurance.**
    - o **By 1994, only 31% of full-time workers had fully-paid health coverage.**
    - o **Smaller employers have increased their efforts to outsource their work or use part-time and temporary workers who do not receive health benefits.**
  - **More than 30% of people surveyed by the Harvard School of Public Health reported at least one problem in the previous year related to obtaining or paying for health care.**
  - **It is a myth that uninsured workers can get free or discounted medical care.**
    - o **More people were reported to bill collectors than received free care in the year prior to the Harvard study.**
- **All young children and pregnant women need access to basic health care services.**
  - **Uninsured low income and lower middle income working parents often have to choose between health care for their children and basic needs like housing, food, and utilities.**
  - **Unfortunately, too many children and pregnant women in Maryland lack health insurance coverage.**
  - **Most of Maryland's uninsured children and pregnant women live in families below 250% of the Federal poverty level. These parents usually work in lower paying jobs, with no access to health insurance.**
  - **Children must be healthy to learn and to eventually be able to support their own families with good-paying jobs.**
- **Every father and mother in Maryland can understand the Governor's concern for these children.**
- **Every health care provider and child advocate in Maryland can also understand the Governor's concern for these children.**
- **If they are to reach their full potential, we must make sure that they are Thriving By Three.**

The Maryland Department of Human Resources

**THE FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM (FIP)**

A Summary of Maryland's State Plan under Federal Human Services Reform

February, 1997

**A NEW VISION: A MARYLAND WHERE**

- Everyone works.
- Families are strong.
- Children are properly cared for.
- Partnerships are found among families, businesses, faith and non-profit communities, and governments

**A NEW GOAL WHICH REPRESENTS A MAJOR SHIFT**

- *FROM* an "income maintenance" orientation which narrowly views the job as one of determining the correct benefit amount to the correct people in the correct time frame.
- *TO* one that protects children by assisting their families to become independent through work, personal and family responsibility, and community involvement.

**A NEW EMPHASIS ON OLD PRINCIPLES**

From a complex, benefit-oriented program to one emphasizing:

- *Responsibility:* Both parents must contribute to the support of their children and Temporary Cash Assistance is to be given only as a last resort.
- *Independence:* Work leads to independence. All work is of value and a first job is the first step to independence.
- *Fairness:* There needs to be a safety net for families working on independence. FIP has the same cash benefit level across the state. FIP will provide support services based on specific family needs.
- *State Fiscal Responsibility:* Results will count. Savings in benefits are being reinvested in employment services, child care, emergency services, and other supports.
- *Program Simplification:* We are simplifying complicated regulations and conforming Food Stamps, Medical Assistance, and Temporary Cash Assistance policies where possible.
- *New Approach - New Name :* We have renamed Aid to Families with Dependent Children to Temporary Cash Assistance and the Income Maintenance Administration to the Family Investment Administration.

**MAJOR SHIFTS IN OUR PRACTICES AND RELATIONSHIPS**

- **No Added Costs:** Maryland designed FIP to generate savings based on an analysis of our customer base and economic conditions. Maryland will reinvest these savings in additional program services and activities.

- **Local Flexibility ("One Size Does Not Fit All"):**
  - The Department has allocated FIP funding to local departments of social services who best know the services needed and resources available to our customers.
  - This allocation included the local department's share of funds for child care, employment and training services, welfare avoidance grants, emergency assistance, and program administration.
  - Local departments submitted plans which have all been approved to achieve mutually agreed upon outcomes including the work requirements of the federal legislation.
- **Accountability:** Results count, Maryland will measure for program savings and customer satisfaction.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF MARYLAND'S PROGRAM

