

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

CONFERENCE REPORT H.R. 2673,
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT – Division C, 2004 – Nov. 25, 2003

Mr. YOUNG of Florida submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 2673) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Conference Report (H. Rept. 108-401)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2673) "making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes", having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec..1..Short title.

Sec..2..Table of contents.

Sec..3..References.

DIVISION C--DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS, 2004

Title I--Federal Funds (page 2)

Title II--District of Columbia Funds (page 14)

Title III--DC School Choice Incentive Act of 2003 (page 25)

Title IV--General Provisions (page 33)

DIVISION C--DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

CONFERENCE NOTES:

In implementing this agreement, the Departments and agencies should comply with the language and instructions set forth in House Report 108-214 and Senate Report 108-142. The committee of conference approves the language and instructions set forth in these reports, which are not changed by the conference agreement.

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In the case where the language and instructions specifically address the allocation of funds, the Departments and agencies are to follow the funding levels specified in the Congressional budget justifications accompanying the fiscal year 2004 budget or the underlying authorizing statute and should give full consideration to all items, including items allocating specific funding included in the House and Senate reports. With respect to the provisions in the House and Senate reports that specifically allocate funds, each has been reviewed and those that are jointly concurred in have been included in this joint statement.

A summary chart appears later in this statement showing the Federal appropriations by account and the allocation of District funds by agency or office under each appropriation, the fiscal year 2004 request, the House and Senate recommendations, and the conference allowance.

The District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2004, put in place by this bill, incorporates the following agreements of the managers:

AN ACT

Making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the District of Columbia and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I--FEDERAL FUNDS

Federal Payment for Resident Tuition Support

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia, to be deposited into a dedicated account, for a nationwide program to be administered by the Mayor, for District of Columbia resident tuition support, \$17,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such funds, including any interest accrued thereon, may be used on behalf of eligible District of Columbia residents to pay an amount based upon the difference between in-State and out-of-State tuition at public institutions of higher education, or to pay up to \$2,500 each year at eligible private institutions of higher education: Provided further, That the awarding of such funds may be prioritized on the basis of a resident's academic merit, the income and need of eligible students and such other factors as may be authorized: Provided further, That the District of Columbia government shall maintain a dedicated account for the Resident Tuition Support Program that shall consist of the Federal funds appropriated to the Program in this Act and any subsequent appropriations, any unobligated balances from prior fiscal years, and any interest earned in this or any fiscal year: Provided further, That the account shall be under the control of the District of Columbia Chief Financial Officer who shall use those funds solely for the purposes of carrying out the Resident Tuition Support Program: Provided further, That the Office of the Chief Financial Officer shall provide a quarterly financial report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate for these funds showing, by object class, the expenditures made and the purpose therefor: Provided further, That not more than 7 percent of the total amount appropriated for this program may be used for administrative expenses.

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CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$17,000,000 for a Federal payment for resident tuition support as proposed by both the House and Senate. The agreement also includes language to require the Office of the Chief Financial Officer to provide a quarterly financial report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate as proposed by the House. The Senate bill required the Resident Tuition Support Office and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer to provide such a report.

Federal Payment for Emergency Planning and Security Costs in the District of Columbia

For necessary expenses, as determined by the Mayor of the District of Columbia in written consultation with the elected county or city officials of surrounding jurisdictions, \$11,000,000, to remain available until expended, to reimburse the District of Columbia for the costs of providing public safety at events related to the presence of the national capital in the District of Columbia and for the costs of providing support to respond to immediate and specific terrorist threats or attacks in the District of Columbia or surrounding jurisdictions: Provided, That any amount provided under this heading shall be available only after notice of its proposed use has been transmitted by the President to Congress and such amount has been apportioned pursuant to chapter 15 of title 31, United States Code.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$11,000,000 for a Federal payment for emergency planning and security costs in the District of Columbia. This amount, together with funds carried over from fiscal year 2003, provides a total program level of \$15,000,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate. The agreement makes a technical correction describing the use of these funds as proposed by the House.

Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Courts

For salaries and expenses for the District of Columbia Courts, \$167,765,000, to be allocated as follows: for the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, \$8,775,000, of which not to exceed \$1,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; for the District of Columbia Superior Court, \$83,387,000, of which not to exceed \$1,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; for the District of Columbia Court System, \$40,006,000, of which not to exceed \$1,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; and \$35,597,000, to remain available until September 30, 2005, for capital improvements for District of Columbia courthouse facilities: Provided, That funds made available for capital improvements shall be expended consistent with the General Services Administration master plan study and building evaluation report: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of other Federal agencies, with payroll and financial services to be provided on a contractual basis with the General Services Administration (GSA), said services to include the preparation of monthly financial reports, copies of which shall be submitted directly by GSA to the President and to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate: Provided further, That 30 days after providing written notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the District of Columbia Courts may reallocate not more than \$1,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading among the items and entities funded under such heading.

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CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$167,765,000 for a Federal payment to the District of Columbia courts, instead of \$163,819,000 as proposed by the House and \$172,104,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included in this amount is \$3,946,000 above the President's request for fire and security system upgrades, Moultrie Courthouse renovation, and the Integrated Justice Information System. The Courts shall provide written notification of how this funding will be distributed to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

The agreement includes a provision as proposed by the Senate to allow the District of Columbia courts to reallocate not more than \$1,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading among items and entities funded under this heading. The House bill allowed funds for the Court of Appeals, Superior Court, and Court System to be reallocated, but such reallocation may increase or decrease funding for such entity by no more than two percent.

The conferees understand the Courts have submitted plans to the National Capital Planning Commission for the restoration of the Old Courthouse for re-use by the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, but the Commission is holding up review of these plans pending an agreement with the Law Enforcement Museum on a design for the outdoor plaza area. The conferees expect the project will move forward as quickly as possible to permit efficient use of taxpayer dollars, and note that delaying the review and approval of the restoration plan could needlessly increase the cost of the project.

Defender Services in District of Columbia Courts

For payments authorized under section 11-2604 and section 11-2605, D.C. Official Code (relating to representation provided under the District of Columbia Criminal Justice Act), payments for counsel appointed in proceedings in the Family Court of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia under chapter 23 of title 16, D.C. Official Code, or pursuant to contractual agreements to provide guardian ad litem representation, training, technical assistance and/or such other services as are necessary to improve the quality of guardian ad litem representation, payments for counsel appointed in adoption proceedings under chapter 3 of title 16, D.C. Code, and payments for counsel authorized under section 21-2060, D.C. Official Code (relating to representation provided under the District of Columbia Guardianship, Protective Proceedings, and Durable Power of Attorney Act of 1986), \$32,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the funds provided in this Act under the heading ``Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Courts" (other than the \$35,597,000 provided under such heading for capital improvements for District of Columbia courthouse facilities) may also be used for payments under this heading: Provided further, That in addition to the funds provided under this heading, the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia shall use funds provided in this Act under the heading ``Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Courts" (other than the \$35,597,000 provided under such heading for capital improvements for District of Columbia courthouse facilities), to make payments described under this heading for obligations incurred during any fiscal year: Provided further, That funds provided under this heading shall be administered by the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, this appropriation shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for expenses of other Federal agencies, with payroll and financial services to be provided on a contractual basis with the General Services Administration (GSA), said services to include the preparation of monthly financial reports, copies of which shall be submitted directly by GSA to the President and to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

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CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$32,000,000 for Defender Services in District of Columbia courts as proposed by both the House and Senate.

The agreement includes language as proposed by the Senate to allow funds to be used for payments for counsel appointed in adoption proceedings under chapter 3 of title 16, D.C. Code. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes modified Senate language to allow the courts to enter into contractual agreements to provide guardian ad litem representation, training, technical assistance, and/or other services to improve the quality of guardian ad litem representation. The House bill contained no similar provision. The Joint Committee on Judicial Administration of the District of Columbia shall monitor the guardian ad litem program and provide the necessary technical support to ensure superior representation of children and families.

The agreement also includes two provisions as proposed by the House to allow District of Columbia Court funds to be used for payments under this heading and to allow the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration to use District of Columbia Court funds to make payments described under this heading for obligations incurred during any fiscal year. The Senate bill contained no similar provisions.

Federal Payment to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For salaries and expenses, including the transfer and hire of motor vehicles, of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia and the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, as authorized by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, \$168,435,000, of which not to exceed \$2,000 is for official reception and representation expenses related to Community Supervision and Pretrial Services Agency programs; of which not to exceed \$25,000 is for dues and assessments relating to the implementation of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Interstate Supervision Act of 2002; of which \$105,814,000 shall be for necessary expenses of Community Supervision and Sex Offender Registration, to include expenses relating to the supervision of adults subject to protection orders or the provision of services for or related to such persons; of which \$37,411,000 shall be available to the Pretrial Services Agency; and of which \$25,210,000 shall be transferred to the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of other Federal agencies: Provided further, That notwithstanding chapter 12 of title 40, United States Code, the Director may acquire by purchase, lease, condemnation, or donation, and renovate as necessary, Building Number 17, 1900 Massachusetts Avenue, Southeast, Washington, District of Columbia to house or supervise offenders and defendants, with funds made available for this purpose in Public Law 107-96: Provided further, That the Director is authorized to accept and use gifts in the form of in-kind contributions of space and hospitality to support offender and defendant programs, and equipment and vocational training services to educate and train offenders and defendants: Provided further, That the Director shall keep accurate and detailed records of the acceptance and use of any gift or donation under the previous proviso, and shall make such records available for audit and public inspection.

