

WHEREAS, Almost half of juvenile crime takes place between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. each day and the after-school hours also are the most frequent time when students are victims of crime and accidents; and

WHEREAS, Many parents need advice and financial assistance if they are to locate and afford quality after-school programs; and

WHEREAS, A State fund of \$10 million in fiscal year 2001 can ~~largely~~ begin to address the problem of children who are unsupervised after school in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Some local governments need time to make effective plans to invest State funding for after-school programs and may benefit from training grants; and

WHEREAS, The long-term financial viability of after-school programs depends on continued State investment, combined with local, private, and parental support; now, therefore,

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

Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments

SUBTITLE 8. MARYLAND AFTER-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY FUND PROGRAM.

6-801.

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

(B) "ADVISORY BOARD" MEANS THE ADVISORY BOARD ON AFTER-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS.

(C) "AFTER-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS" MEANS ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN THAT TAKE PLACE:

(1) BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS EACH DAY AND AFTER SCHOOL ENDS EACH DAY;

(2) ON WEEKENDS;

(3) ON HOLIDAYS;

(4) DURING VACATIONS; AND

(5) DURING SUMMER BREAK.

(D) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES.

(E) "EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE" MEANS THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ADVISORY BOARD.

(F) (1) "FUND" MEANS THE MARYLAND AFTER-SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY FUND.