### HAS A NEW APPROACH FROM THE VERY BEGINNING

- **Child Support Is First.** Customers must request child support services at application and assign child support rights to Maryland to reimburse Maryland for any cash assistance paid to a family. Customers must comply with child support enforcement requirements as a condition of the family's receipt of Temporary Cash Assistance, unless there is a good cause for not doing so, e.g. previous spousal abuse.
- **There Will Be an Assessment** for applicants and recipients regarding their reasons for applying or for their continued reliance on assistance, with special emphasis on their skills, needs, and job readiness. This will include possible alternatives to cash assistance such as a welfare avoidance grant or child care and medical assistance.
- **Welfare Avoidance Grants** may be given to avoid continuing cash assistance and will not duplicate any period of cash assistance.
- **Child Care and Medical Assistance** may be offered by a local department instead of cash assistance. Under this option, the family is considered eligible for cash assistance for 3 months, and if an individual in the family is employed at the end of the third month, the family is eligible for child care, and Medical Assistance for up to 12 more months.
- **Family Responsibility Plans** will require cooperation with child support enforcement and specify program activities and supportive services. These plans will set out an employment goal and a plan for moving the individual immediately into private employment. They will also set out the obligations of the individual which may include a requirement to attend school, keep school aged children in school, immunize children, attend parenting and money management classes, as well as other requirements which will result in unsubsidized employment; and will describe the services the State will provide to assist the individual to achieve independence.

- **A Decision on an Application** will be made as promptly as possible but no later than 30 calendar days from the date of the signed application. The cash assistance grant will begin 14 days after the date of application.
- **Maryland Will Administer and Provide Some Services** through Contracts with charitable, religious, or private organizations, and may provide beneficiaries of the services with vouchers, certificates, or other forms of disbursement which are will be redeemable with such organizations.

#### **SERVES A NEW CUSTOMER BASE:**

- **The New Definition of Family** includes the parent (s) or other caretaker relative acting as a parent, a minor child(ren), or a pregnant woman. The degree of relationship for the caretaker other than a parent is not a factor.
- **Covers Citizens and Certain Legal Immigrants.** Every family member must be a U.S. citizen, or (on or before August 22, 1996) was a legal immigrant admitted for permanent residence, or after that date a legal immigrant who is a refugee, asylee, or retired or active duty member of the military, their spouse or dependent. A State program for other legal immigrants is being developed.
- **Must Be Residents of Maryland.** Maryland will also provide the amount of an cash assistance benefit from the prior State or the Maryland benefit (whichever is less) to any applicant who has resided in the State for less than 12 months. A customer may live outside the State if this absence is less than 90 days and Maryland residence has not been abandoned.
- **Minor Children** cannot be absent from their home for more than 180 consecutive days. Caretakers who fail to report absences that are expected to be longer than this will not be eligible for cash assistance for a period of three months.
- **Services to Noncustodial Parents** will be provided, as resources permit, for employment services to enable payment of child support.
- **Two-parent Families** have had artificial barriers to receiving assistance removed and will be treated the same as single parent families.
- **Stepparents** with income below 50% of poverty will not have that income counted in calculating the family's benefit.

#### **GIVES A NEW FOCUS ON WORK:**

- **Job Search/Training** will emphasize immediate and intermittent job search. Customers who do not find a job may be assigned to an appropriate work activity, e.g. work experience.
- **Benefit Diversion** will create subsidized jobs.



- **Exemptions from Work Requirements** will be only for those who are severely disabled, are caring for a child under age 1 (does not apply to teen parents who have not finished high school), or are under 16. Lack of child care is a good cause for not participating in a work activity.
- **Once the Customer is Employed**, Maryland will allow customers to keep 20% of their earnings and will use 4 weeks in a month when calculating benefits, and will allow a deduction from earnings of up to \$200 per month per child for out of pocket child care expenses (\$100 per month if working less than 100 hours).
- **Medical Assistance and Child Care Will be Extended** for families who become ineligible for cash benefits solely because of an increase in employment for an additional 12 months, and child care for an additional 12 months based on the caretaker relative's income. (Families who become ineligible for cash assistance solely because of increased collection of child support are eligible for four additional months of medical assistance.)
- **Maryland Will Allow a Car of Any Value** and other assets to a total limit of \$2,000. This recognizes that transportation is necessary to get to work.