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CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$168,435,000 for a Federal payment to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, instead of \$163,081,000 as proposed by the House and \$173,396,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included in this amount is \$1,910,000 above the President's request to reduce supervision caseload ratios for sex-offenders, mental health, and domestic violence cases to 25:1 by the end of fiscal year 2004. Current caseload ratios for these high-risk offenders are 36:1, 47:1, and 42:1 respectively.

The agreement includes language as proposed by the Senate to allow the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia to transfer and hire motor vehicles. The House bill contained no similar provision. The agreement does not include Public Defender Service descriptive language as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include a provision proposed by the Senate to allow the Director of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency the authority to accept appropriation reimbursements from the District government for space and services provided on a cost reimbursable basis. The House bill contained no similar provision.

Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority, \$30,000,000, to remain available until expended, to continue implementation of the Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Plan: Provided, That the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority provides a 100 percent match for this payment.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$30,000,000 for a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority for the continued implementation of the Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Plan, instead of \$35,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$25,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Federal Payment for Hospital Bioterrorism Preparedness in the District of Columbia

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Department of Health to support hospital bioterrorism preparedness in the District of Columbia, \$7,500,000, of which \$3,750,000 shall be for the Children's National Medical Center in the District of Columbia for the expansion of quarantine facilities and the establishment of a decontamination facility, and \$3,750,000 shall be for the Washington Hospital Center for construction of containment facilities.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$7,500,000 for a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Department of Health for hospital bioterrorism preparedness in the District of Columbia, instead of \$10,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained no similar provision. Of this amount, \$3,750,000 is for the expansion of quarantine facilities and the establishment of a decontamination facility at Children's National Medical Center and \$3,750,000 is for construction of containment facilities at the Washington Hospital Center.

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Federal Payment for the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Department of Transportation, \$5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2005, for design and construction of a continuous pedestrian and bicycle trail system from the Potomac River to the District's border with Maryland.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$5,000,000 for a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Department of Transportation for design and construction of a continuous pedestrian and bicycle trail system from the Potomac River to the District's border with Maryland, instead of \$4,300,000 as proposed by the House and \$6,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The agreement also makes these funds available until September 30, 2005, as proposed by the House. The Senate bill made these funds available until expended. The conferees concur with language contained in the Senate report requiring the Comptroller General to conduct a study of National Park Service land in the District of Columbia.

Federal Payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

For a Federal payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, \$1,300,000, to support initiatives related to the coordination of Federal and local criminal justice resources in the District of Columbia.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$1,300,000 for a Federal payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council as proposed by the House. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

Federal Payment for Capital Development in the District of Columbia

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia for capital development, \$8,150,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$150,000 shall be for renovations at Eastern Market and \$8,000,000 shall be for the Unified Communications Center.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$8,150,000 for a Federal payment to the District of Columbia for capital development, instead of \$8,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$5,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included in this amount is \$150,000 for renovations at Eastern Market. Also included in this amount is \$8,000,000 for the Unified Communications Center as proposed by the House, instead of \$5,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Federal Payment for Public School Facilities

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Public Schools, \$4,500,000, of which \$500,000 shall be for a window repair and reglazing program and \$4,000,000 shall be for a playground repair and replacement program.

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CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$4,500,000 for a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Public Schools for public school facilities. The Senate bill contained no similar provision. Of this amount, \$500,000 is for a window repair and reglazing program and \$4,000,000 is for a playground repair and replacement program.

Federal Payment for a Family Literacy Program

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia, \$2,000,000 for a family literacy program to address the needs of literacy-challenged parents while endowing their children with an appreciation for literacy and strengthening familial ties: Provided, That the District of Columbia shall provide a 100 percent match with local funds as a condition of receiving this payment.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$2,000,000 for a Federal payment to the District of Columbia for a family literacy program as proposed by the House. The Senate bill contained no similar provision. The agreement also includes a provision as proposed by the House to require the District to provide a 100 percent match with local funds as a condition of receiving this payment. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

Federal Payment for Transportation Assistance

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Department of Transportation, \$3,500,000, of which \$500,000 shall be allocated to implement a downtown circulator transit system, and of which \$3,000,000 shall be to offset a portion of the District of Columbia's allocated operating subsidy payment to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$3,500,000 for a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Department of Transportation for transportation assistance as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained no similar provision. Of this amount, \$500,000 is for a downtown circulator transit system and \$3,000,000 is for the District's operating subsidy payment to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

Federal Payment for Foster Care Improvements in the District of Columbia

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia for foster care improvements, \$14,000,000: Provided, That \$9,000,000 shall be for the Child and Family Services Agency, of which \$2,000,000 shall be to establish an early intervention program to provide intensive and immediate services for foster children; of which \$1,000,000 shall be to establish an emergency support fund to purchase items necessary to allow children to remain in the care of an approved and licensed family member; of which \$3,000,000 shall be for a loan repayment program for social workers who meet certain agency-established requirements; of which \$3,000,000 shall be to upgrade the agency's computer database to a web-based technology and to provide computer technology for social workers: Provided further, That \$3,900,000 shall be for the Department of Mental Health to provide all court-ordered or agency-required mental health screenings, assessments and treatments for children under the supervision of the Child and Family Services Agency: Provided further, That the Director of the Department of Mental Health shall initiate

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court-ordered or agency-required mental health services within 3 days of notification that service is needed: Provided further, That the Director of the Department of Mental Health shall ensure that court-ordered or agency-required mental health assessments are completed within 15 days of the request and that all assessments be provided to the Court within 5 days of completion of the assessment: Provided further, That \$1,100,000 shall be for the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments, to develop a program in conjunction with the Foster and Adoptive Parents Advocacy Center, to provide respite care for and recruitment of foster parents: Provided further, That the Mayor shall submit a detailed expenditure plan for the use of funds provided under this heading within 15 days of enactment of this legislation to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate: Provided further, That the funds provided under this heading shall not be made available until 30 calendar days after the submission of a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate: Provided further, That with the exception of funds provided for the Department of Mental Health and the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments, no part of this appropriation may be used for contractual community-based services: Provided further, That the Comptroller General shall prepare and submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate an accounting of all obligations and expenditures of the funds provided under this heading: Provided further, That the Comptroller General shall initiate management reviews of the Child and Family Services Agency and the Department of Mental Health and shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate no later than 6 months after enactment of this Act.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$14,000,000 for a Federal payment for foster care improvements in the District of Columbia as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained no similar provision. Of this amount, \$9,000,000 is for the District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency, \$3,900,000 is for the District of Columbia Department of Mental Health, and \$1,100,000 is for the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments.

Federal Payment to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia

For a Federal payment to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia, \$32,350,000: Provided, That these funds shall be available for the projects and in the amounts specified in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act: Provided further, That each entity that receives funding under this heading shall submit to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate a report on the activities carried out with such funds no later than March 15, 2004.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$32,350,000 for a Federal payment to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia, instead of \$10,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$33,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. These funds are for programs and activities to support economic development and infrastructure in the District, and the health, education, and job training needs of District residents and are to be allocated as follows: \$50,000 to the Educational Advancement Alliance for the Youth Civic Engagement and DC Exposure program; \$75,000 to the Polaris Project for an outreach program to assist victims of trafficking; \$100,000 for Anacostia Town Hall and Entertainment Center and the Washington Ballet for a collaborative effort to complete construction of a dance studio to serve low-income children; \$100,000 to Asian American Leadership, Empowerment and Development for Youth and Families for educational and social programs; \$100,000 to the Association for the Preservation of

