

(1) Advise and assist the [Office for Children, Youth, and Families] DEPARTMENT in the supervision and monitoring of the interagency system of early intervention services; and

(2) Submit an annual report to the Governor and the federal government.

(e) Local lead agencies shall be established or designated in each county and Baltimore City to administer the interagency system of early intervention services in their subdivision, under the direction of the [Office for Children, Youth, and Families] DEPARTMENT.

(f) (1) In each county, the county executive or county commissioners, as appropriate, or in Baltimore City, the Mayor shall establish a local interagency coordinating council to advise and assist the local lead agency in the development and implementation of policies that constitute the local early intervention system.

(2) (I) In each county, the county executive or county commissioners, as appropriate, or in Baltimore City, the Mayor may designate the local management board to serve as the local interagency coordinating council or establish the local interagency coordinating council as a part of that board.

(II) Where a local management board and a local interagency coordinating council coexist, they shall work cooperatively.

(g) The [Office for Children, Youth, and Families] DEPARTMENT shall adopt [rules and] regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on July 1, 1997, the functions, powers, duties, equipment, assets, and liabilities consistent with the requirements of the federal Education of the Handicapped Act, Public Law 99-457, as amended, and twelve permanent positions and the employees of the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program, which administers the interagency system of comprehensive early intervention services to infants and toddlers, in the Office for Children, Youth, and Families shall be transferred to the State Department of Education.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That employees of the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program in the Office for Children, Youth, and Families who are transferred to the State Department of Education subject to the implementation of this Act shall be so transferred without diminution of their rights, benefits, or employment and retirement status.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That nothing in this Act affects the term of office of a member of any board, commission, committee, or other unit in the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program in the Office for Children, Youth, and Families. A person who is a member of any board, commission, committee, or other unit in the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program on the effective date of this Act shall remain a member for the balance of the term to which appointed, unless the member sooner dies, resigns, or is removed under provisions of law.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as otherwise provided by law, all existing laws, rules and regulations, proposed rules and regulations, standards and guidelines, policies, orders and other directives, permits and licenses,