#### **PROVIDES FOR INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY:**

- **There Will Be a Full Family Sanction** for non-compliance with work, child support or the Family Responsibility Plan. This follows a 30 day period where there is an opportunity to comply. There is also the opportunity for a restoration of benefits after a sanction is imposed. This restoration is immediate for any requirement except one involving a work activity. For a work activity, the restoration is immediate the first time, after 10 days of compliance the second time, and after 30 days of compliance for any time after that.
- **After Benefits End Due to a Sanction, Transitional Cash Assistance** may be available for 3 months through a third party payment.
- **There Are Sanctions for School Age Children Not Attending School and Pre-School Children Not Receiving Preventive Health Care** of \$25 per month per child not meeting these requirements.
- **There Will Be No Grant Increases For Children Born To Recipients 10 Months After Enrollment** (or for current customers, 4/1/96). There are exceptions for a child born as the result of rape or incest, the first born child of a minor in the family, where another relative has obtained guardianship of the child, or where the child has been placed in the home of a relative by the local department. Local departments will issue a third party payment to a nonprofit organization on behalf of child, which combined with child support, will equal 100% of the former grant increase. The child will be eligible for Food Stamps, Medical Assistance, and child care assistance.

- **Individuals Convicted of a Drug-Related Felony** are not eligible for cash assistance or Food Stamps. However, their income and resources will be counted in calculating the family's benefit amount. Maryland has elected an option to present to the Maryland General Assembly during the 1997 legislative session a request to exclude this population from this automatic lifetime denial of cash assistance and Food Stamps. The specific policies and legislation will be determined by a Task Force which includes legislators and other stakeholders.
- **Time Limits** will apply to all families with an adult who has received 60 months of benefits unless the family is included in the 20% of caseload exception allowable under the federal law.
- **The Child Support Bonus Will End.** This eliminates sending the customer the first \$50 of child support collected a month.
- **Housing Subsidies Will Be Counted as Income.** If the family lives in Public Housing, Section 8, or other federal "deep subsidy" housing, FIP raises the amount of the subsidy counted as income from \$45 to \$60 per month.
- **Recoupment Amount Will Increase.** FIP raises the amount deducted to repay a prior overpayment from 5% to 10%.
- **The Federal Law Adds New Penalties.** Cash assistance will not be given to individuals for 10 years if they misrepresented a residence in order to receive duplicate benefits, or individuals who are fugitive felons or parole and probation violators.
- **Upon a Finding of Fraud by a Court of Law,** the family will not be eligible for a period of six months after the first finding of fraud or until full repayment, twelve months after the second finding of fraud, and permanently after the third finding of fraud.
- **Benefits Reduced Because Fraud** by an individual under any state, federal or local means-tested program may not, for the duration of the reduction, cause an increased benefit under any other means-tested program.

#### **PROTECTS CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES:**

- **Maryland Will Screen And Identify Victims Of Domestic Violence** and has chosen a federal option to extend the 60 month limitation when a family includes an individual who has been battered or subject to extreme cruelty.
- **The Unmarried Minor Who is a Parent or Pregnant** must live with the minor's parent, legal guardian, other adult relative, or in a supportive living arrangement in order to receive cash assistance. The parent, legal guardian, or the adult supervisor in a supportive living arrangement shall be the authorized representative.

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- **There Is a State Plan for the Reduction of Non-Marital and Teenage Births** that will focus on the prevention of unintended pregnancies. This plan will be coordinated by a statewide steering committee working closely with the local departments and other service providers.
- **There Will also Be a State Plan for the Reduction of Statutory Rape** based on a survey by the Governor's Council on Adolescent Pregnancy and developed by a statewide interagency task force by April of 1997.
- **The Use and Disclosure of Information** will be restricted through Information Agreements which shall be in writing and shall include procedures for requesting, obtaining, and examining the information.
- **Advance Notice of Any Planned Reduction/Cancellation of Benefit** will give 5 working days before action is taken.
- **Families Who Disagree with an Agency Decision** may request an agency conference to obtain an explanation of the reasons for proposed actions, and present information to show that the proposed action is incorrect. They are also given written notification of the right to and procedures for requesting and obtaining a fair hearing before the Office of Administrative Hearings.
- **The Local Department May Not Discriminate** on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, mental or physical disability, or religious or political affiliation. A family may file a written complaint. The Department shall investigate promptly and notify the complainant of its findings within 60 days.
- **Grievance Procedures** will be established and maintained by Maryland to resolve complaints concerning the displacement of workers by an adult in a work activity associated with FIP.