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Historic Congressional Cemetery for the development of a comprehensive landscape plan, the removal of dead or dying trees, and the continued repair of the Public Vault; \$100,000 to the Levine School of Music for the establishment of a DC Charter Schools Music Education program; \$100,000 to the Latin American Youth Center for renovation of a residential home for teen girls; \$100,000 to the National Child Research Center for the establishment of early childhood education programs; \$100,000 to the Youth Leadership Foundation for character building programs for middle school students; \$125,000 to the Shakespeare Theater for educational outreach programs in the District of Columbia public schools; \$150,000 to the International Youth Service and Development Corps for the Washington, D.C. Mentoring Friends program and the People's House Hotline; \$150,000 to KidBiz3000 for a reading comprehension, fluency and vocabulary program in District of Columbia schools; \$150,000 to Kids Voting USA for the establishment of citizenship programs in the District of Columbia; \$150,000 to the Les Aspin Center of Government for training and development of the Community Service and Outreach program; \$150,000 to Safe Shores--The D.C. Children's Advocacy Center for outreach and services to child abuse victims in the District; \$150,000 to Southeastern University for expansion of the E-Learning program; \$200,000 to the Best Friends Foundation for a youth development program for District youth; \$200,000 to the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of the District of Columbia for expansion of services to children in the Family Court; \$200,000 to the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus to purchase and equip additional mobile vans to screen for and treat glaucoma; \$200,000 to Everybody Wins! DC, Inc. for the Power Lunch mentoring and literacy program; \$200,000 to Friends of Fort Dupont Ice Arena for capital improvements; \$200,000 to the National Music Center and Museum Foundation Institute for Education and the Arts for a program to use the performing and visual arts as teaching and learning tools in District public schools; \$200,000 to the District of Columbia Public Libraries to expand access to public computers and the Internet in neighborhoods where it is needed the most; \$200,000 to the Three Doctors Foundation, Inc. for an educational and motivational lecture series to include District of Columbia high schools; \$200,000 to Values First, Inc. for the continuation of a values infusion program in the District of Columbia public schools; \$200,000 to Washington Center on Best Practices for assistance to and promotion of early college awareness programs; \$250,000 to American Cities Foundation to convene policymakers and civic leaders in the District of Columbia to address urban challenges; \$250,000 to the ARISE Foundation for a life-management skills program targeting high-risk youth in the District; \$250,000 to the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop for capital improvements; \$250,000 to the Caribbean American Mission for Education Research and Action to build linkages between Caribbean educational entities and District of Columbia and other regional higher education institutions; \$250,000 to New Leaders for New Schools for the development of fellows partnerships with District public schools and public charter schools; \$250,000 to the Phelps-Stokes Fund for the implementation of the Teacher's Laboratory and Workshop for District of Columbia Public School teachers; \$300,000 to the DC Safe Kids Campaign to establish additional child safety seat fitting stations throughout low-income neighborhoods in the District of Columbia; \$350,000 to Friends in Choice in Urban Schools for the development of new charter schools in the District; \$350,000 to Soaring Towards Educational Enrichment via Equine Discovery, Inc. for an education and recreation program in the District; \$400,000 to Catalyst for the establishment of the Benjamin Banneker Institute for Science and Technology; \$400,000 to Community Youth Connection to provide clothing, shoes, eyeglasses, and services to low-income school-age children; \$400,000 to the Eisenhower Foundation's Youth Safe Haven and Delancey Street Replication for services to reduce crime, drug use, and improve the lives of children in this neighborhood; \$400,000 to Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic Services for teacher training in District of Columbia schools; \$400,000 to initiate a Targeted Abstinence Program in the District of Columbia that will provide technical training and resource materials to promote effective intervention strategies; \$400,000 to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' District of Columbia Area Housing Trust Fund to increase funds available in a pool of resources to provide low-income housing in the District of Columbia; \$450,000 to The House DC, Inc. for renovations; \$500,000 to the Discovery Creek Children's Museum for the purchase of supplies for mobile school exhibits and to increase access to the museum's programs on the Chesapeake Bay and the

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Anacostia River; \$500,000 for implementation of the Environmental Active Cap demonstration project on the Anacostia River; \$500,000 to Gospel Rescue Ministries of Washington, DC for a residential program to help men and women recover from substance abuse, homelessness, and chronic unemployment; \$500,000 to the National Capital Children's Museum for planning and design; \$500,000 to the National Rehabilitation Hospital for capital improvements; \$500,000 to Trident Systems Incorporated for deployment of the District Public Safety Situation Awareness system; \$500,000 to the Second Chance Employment Service for capital equipment to expand services for women who have been victims of domestic violence; \$500,000 to the Washington Opera for the Education and Community program to enhance classroom learning in District of Columbia Public Schools through music education and with the D.C. Arts Humanities Education Collaborative; \$600,000 to Green Door for completion of a new facility to provide coordinated services for individuals with mental illness; \$750,000 to the Center for Mental Health, Inc. to increase the number of families in the District served through its model of family-centered treatment; \$750,000 to the Historical Society of Washington for the City Museum to develop educational programming and materials for District school children; \$750,000 to the Institute for Educational Equity and Opportunity for educational programs; \$750,000 to the National Center for Manufacturing Sciences for a partnership with the Excel Institute to develop a job training program for District residents; \$750,000 to the Whitman-Walker Clinic for renovation of the Max Robinson Center; \$850,000 to the Women's Center for the expansion of the Family Strengthening Program and Hispanic Outreach Service into the District of Columbia; \$1,000,000 to Access Housing for renovation of the Southeast Veterans Service Center; \$1,000,000 to Barracks Row Main Street, Inc. for the construction of two gateways; \$1,000,000 to Shakespeare Theater for construction of a new downtown facility which will provide affordable access to the Arts; \$1,050,000 to Voyager Expanded Learning for implementation of the Universal Literacy Program in District of Columbia schools; \$1,200,000 to the National Trust for Historic Preservation for the restoration of the Lincoln Cottage and for the creation of interpretive programs and exhibits at the site; \$1,500,000 to the Old Naval Hospital Foundation project for creation of a community center on Capitol Hill; \$2,000,000 to St. Coletta of Greater Washington, Inc. for property acquisition and construction of a facility to provide services for mentally retarded and multiple-handicapped adolescents and adults in the District of Columbia; and \$5,000,000 to Children's National Medical Center in the District of Columbia for expansion of a neo-natal care unit, pediatric intensive care unit, and cardiac intensive care unit.

The agreement includes \$200,000 to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) for auditors, attorneys, accountants, and additional staff to review and audit all entities who are receiving funding under this heading. The conferees expect that the OCFO will report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate on the financial status of these organizations and how they have used Federal funds provided under this heading. The conferees expect all entities receiving funds to provide proper access to records as is necessary for the OCFO to carry out these reviews.

The agreement includes a provision as proposed by the Senate to require each entity that receives funding under this heading to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, a report on the activities carried out with such funds no later than March 15, 2004. The House bill contained no similar provision.

Federal Payment for Emergency Personnel Cross Training

For a Federal payment to the Emergency Management Agency, \$500,000 for activities related to the cross training of police officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and other emergency personnel: Provided, That this funding shall not be obligated until the Agency submits a detailed cross training plan for the District's public safety workforce to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

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CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$500,000 for a Federal payment to the Emergency Management Agency for activities related to the cross training of police officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and other emergency personnel. The agreement makes these funds contingent upon the submission of a detailed cross training plan for the District's public safety workforce. The House and Senate bills contained no similar provision.

Federal Payment for School Improvement

For a Federal payment for a School Improvement Program in the District of Columbia, \$40,000,000, to be allocated as follows: for the District of Columbia Public Schools, \$13,000,000 to improve public school education in the District of Columbia, as specified in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act; for the State Education Office, \$13,000,000 to expand quality charter schools in the District of Columbia, as specified in the statement of the managers on the conference report accompanying this Act; for the Secretary of the Department of Education, \$14,000,000 to provide opportunity scholarships for students in the District of Columbia in accordance with title III of this Act, of which up to \$1,000,000 may be used to administer and fund assessments for title III of this Act: Provided, That the District of Columbia Public Schools shall submit a plan for the use of funds provided under this heading for public school education to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, and the Committee on Education and the Workforce and the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate: Provided further, That the funds provided under this heading for public school education shall not be made available until 30 calendar days after the submission of a spending plan by the District of Columbia Public Schools to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$40,000,000 for a Federal payment for a school improvement program in the District of Columbia, instead of \$10,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$27,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Included in this amount is \$13,000,000 for the District of Columbia Public Schools to improve public school education; \$13,000,000 for the State Education Office to expand quality charter schools in the District of Columbia; and \$14,000,000 for the Secretary of the Department of Education to provide opportunity scholarships for students in the District of Columbia.

The conferees expect that the \$13,000,000 provided to the District of Columbia Public Schools for the improvement of public school education in the District of Columbia shall be used to strengthen leadership and instructional excellence through principal and teacher recruitment and retention, and to increase student achievement through supplemental services and public school choice.

The \$13,000,000 provided to the State Education Office to expand charter schools in the District of Columbia shall be distributed as follows: \$5,000,000 for the City Build Charter School Initiative; \$6,000,000 for the Direct Loans Fund for Charter School Improvement, of which not more than five percent shall be for administrative expenses; and \$2,000,000 as a one-time payment to the Charter School Facilities Fund.

The funding to develop the City Build Charter School Initiative will create five new charter schools in the District. The conferees support the concept that improving education is integral to securing neighborhoods and promoting urban development. The Mayor shall submit a plan to the Committees on

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Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate within thirty days of enactment, identifying the five potential City Build charter schools and detailing the city's plan for implementation of the Initiative.

In identifying the schools, the Mayor shall take into account how a new school would contribute to and encourage economic development in a specific neighborhood by: attracting business investment; stabilizing and increasing the population; and encouraging community collaboration. The conferees recommend that the Mayor hold a public meeting to consult with advocacy groups and community leaders on the location of the five City Build pilot schools. The Mayor shall notify Congress at regular intervals on the progress of the Initiative.

The \$14,000,000 provided to the Secretary of the Department of Education is to provide opportunity scholarships to low-income students in the District of Columbia who are attending consistently under-performing public schools to choose to attend private schools within the District of Columbia. These scholarships will be for tuition, transportation, and fees at participating private schools within the District and cannot exceed \$7,500 per student. If the funds provided are not sufficient to serve all the eligible applicants, scholarships will be awarded through random selection. The agreement intends that up to \$1,000,000 of these funds may be used to administer and fund assessments for title III of this Act. The conferees expect the Secretary of Education to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mayor of the District of Columbia to select one or more grantees to administer the scholarship program through a competitive process.

The conferees expect that the Memorandum of Understanding between the Mayor and the Secretary will include, but not be limited to, the following components: (1) strong accountability measures and program performance evaluations; (2) specifications for a lottery system which will provide fair and unbiased acceptance of students into the scholarship program, and allow participating schools to consider a sibling preference; (3) joint oversight by the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Secretary of Education of the program's operations; (4) the evaluation and methodology for the selection of participating schools which have met the District of Columbia's current licensure requirements; (5) the methodology for determining the tuition and fees of participating schools, including the actual cost; (6) the development of appropriate oversight and accountability measures; and (7) teacher quality criteria.

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TITLE II--DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FUNDS

OPERATING EXPENSES

Division of Expenses

The following amounts are appropriated for the District of Columbia for the current fiscal year out of the general fund of the District of Columbia, except as otherwise specifically provided: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in section 450A of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, sec. 1-204.50a) and section 417 and section 436 of this Act, the total amount appropriated in this Act for operating expenses for the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2004 under this heading shall not exceed the lesser of the sum of the total revenues of the District of Columbia for such fiscal year or \$6,326,138,000 (of which \$3,832,734,000 shall be from local funds, \$1,568,734,000 shall be from Federal grant funds, \$910,904,000 shall be from other funds, and \$13,766,000 shall be from private funds), in addition, \$119,650,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments: Provided further, That this amount may be increased by proceeds of one-time transactions, which are expended for emergency or unanticipated operating or capital needs: Provided further, That such increases shall be approved by enactment of local District law and shall comply with all reserve requirements contained in the District of Columbia Home Rule Act as amended by this Act: Provided further, That the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall take such steps as are necessary to assure that the District of Columbia meets these requirements, including the apportioning by the Chief Financial Officer of the appropriations and funds made available to the District during fiscal year 2004, except that the Chief Financial Officer may not reprogram for operating expenses any funds derived from bonds, notes, or other obligations issued for capital projects.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement provides that operating expenses for the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2004 shall not exceed \$6,326,138,000, of which \$3,832,734,000 is from local funds, including \$96,248,000 from funds identified in the fiscal year 2002 comprehensive annual financial report as the District's fund balance funds, \$1,568,734,000 is from Federal grant funds, \$910,904,000 is from other funds, and \$13,766,000 is from private funds as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$119,650,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments, instead of \$59,800,000 as proposed by the House and \$109,500,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The agreement exempts sections 417 and 436 from the total appropriation provided under this heading. The House bill provided an exemption for section 417 and the Senate bill provided for the exemption of all provisions of this Act.

The agreement does not include an earmark for intra-District funds as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained no similar provision.

Governmental Direction and Support

Governmental direction and support, \$284,415,000 (including \$206,825,000 from local funds, \$57,440,000 from Federal grant funds, and \$20,150,000 from other funds), in addition, \$32,350,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading ``Federal Payment to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia'', \$11,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading ``Federal Payment for Emergency Planning and Security Costs in the District of Columbia'', \$2,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading ``Federal

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Payment for a family literacy program", and \$1,100,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for Foster Care Improvements in the District of Columbia": Provided, That not to exceed \$2,500 for the Mayor, \$2,500 for the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, \$2,500 for the City Administrator, and \$2,500 for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer shall be available from this appropriation for official reception and representation expenses: Provided further, That any program fees collected from the issuance of debt shall be available for the payment of expenses of the debt management program of the District of Columbia: Provided further, That no revenues from Federal sources shall be used to support the operations or activities of the Statehood Commission and Statehood Compact Commission: Provided further, That the District of Columbia shall identify the sources of funding for Admission to Statehood from its own locally generated revenues: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, or Mayor's Order 86-45, issued March 18, 1986, the Office of the Chief Technology Officer's delegated small purchase authority shall be \$500,000: Provided further, That the District of Columbia government may not require the Office of the Chief Technology Officer to submit to any other procurement review process, or to obtain the approval of or be restricted in any manner by any official or employee of the District of Columbia government, for purchases that do not exceed \$500,000: Provided further, That not to exceed \$25,000, to remain available until expended, of the funds in the District of Columbia Antitrust Fund established pursuant to section 820 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Act of 1985 (D.C. Law 6-85; D.C. Official Code, sec. 2-308.20) is hereby made available for the use of the Office of the Corporation Counsel of the District of Columbia in accordance with the laws establishing this fund.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$284,415,000 for governmental direction and support, including \$206,825,000 from local funds, \$57,440,000 from Federal grant funds, and \$20,150,000 from other funds as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$46,450,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments, instead of \$10,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$21,100,000 as proposed by the Senate. These Federal payment funds are allocated as follows:

Office of the Mayor.--\$1,100,000 for foster care improvements, \$2,000,000 for a family literacy program, and \$11,000,000 for emergency planning and security costs.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer.--\$32,350,000 to support economic development and infrastructure in the District, and the health, education, and job training needs of District residents.

The conferees are disappointed with the slow pace in which the District and the Board of Education are providing charter schools access to surplus public school facilities and space in underutilized schools. There are 28 surplus schools in the city's inventory that could be made available to charter schools. Likewise, student enrollment in public schools is down almost 15,000 freeing up space equivalent to 20 school buildings. Yet 23 charter schools do not have permanent homes and new charter schools are being established each year. The conferees believe the District should take this opportunity to provide strong leadership and foster a plan to develop and promote public schools and public charter schools, including the co-location of schools. The conferees direct the District government and the Board of Education to develop a task force to study what can be done to ensure the equitable and efficient use of public school buildings, both surplus and underutilized buildings. The conferees request a report no later than January 16, 2004 on the status of this task force.

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Economic Development and Regulation

Economic development and regulation, \$276,647,000 (including \$53,336,000 from local funds, \$91,077,000 from Federal grant funds, \$132,109,000 from other funds, and \$125,000 from private funds), of which \$15,000,000 collected by the District of Columbia in the form of BID tax revenue shall be paid to the respective BIDs pursuant to the Business Improvement Districts Act of 1996 (D.C. Law 11-134; D.C. Official Code, sec. 2-1215.01 et seq.), and the Business Improvement Districts Amendment Act of 1997 (D.C. Law 12-26; D.C. Official Code, sec. 2-1215.15 et seq.): Provided, That such funds are available for acquiring services provided by the General Services Administration: Provided further, That Business Improvement Districts shall be exempt from taxes levied by the District of Columbia.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$276,647,000 for economic development and support, including \$53,336,000 from local funds, \$91,077,000 from Federal grant funds, \$132,109,000 from other funds, and \$125,000 from private funds as proposed by both the House and Senate.

Public Safety and Justice

Public safety and justice, \$745,958,000 (including \$716,715,000 from local funds, \$10,290,000 from Federal grant funds, \$18,944,000 from other funds, and \$9,000 from private funds), in addition, \$1,300,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council" and \$500,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for Emergency Personnel Cross Training": Provided, That not to exceed \$500,000 shall be available from this appropriation for the Chief of Police for the prevention and detection of crime: Provided further, That the Mayor shall reimburse the District of Columbia National Guard for expenses incurred in connection with services that are performed in emergencies by the National Guard in a militia status and are requested by the Mayor, in amounts that shall be jointly determined and certified as due and payable for these services by the Mayor and the Commanding General of the District of Columbia National Guard: Provided further, That such sums as may be necessary for reimbursement to the District of Columbia National Guard under the preceding proviso shall be available from this appropriation, and the availability of the sums shall be deemed as constituting payment in advance for emergency services involved.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$745,958,000 for public safety and justice, including \$716,715,000 from local funds, \$10,290,000 from Federal grant funds, \$18,944,000 from other funds, and \$9,000 from private funds as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$1,800,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments, instead of \$1,300,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate bill contained no similar provision. These Federal payment funds are allocated as follows:

Emergency Management Agency--\$500,000 for emergency personnel cross training.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council--\$1,300,000 to support initiatives related to the coordination of Federal and local criminal justice resources in the District of Columbia.