**For Additional Information Contact:**

**The Maryland Department of Human Resources  
Family Investment Administration  
(410) 767-7338**

*File with led  
MD*

## MARYLAND EDUCATION EFFORTS

**Standards:** As a result of state education reform initiatives over the last five years, Maryland has become known for having high standards. Education Week's report card gave Maryland in Standards and Assessments a 100% rating. Part of the state's education reform efforts included developing a test called the Maryland School Performance Assessment Program (MSPAP), which measures how well students are meeting these standards by testing their reading, writing, language, math, science, and social studies skills. The Administration's proposal for national voluntary tests in reading and math is very compatible with the MSPAP.

**Charter Schools:** There are no serious charter schools bills pending in the legislature, although there are advocates for charter schools legislation in the legislature and on the State Board of Education. Chris Cross, the President of the Maryland State Board of Education and several other Board members have been attempting to promote charter schools legislation for the past year. However, this proposal ran into opposition from the Public School Superintendent's Association of Maryland and the Maryland Association of Boards of Education. A Task Force appointed by the State Board of Education concluded that local school boards already had sufficient authority to establish charter schools -- and several have been established in Baltimore City. Consequently, there are no current proposals in the legislature to authorize charter schools, though most advocates of charter schools believe legislation is needed in order to see any widespread development of new charter schools.

**Hope Scholarship:** Governor Glendening introduced legislation to create the Maryland Hope Scholarship which will provide tuition, mandatory fees, and a book allowance to students who graduate from a Maryland high school with a "B" average and whose family income is below \$60,000.

### **NOTE:**

**Baltimore City funding controversy:** The state legislature will soon have to decide whether to approve a proposed settlement of a suit brought by Baltimore against the State, alleging unlawful disparities in school financing. Under the terms of the settlement, Baltimore will receive an additional \$40 million per year from the state in each of the next five years. In exchange, Baltimore will accept a new school board, which will be jointly appointed by the Mayor of Baltimore and the Governor of Maryland from a pool of candidates recommended by the State Board of Education. Legislators from Montgomery and Prince George's Counties have objected to the proposed settlement, arguing that it gives too much money to

Baltimore. It is currently impossible to predict whether the state legislature will approve the settlement.

## MARYLAND WELFARE REFORM EFFORTS

The total number of AFDC recipients in Maryland decreased by 16 percent between January 1993 and October 1996. Child support collections increased by 47 percent during the same period of time. These statistics show reasonably good -- but by no means extraordinary -- success in caseload reduction and child support enforcement.

HHS certified Maryland's TANF plan as complete in January. The plan, called the "Family Investment Program," incorporates and builds on two waivers that this Administration granted to the State. Under the plan, all parents, except those with children under one year or disabled children under 16 years, are required to participate in work or work activities. Noncompliance with this work requirement will cause the entire family's benefit to be terminated.

Perhaps most notably, the plan devolves responsibility to counties to develop programs and benefit packages that will meet particular area needs. Urban areas, for example, might focus on subsidizing employment, whereas rural areas might focus on providing transportation to employment sites. The State will hold counties accountable for moving people from welfare to work by passing on the appropriate share of any penalties levied on the State for failure to meet the welfare law's work participation requirements.

Maryland is currently considering legislation, which is expected to pass, requiring welfare applicants to submit to an interview about drug use and withholding benefits from any substance abuser who declines treatment. (An earlier version of the bill required all welfare applicants to submit to a urine test, but this proposal has been dropped.) Assuming the legislation passes, Maryland would become the first State in the nation to require a substance abuse examination as a condition of receiving benefits. The legislation also would ensure that eligible legal immigrants -- even those who enter the country after enactment of the welfare law -- continue to receive temporary cash assistance and other benefits.

Maryland has made particularly noteworthy efforts to improve child support collection and decrease the incidence of teen pregnancy. Just one week ago, Maryland began suspending the driver's license of any parent who is behind in his child support payments by more than 60 days; already Maryland has suspended over 4,000 licenses. Maryland's focus on teen parents includes linking benefits to school attendance and operating an innovative teen parent demonstration project in Baltimore.

Finally, Maryland has an excellent health program called "Thriving by Three," which extends coverage to all uninsured pregnant women and children under the age of four living in families with income up to 250 percent of the federal poverty level.