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Public Education System

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Public education system, including the development of national defense education programs, \$1,157,841,000 (including \$962,941,000 from local funds, \$156,708,000 from Federal grant funds, \$27,074,000 from other funds, \$4,302,000 from private funds, and not to exceed \$6,816,000, to remain available until expended, from the Medicaid and Special Education Reform Fund established pursuant to the Medicaid and Special Education Reform Fund Establishment Act of 2002 (D.C. Law 14-190; D.C. Official Code 4-204.51 et seq.)), in addition, \$17,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for Resident Tuition Support", \$4,500,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for Public School Facilities", and \$26,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for School Improvement in the District of Columbia" to be allocated as follows:

(1) District of Columbia public schools.--\$870,135,000 (including \$738,444,000 from local funds, \$114,749,000 from Federal grant funds, \$6,527,000 from other funds, \$3,599,000 from private funds, and not to exceed \$6,816,000, to remain available until expended, from the Medicaid and Special Education Reform Fund established pursuant to the Medicaid and Special Education Reform Fund Establishment Act of 2002 (D.C. Law 14-190; D.C. Official Code 4-204.51 et seq.)), in addition, \$4,500,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for Public School Facilities" and \$13,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for School Improvement in the District of Columbia" shall be available for District of Columbia Public Schools: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule, or regulation, the evaluation process and instruments for evaluating District of Columbia Public School employees shall be a non-negotiable item for collective bargaining purposes: Provided further, That this appropriation shall not be available to subsidize the education of any nonresident of the District of Columbia at any District of Columbia public elementary or secondary school during fiscal year 2004 unless the nonresident pays tuition to the District of Columbia at a rate that covers 100 percent of the costs incurred by the District of Columbia that are attributable to the education of the nonresident (as established by the Superintendent of the District of Columbia Public Schools): Provided further, That notwithstanding the amounts otherwise provided under this heading or any other provision of law, there shall be appropriated to the District of Columbia Public Schools on July 1, 2004, an amount equal to 10 percent of the total amount provided for the District of Columbia Public Schools in the proposed budget of the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2005 (as submitted to Congress), and the amount of such payment shall be chargeable against the final amount provided for the District of Columbia Public Schools under the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2005: Provided further, That not to exceed \$2,500 for the Superintendent of Schools shall be available from this appropriation for official reception and representation expenses: Provided further, That the District of Columbia Public Schools shall submit to the Board of Education by January 1 and July 1 of each year a Schedule A showing all the current funded positions of the District of Columbia Public Schools, their compensation levels, and indicating whether the positions are encumbered: Provided further, That the Board of Education shall approve or disapprove each Schedule A within 30 days of its submission and provide the Council of the District of Columbia a copy of the Schedule A upon its approval.

(2) State education office.--\$38,752,000 (including \$9,959,000 from local funds, \$28,617,000 from Federal grant funds, and \$176,000 from other funds), in addition, \$17,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for Resident Tuition Support" and \$13,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for

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School Improvement in the District of Columbia" shall be available for the State Education Office: Provided, That of the amounts provided to the State Education Office, \$500,000 from local funds shall remain available until June 30, 2005 for an audit of the student enrollment of each District of Columbia Public School and of each District of Columbia public charter school.

(3) District of Columbia public charter schools.--\$137,531,000 from local funds shall be available for District of Columbia public charter schools: Provided, That there shall be quarterly disbursement of funds to the District of Columbia public charter schools, with the first payment to occur within 15 days of the beginning of the fiscal year: Provided further, That if the entirety of this allocation has not been provided as payments to any public charter schools currently in operation through the per pupil funding formula, the funds shall be available as follows: (A) the first \$3,000,000 shall be deposited in the Credit Enhancement Revolving Fund established pursuant to section 603(e) of the Student Loan Marketing Association Reorganization Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-208; 110 Stat. 3009; 20 U.S.C. 1155(e)); and (B) the balance shall be for public education in accordance with section 2403(b)(2) of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995 (D.C. Official Code, sec. 38-1804.03(b)(2)): Provided further, That of the amounts made available to District of Columbia public charter schools, \$25,000 shall be made available to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer as authorized by section 2403(b)(6) of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995 (D.C. Official Code, sec. 38-1804.03(b)(6)): Provided further, That \$660,000 of this amount shall be available to the District of Columbia Public Charter School Board for administrative costs: Provided further, That notwithstanding the amounts otherwise provided under this heading or any other provision of law, there shall be appropriated to the District of Columbia public charter schools on July 1, 2004, an amount equal to 25 percent of the total amount provided for payments to public charter schools in the proposed budget of the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2005 (as submitted to Congress), and the amount of such payment shall be chargeable against the final amount provided for such payments under the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2005.

(4) University of the district of Columbia.--\$80,660,000 (including \$48,656,000 from local funds, \$11,867,000 from Federal grant funds, \$19,434,000 from other funds, and \$703,000 from private funds) shall be available for the University of the District of Columbia: Provided, That this appropriation shall not be available to subsidize the education of nonresidents of the District of Columbia at the University of the District of Columbia, unless the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia adopts, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, a tuition rate schedule that will establish the tuition rate for nonresident students at a level no lower than the nonresident tuition rate charged at comparable public institutions of higher education in the metropolitan area: Provided further, That notwithstanding the amounts otherwise provided under this heading or any other provision of law, there shall be appropriated to the University of the District of Columbia on July 1, 2004, an amount equal to 10 percent of the total amount provided for the University of the District of Columbia in the proposed budget of the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2005 (as submitted to Congress), and the amount of such payment shall be chargeable against the final amount provided for the University of the District of Columbia under the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2005: Provided further, That not to exceed \$2,500 for the President of the University of the District of Columbia shall be available from this appropriation for official reception and representation expenses.

(5) District of Columbia public libraries.--\$28,287,000 (including \$26,750,000 from local funds, \$1,000,000 from Federal grant funds, and \$537,000 from other funds) shall be available for the District of Columbia Public Libraries: Provided, That not to exceed \$2,000 for the Public Librarian shall be available from this appropriation for official reception and representation expenses.

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(6) Commission on the arts and humanities.--\$2,476,000 (including \$1,601,000 from local funds, \$475,000 from Federal grant funds, and \$400,000 from other funds) shall be available for the Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$1,157,841,000 for the public education system, including \$962,941,000 from local funds, \$156,708,000 from Federal grant funds, \$27,074,000 from other funds, \$4,302,000 from private funds, and not to exceed \$6,816,000 from the Medicaid and Special Education Reform Fund as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$47,500,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments, instead of \$21,500,000 as proposed by the House and \$43,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. These Federal payment funds are allocated as follows:

District of Columbia Public Schools.--\$4,500,000 for public school facilities and \$13,000,000 for school improvement.

State Education Office.--\$13,000,000 for school improvement and \$17,000,000 for resident tuition support.

The conferees are disappointed with the slow pace in which the District and the Board of Education are providing charter schools access to surplus public school facilities and space in underutilized schools. There are 28 surplus schools in the city's inventory that could be made available to charter schools. Likewise, student enrollment in public schools is down almost 15,000 freeing up space equivalent to 20 school buildings. Yet 23 charter schools do not have permanent homes and new charter schools are being established each year. The conferees believe the District should take this opportunity to provide strong leadership and foster a plan to develop and promote public schools and public charter schools, including the co-location of schools. The conferees direct the District government and the Board of Education to develop a task force to study what can be done to ensure the equitable and efficient use of public school buildings, both surplus and underutilized buildings. The conferees request a report no later than January 16, 2004 on the status of this task force.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 designated elementary and secondary schools and libraries as beneficiaries of universal service for telecommunications services. This specific support, in the form of discounts on telecommunications services, has become known as the education rate or E-rate. The conferees request a report no later than March 1, 2004 that shows, by fiscal year, the total amount of E-rate funding District of Columbia Public Schools received and a breakout of which schools received funding and how much they received. The report should also include further details of how each school spent its E-rate funding and a brief description of the impact this funding has had on integrating technology into its curriculum and programs.

District of Columbia Public Schools.--The allocation includes \$870,135,000 for District of Columbia public schools, including \$738,444,000 from local funds, \$114,749,000 from Federal grant funds, \$6,527,000 from other funds, \$3,599,000 from private funds, and not to exceed \$6,816,000 from the Medicaid and Special Education Reform Fund as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$17,500,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments, instead of \$4,500,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

State Education Office.--The allocation includes \$38,752,000 for the State education office, including \$9,959,000 from local funds, \$28,617,000 from Federal grant funds, and \$176,000 from other funds as

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proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$30,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments, instead of \$43,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained no similar provision.

District of Columbia Public Charter Schools.--The allocation includes \$137,531,000 from local funds for District of Columbia public charter schools as proposed by both the House and Senate.

University of the District of Columbia.--The allocation includes \$80,660,000 for the University of the District of Columbia, including \$48,656,000 from local funds, \$11,867,000 from Federal grant funds, \$19,434,000 from other funds, and \$703,000 from private funds as proposed by both the House and Senate.

District of Columbia Public Libraries.--The allocation includes \$28,287,000 for District of Columbia public libraries, including \$26,750,000 from local funds, \$1,000,000 from Federal grant funds, and \$537,000 from other funds as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$200,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer to expand access to public computers and the Internet in neighborhoods where it is needed the most.

Commission on the Arts and Humanities.--The allocation includes \$2,476,000 for the commission on the arts and humanities, including \$1,601,000 from local funds, \$475,000 from Federal grant funds, and \$400,000 from other funds as proposed by both the House and Senate.

Human Support Services

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Human support services, \$2,360,067,000 (including \$1,030,223,000 from local funds, \$1,247,945,000 from Federal grant funds, \$24,330,000 from other funds, \$9,330,000 from private funds, and \$48,239,000, to remain available until expended, from the Medicaid and Special Education Reform Fund established pursuant to the Medicaid and Special Education Reform Fund Establishment Act of 2002 (D.C. Law 14-190; D.C. Official Code 4-204.51 et seq.)), in addition, \$7,500,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for Hospital Bioterrorism Preparedness in the District of Columbia" and \$12,900,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment to Foster Care Improvements in the District of Columbia": Provided, That the funds available from the Medicaid and Special Education Reform Fund are allocated as follows: not more than \$18,744,000 for Child and Family Services, not more than \$7,795,000 for the Department of Human Services, and not more than \$21,700,000 for the Department of Mental Health: Provided further, That \$27,959,000 of this appropriation, to remain available until expended, shall be available solely for District of Columbia employees' disability compensation: Provided further, That \$7,500,000 of this appropriation, to remain available until expended, shall be deposited in the Addiction Recovery Fund, established pursuant to section 5 of the Choice in Drug Treatment Act of 2000 (D.C. Law 13-146; D.C. Official Code, sec. 7-3004) and used exclusively for the purpose of the Drug Treatment Choice Program established pursuant to section 4 of the Choice in Drug Treatment Act of 2000 (D.C. Law 13-146; D.C. Official Code, sec. 7-3003): Provided further, That no less than \$2,000,000 of this appropriation shall be available exclusively for the purpose of funding the pilot substance abuse program for youth ages 14 through 21 years established pursuant to section 4212 of the Pilot Substance Abuse Program for Youth Act of 2001 (D.C. Law 14-28; D.C. Official Code, sec. 7-3101): Provided further, That \$4,500,000 of this appropriation, to remain available until expended, shall be deposited in the Interim Disability Assistance Fund established pursuant to section 201 of the District of Columbia Public Assistance Act of 1982 (D.C.

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Law 4-101; D.C. Official Code, sec. 4-202.01), to be used exclusively for the Interim Disability Assistance program and the purposes for that program set forth in section 407 of the District of Columbia Public Assistance Act of 1982 (D.C. Law 13-252; D.C. Official Code, sec. 4-204.07): Provided further, That not less than \$640,531 of this appropriation shall be available exclusively for the purpose of funding the Burial Assistance Program established by section 1802 of the Burial Assistance Program Reestablishment Act of 1999 (D.C. Law 13-38; D.C. Official Code, sec. 4-1001).

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$2,360,067,000 for human support services, including \$1,030,223,000 from local funds, \$1,247,945,000 from Federal grant funds, \$24,330,000 from other funds, \$9,330,000 from private funds, and \$48,239,000 from the Medicaid and Special Education Reform Fund as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$20,400,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments, instead of \$12,900,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained no similar provision. These Federal payment funds are allocated as follows:

Department of Mental Health.--\$3,900,000 for foster care improvements.

Department of Health.--\$7,500,000 for hospital bioterrorism preparedness.

Child and Family Services Agency.--\$9,000,000 for foster care improvements.

Public Works

Public works, including rental of one passenger-carrying vehicle for use by the Mayor and three passenger-carrying vehicles for use by the Council of the District of Columbia and leasing of passenger-carrying vehicles, \$327,046,000 (including \$308,028,000 from local funds, \$5,274,000 from Federal grant funds, and \$13,744,000 from other funds), in addition, \$3,500,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for Transportation Assistance": Provided, That this appropriation shall not be available for collecting ashes or miscellaneous refuse from hotels and places of business.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$327,046,000 for public works, including \$308,028,000 from local funds, \$5,274,000 from Federal grant funds, and \$13,744,000 from other funds as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$3,500,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained no similar provision. These Federal payment funds are allocated as follows:

Cash Reserve

For the cumulative cash reserve established pursuant to section 202(j)(2) of the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Act of 1995 (D.C. Official Code, sec. 47-392.02(j)(2)), \$50,000,000 from local funds.

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Emergency and Contingency Reserve Funds

For the emergency reserve fund and the contingency reserve fund under section 450A of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, sec. 1-204.50a), such amounts from local funds as are necessary to meet the balance requirements for such funds under such section.

Repayment of Loans and Interest

For payment of principal, interest, and certain fees directly resulting from borrowing by the District of Columbia to fund District of Columbia capital projects as authorized by sections 462, 475, and 490 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, secs. 1-204.62, 1-204.75, and 1-204.90), \$311,504,000 from local funds: Provided, That for equipment leases, the Mayor may finance \$14,300,000 of equipment cost, plus cost of issuance not to exceed 2 percent of the par amount being financed on a lease purchase basis with a maturity not to exceed 5 years.

Payment of Interest on Short-Term Borrowing

For payment of interest on short-term borrowing, \$3,000,000 from local funds.

Certificates of Participation

For principal and interest payments on the District's Certificates of Participation, issued to finance the ground lease underlying the building located at One Judiciary Square, \$4,911,000 from local funds.

Settlements and Judgments

For making refunds and for the payment of legal settlements or judgments that have been entered against the District of Columbia government, \$22,522,000 from local funds: Provided, That this appropriation shall not be construed as modifying or affecting the provisions of section 103 of this Act.

Wilson Building

For expenses associated with the John A. Wilson building, \$3,704,000 from local funds.

Workforce Investments

For workforce investments, \$22,308,000 from local funds, to be transferred by the Mayor of the District of Columbia within the various appropriation headings in this Act for which employees are properly payable.

Non-Departmental Agency

To account for anticipated costs that cannot be allocated to specific agencies during the development of the proposed budget, \$19,639,000 (including \$11,455,000 from local funds and \$8,184,000 from other funds) to be transferred by the Mayor of the District of Columbia within the various appropriations headings in this Act: Provided, That \$11,455,000 from local funds shall be for anticipated costs associated with the No Child Left Behind Act.

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Pay-As-You-Go Capital

For Pay-As-You-Go Capital funds in lieu of capital financing, \$11,267,000 from local funds, to be transferred to the Capital Fund, subject to the Criteria for Spending Pay-as-You-Go Funding Amendment Act of 2003 (D.C. Act 15-106): Provided, That pursuant to this Act, there are authorized to be transferred from Pay-As-You-Go Capital funds to other headings of this Act, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

Tax Increment Financing Program

For a Tax Increment Financing Program, \$1,940,000 from local funds.

Medicaid Disallowance

For making refunds associated with disallowed Medicaid funding, an amount not to exceed \$57,000,000 in local funds, to remain available until expended: Provided, That funds are derived from a transfer from the funds identified in the fiscal year 2002 comprehensive annual financial report as the District of Columbia's Grants Disallowance balance.

ENTERPRISE AND OTHER FUNDS

Water and Sewer Authority

For operation of the Water and Sewer Authority, \$259,095,000 from other funds, of which \$18,692,000 shall be apportioned for repayment of loans and interest incurred for capital improvement projects and payable to the District's debt service fund.

For construction projects, \$229,807,000, to be distributed as follows: \$99,449,000 for the Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant, \$16,739,000 for the sewer program, \$72,047,000 for the combined sewer program, \$5,993,000 for the stormwater program, \$24,431,000 for the water program, and \$11,148,000 for the capital equipment program; in addition, \$30,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority": Provided, That the requirements and restrictions that are applicable to general fund capital improvement projects and set forth in this Act under the Capital Outlay appropriation account shall apply to projects approved under this appropriation account.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$259,095,000 from other funds for the water and sewer authority as proposed by both the House and Senate. The agreement also includes \$229,807,000 from other funds for construction projects instead of \$199,807,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$30,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as a Federal payment for the combined sewer overflow long-term plan, instead of \$35,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$25,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Washington Aqueduct

For operation of the Washington Aqueduct, \$55,553,000 from other funds.

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Stormwater Permit Compliance Enterprise Fund

For operation of the Stormwater Permit Compliance Enterprise Fund, \$3,501,000 from other funds.

Lottery and Charitable Games Enterprise Fund

For the Lottery and Charitable Games Enterprise Fund, established by the District of Columbia Appropriation Act, 1982, for the purpose of implementing the Law to Legalize Lotteries, Daily Numbers Games, and Bingo and Raffles for Charitable Purposes in the District of Columbia (D.C. Law 3-172; D.C. Official Code, sec. 3-1301 et seq. and sec. 22-1716 et seq.), \$242,755,000 from other funds: Provided, That the District of Columbia shall identify the source of funding for this appropriation title from the District's own locally generated revenues: Provided further, That no revenues from Federal sources shall be used to support the operations or activities of the Lottery and Charitable Games Control Board.

Sports and Entertainment Commission

For the Sports and Entertainment Commission, \$13,979,000 from local funds.

District of Columbia Retirement Board

For the District of Columbia Retirement Board, established pursuant to section 121 of the District of Columbia Retirement Reform Act of 1979 (D.C. Official Code, sec. 1-711), \$13,895,000 from the earnings of the applicable retirement funds to pay legal, management, investment, and other fees and administrative expenses of the District of Columbia Retirement Board: Provided, That the District of Columbia Retirement Board shall provide to the Congress and to the Council of the District of Columbia a quarterly report of the allocations of charges by fund and of expenditures of all funds: Provided further, That the District of Columbia Retirement Board shall provide the Mayor, for transmittal to the Council of the District of Columbia, an itemized accounting of the planned use of appropriated funds in time for each annual budget submission and the actual use of such funds in time for each annual audited financial report.

Washington Convention Center Enterprise Fund

For the Washington Convention Center Enterprise Fund, \$69,742,000 from other funds.

National Capital Revitalization Corporation

For the National Capital Revitalization Corporation, \$7,849,000 from other funds.

Capital Outlay

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

For construction projects, an increase of \$1,004,796,000, of which \$601,708,000 shall be from local funds, \$46,014,000 from Highway Trust funds, \$38,311,000 from the Rights-of-way funds, \$218,880,000 from Federal grant funds, and a rescission of \$99,884,000 from local funds appropriated under this heading in prior fiscal years, for a net amount of \$904,913,000, to remain available until expended; in addition, \$8,150,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for Capital Development in the District of Columbia" and \$5,000,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act under the heading "Federal Payment for the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative": Provided, That

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funds for use of each capital project implementing agency shall be managed and controlled in accordance with all procedures and limitations established under the Financial Management System: Provided further, That all funds provided by this appropriation title shall be available only for the specific projects and purposes intended.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes \$1,004,796,000 for capital outlays, including \$601,708,000 from local funds, \$46,014,000 from Highway Trust funds, \$38,311,000 from the Rights-of-way funds, \$218,880,000 from Federal grant funds, and a rescission of \$99,884,000 from local funds appropriated under this heading in prior years as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the agreement includes \$13,150,000 from funds previously appropriated in this Act as Federal payments, instead of \$4,300,000 as proposed by the House and \$11,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. These Federal payment funds are allocated as follows: \$150,000 for renovations at Eastern Market; \$5,000,000 for the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative; and \$8,000,000 for the Unified Communications Center.

The conferees request that a report on the activities carried out with these funds be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate no later than March 15, 2004.

TITLE III--DC SCHOOL CHOICE INCENTIVE ACT OF 2003

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "DC School Choice Incentive Act of 2003".

SEC. 302. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Parents are best equipped to make decisions for their children, including the educational setting that will best serve the interests and educational needs of their child.

(2) For many parents in the District of Columbia, public school choice provided for under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 as well as under other public school choice programs, is inadequate due to capacity constraints. Available educational alternatives to the public schools are insufficient and more educational options are needed. In particular, funds are needed to assist low-income parents to exercise choice among enhanced public opportunities and private educational environments, whether religious or nonreligious. Therefore, in keeping with the spirit of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, school choice options, in addition to those already available to parents in the District of Columbia (such as magnet and charter schools and open enrollment schools) should be made available to those parents.

(3) In the most recent mathematics assessment on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), administered in 2000, a lower percentage of 4th-grade students in the District of Columbia demonstrated proficiency than was the case for any State. Seventy-six percent of the District of Columbia fourth-graders scored at the "below basic" level and of the 8th-grade students in the District of Columbia, only 6 percent of the students tested at the proficient or advanced levels, and 77 percent were below basic. In the most recent NAEP reading assessment, in 1998, only 10 percent of the District of Columbia fourth-graders could read proficiently, while 72 percent were below basic. At the 8th-grade level, 12 percent were proficient or advanced and 56 percent were below basic.

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(4) A program enacted for the valid secular purpose of providing educational assistance to low-income children in a demonstrably failing public school system is constitutional under *Zelman v. Simmons-Harris*, 536 U.S. 639 (2002), if it is neutral with respect to religion and provides assistance to a broad class of citizens who direct government aid to religious and secular schools solely as a result of their genuine and independent private choices.

(5) The Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Chairman of the Education Committee of the City Council of the District of Columbia, and the President of the District of Columbia Board of Education support this title.

(6) This title provides additional money for the District of Columbia public schools and therefore money for scholarships is not being taken out of money that would otherwise go to the District of Columbia public schools.

(7) This title creates a 5-year program tailored to the current needs and particular circumstances of low-income children in District of Columbia schools. This title does not establish parameters or requirements for other school choice programs.

SEC. 303. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this title is to provide low-income parents residing in the District of Columbia, particularly parents of students who attend elementary schools or secondary schools identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring under section 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6316), with expanded opportunities for enrolling their children in higher-performing schools in the District of Columbia.

SEC. 304. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

(a) **AUTHORITY.**--From funds appropriated to carry out this title, the Secretary shall award grants on a competitive basis to eligible entities with approved applications under section 305 to carry out activities to provide eligible students with expanded school choice opportunities. The Secretary may award a single grant or multiple grants, depending on the quality of applications submitted and the priorities of this title.

(b) **DURATION OF GRANTS.**--The Secretary may make grants under this section for a period of not more than 5 years.

(c) **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.**--The Secretary and the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall enter into a memorandum of understanding, as described in the statement of the managers, regarding the design of, selection of eligible entities to receive grants under, and implementation of, a program assisted under this title.

SEC. 305. APPLICATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**--In order to receive a grant under this title, an eligible entity shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may require.

(b) **CONTENTS.**--The Secretary may not approve the request of an eligible entity for a grant under this title unless the entity's application includes--

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(1) a detailed description of--

(A) how the entity will address the priorities described in section 306;

(B) how the entity will ensure that if more eligible students seek admission in the program than the program can accommodate, eligible students are selected for admission through a random selection process which gives weight to the priorities described in section 306;

(C) how the entity will ensure that if more participating eligible students seek admission to a participating school than the school can accommodate, participating eligible students are selected for admission through a random selection process;

(D) how the entity will notify parents of eligible students of the expanded choice opportunities and how the entity will ensure that parents receive sufficient information about their options to allow the parents to make informed decisions;

(E) the activities that the entity will carry out to provide parents of eligible students with expanded choice opportunities through the awarding of scholarships under section 307(a);

(F) how the entity will determine the amount that will be provided to parents for the tuition, fees, and transportation expenses, if any;

(G) how the entity will seek out private elementary schools and secondary schools in the District of Columbia to participate in the program, and will ensure that participating schools will meet the applicable requirements of this title and provide the information needed for the entity to meet the reporting requirements of this title;

(H) how the entity will ensure that participating schools are financially responsible and will use the funds received under this title effectively;

(I) how the entity will address the renewal of scholarships to participating eligible students, including continued eligibility; and

(J) how the entity will ensure that a majority of its voting board members or governing organization are residents of the District of Columbia; and

(2) an assurance that the entity will comply with all requests regarding any evaluation carried out under section 309.

SEC. 306. PRIORITIES.

In awarding grants under this title, the Secretary shall give priority to applications from eligible entities who will most effectively--

(1) give priority to eligible students who, in the school year preceding the school year for which the eligible student is seeking a scholarship, attended an elementary school or secondary school identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring under section 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6316);

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(2) target resources to students and families that lack the financial resources to take advantage of available educational options; and

(3) provide students and families with the widest range of educational options.

SEC. 307. USE OF FUNDS.

(a) SCHOLARSHIPS.--

(1) IN GENERAL.--Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), a grantee shall use the grant funds to provide eligible students with scholarships to pay the tuition, fees, and transportation expenses, if any, to enable them to attend the District of Columbia private elementary school or secondary school of their choice. Each grantee shall ensure that the amount of any tuition or fees charged by a school participating in the grantee's program under this title to an eligible student participating in the program does not exceed the amount of tuition or fees that the school customarily charges to students who do not participate in the program.

(2) PAYMENTS TO PARENTS.--A grantee shall make scholarship payments under the program under this title to the parent of the eligible student participating in the program, in a manner which ensures that such payments will be used for the payment of tuition, fees, and transportation expenses (if any), in accordance with this title.

(3) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.--

(A) VARYING AMOUNTS PERMITTED.--Subject to the other requirements of this section, a grantee may award scholarships in larger amounts to those eligible students with the greatest need.

(B) ANNUAL LIMIT ON AMOUNT.--The amount of assistance provided to any eligible student by a grantee under a program under this title may not exceed \$7,500 for any academic year.

(4) CONTINUATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS.--Notwithstanding section 312(3)(B), an eligible entity receiving a grant under this title may award a scholarship, for the second or any succeeding year of an eligible student's participation in a program under this title, to a student who comes from a household whose income does not exceed 200 percent of the poverty line.

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.--A grantee may use not more than 3 percent of the amount provided under the grant each year for the administrative expenses of carrying out its program under this title during the year, including--

- (1) determining the eligibility of students to participate;
- (2) providing information about the program and the schools involved to parents of eligible students;
- (3) selecting students to receive scholarships;
- (4) determining the amount of scholarships and issuing the scholarships to eligible students;
- (5) compiling and maintaining financial and programmatic records; and

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(6) providing funds to assist parents in meeting expenses that might otherwise preclude the participation of their child in the program.

SEC. 308. NONDISCRIMINATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.--An eligible entity or a school participating in any program under this title shall not discriminate against program participants or applicants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex.

(b) APPLICABILITY AND SINGLE SEX SCHOOLS, CLASSES, OR ACTIVITIES.--

(1) IN GENERAL.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the prohibition of sex discrimination in subsection (a) shall not apply to a participating school that is operated by, supervised by, controlled by, or connected to a religious organization to the extent that the application of subsection (a) is inconsistent with the religious tenets or beliefs of the school.

(2) SINGLE SEX SCHOOLS, CLASSES, OR ACTIVITIES.--Notwithstanding subsection (a) or any other provision of law, a parent may choose and a school may offer a single sex school, class, or activity.

(3) APPLICABILITY.--For purposes of this title, the provisions of section 909 of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1688) shall apply to this title as if section 909 of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1688) were part of this title.

(c) CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.--Nothing in this title may be construed to alter or modify the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

(d) RELIGIOUSLY AFFILIATED SCHOOLS.--

(1) IN GENERAL.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a school participating in any program under this title that is operated by, supervised by, controlled by, or connected to, a religious organization may exercise its right in matters of employment consistent with title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e-1 et seq.), including the exemptions in such title.

(2) MAINTENANCE OF PURPOSE.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available under this title to eligible students that are received by a participating school, as a result of their parents' choice, shall not, consistent with the first amendment of the United States Constitution, necessitate any change in the participating school's teaching mission, require any participating school to remove religious art, icons, scriptures, or other symbols, or preclude any participating school from retaining religious terms in its name, selecting its board members on a religious basis, or including religious references in its mission statements and other chartering or governing documents.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.--A scholarship (or any other form of support provided to parents of eligible students) under this title shall be considered assistance to the student and shall not be considered assistance to the school that enrolls the eligible student. The amount of any scholarship (or other form of support provided to parents of an eligible student) under this title shall not be treated as income of the parents for purposes of Federal tax laws or for determining eligibility for any other Federal program.

SEC. 309. EVALUATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.--

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(1) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY AND THE MAYOR.--The Secretary and the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall jointly select an independent entity to evaluate annually the performance of students who received scholarships under the 5-year program under this title, and shall make the evaluations public in accordance with subsection (c).

(2) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.--The Secretary, through a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement, shall--

(A) ensure that the evaluation is conducted using the strongest possible research design for determining the effectiveness of the programs funded under this title that addresses the issues described in paragraph (4); and

(B) disseminate information on the impact of the programs in increasing the student academic achievement of participating students, and on the impact of the programs on students and schools in the District of Columbia.

(3) DUTIES OF THE INDEPENDENT ENTITY.--The independent entity shall--

(A) measure the academic achievement of all participating eligible students;

(B) use the same grade appropriate measurement every school year to assess participating eligible students as the measurement used by the District of Columbia Public Schools to assess District of Columbia Public School students in the first year of the program;

(C) work with the eligible entities to ensure that the parents of each student who applies for a scholarship under this title (regardless of whether the student receives the scholarship) and the parents of each student participating in the scholarship program under this title, agree that the student will participate in the measurements given annually by the independent entity for the period for which the student applied for or received the scholarship, respectively.

(4) ISSUES TO BE EVALUATED.--The issues to be evaluated include the following:

(A) A comparison of the academic achievement of participating eligible students in the measurements described in this section to the achievement of--

(i) students in the same grades in the District of Columbia public schools; and

(ii) the eligible students in the same grades in the District of Columbia public schools who sought to participate in the scholarship program but were not selected.

(B) The success of the programs in expanding choice options for parents.

(C) The reasons parents choose for their children to participate in the programs.

(D) A comparison of the retention rates, dropout rates, and (if appropriate) graduation and college admission rates, of students who participate in the programs funded under this title with the retention rates, dropout rates, and (if appropriate) graduation and college admission rates of students of similar backgrounds who do not participate in such programs.

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(E) The impact of the program on students, and public elementary schools and secondary schools, in the District of Columbia.

(F) A comparison of the safety of the schools attended by students who participate in the programs and the schools attended by students who do not participate in the programs.

(G) Such other issues as the Secretary considers appropriate for inclusion in the evaluation.

(5) PROHIBITION.--Personally identifiable information regarding the results of the measurements used for the evaluations may not be disclosed, except to the parents of the student to whom the information relates.

(b) REPORTS.--The Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations, Education and the Workforce, and Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations, Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and Governmental Affairs of the Senate--

(1) annual interim reports, not later than December 1 of each year for which a grant is made under this title, on the progress and preliminary results of the evaluation of the programs funded under this title; and

(2) a final report, not later than 1 year after the final year for which a grant is made under this title, on the results of the evaluation of the programs funded under this title.

(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.--All reports and underlying data gathered pursuant to this section shall be made available to the public upon request, in a timely manner following submission of the applicable report under subsection (b), except that personally identifiable information shall not be disclosed or made available to the public.

(d) LIMIT ON AMOUNT EXPENDED.--The amount expended by the Secretary to carry out this section for any fiscal year may not exceed 3 percent of the total amount appropriated to carry out this title for the fiscal year.

SEC. 310. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) ACTIVITIES REPORTS.--Each grantee receiving funds under this title during a year shall submit a report to the Secretary not later than July 30 of the following year regarding the activities carried out with the funds during the preceding year.

(b) ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS.--

(1) IN GENERAL.--In addition to the reports required under subsection (a), each grantee shall, not later than September 1 of the year during which the second academic year of the grantee's program is completed and each of the next 2 years thereafter, submit a report to the Secretary regarding the data collected in the previous 2 academic years concerning--

(A) the academic achievement of students participating in the program;

(B) the graduation and college admission rates of students who participate in the program, where appropriate; and

(C) parental satisfaction with the program.

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(2) PROHIBITING DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION.--No report under this subsection may contain any personally identifiable information.

(c) REPORTS TO PARENT.--

(1) IN GENERAL.--Each grantee shall ensure that each school participating in the grantee's program under this title during a year reports at least once during the year to the parents of each of the school's students who are participating in the program on--

(A) the student's academic achievement, as measured by a comparison with the aggregate academic achievement of other participating students at the student's school in the same grade or level, as appropriate, and the aggregate academic achievement of the student's peers at the student's school in the same grade or level, as appropriate; and

(B) the safety of the school, including the incidence of school violence, student suspensions, and student expulsions.

(2) PROHIBITING DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION.--No report under this subsection may contain any personally identifiable information, except as to the student who is the subject of the report to that student's parent.

(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.--The Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations, Education and the Workforce, and Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations, Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an annual report on the findings of the reports submitted under subsections (a) and (b).

SEC. 311. OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS.

(a) REQUESTS FOR DATA AND INFORMATION.--Each school participating in a program funded under this title shall comply with all requests for data and information regarding evaluations conducted under section 309(a).

(b) RULES OF CONDUCT AND OTHER SCHOOL POLICIES.--A participating school, including those described in section 308(d), may require eligible students to abide by any rules of conduct and other requirements applicable to all other students at the school.

SEC. 312. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this title:

(1) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.--The term "elementary school" means an institutional day or residential school, including a public elementary charter school, that provides elementary education, as determined under District of Columbia law.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.--The term "eligible entity" means any of the following:

(A) An educational entity of the District of Columbia Government.

(B) A nonprofit organization.

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(C) A consortium of nonprofit organizations.

(3) ELIGIBLE STUDENT.--The term "eligible student" means a student who--

(A) is a resident of the District of Columbia; and

(B) comes from a household whose income does not exceed 185 percent of the poverty line.

(4) PARENT.--The term "parent" has the meaning given that term in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(5) POVERTY LINE.--The term "poverty line" has the meaning given that term in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(6) SECONDARY SCHOOL.--The term "secondary school" means an institutional day or residential school, including a public secondary charter school, as determined under District of Columbia law, except that the term does not include any education beyond grade 12.

(7) SECRETARY.--The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Education.

SEC. 313. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$14,000,000 for fiscal year 2004 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.

TITLE IV--GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. Whenever in this Act, an amount is specified within an appropriation for particular purposes or objects of expenditure, such amount, unless otherwise specified, shall be considered as the maximum amount that may be expended for said purpose or object rather than an amount set apart exclusively therefor.

SEC. 402. Appropriations in this Act shall be available for expenses of travel and for the payment of dues of organizations concerned with the work of the District of Columbia government, when authorized by the Mayor: Provided, That in the case of the Council of the District of Columbia, funds may be expended with the authorization of the Chairman of the Council.

SEC. 403. There are appropriated from the applicable funds of the District of Columbia such sums as may be necessary for making refunds and for the payment of legal settlements or judgments that have been entered against the District of Columbia government: Provided, That nothing contained in this section shall be construed as modifying or affecting the provisions of section 11(c)(3) of title XII of the District of Columbia Income and Franchise Tax Act of 1947 (D.C. Official Code, sec. 47-1812.11(c)(3)).

SEC. 404. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly provided herein.

SEC. 405. No funds appropriated in this Act for the District of Columbia government for the operation of educational institutions, the compensation of personnel, or for other educational purposes may be used to permit, encourage, facilitate, or further partisan political activities. Nothing herein is intended to

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prohibit the availability of school buildings for the use of any community or partisan political group during non-school hours.

SEC. 406. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be made available to pay the salary of any employee of the District of Columbia government whose name, title, grade, and salary are not available for inspection by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Council of the District of Columbia, or their duly authorized representative.

SEC. 407. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), no part of this appropriation shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes or implementation of any policy including boycott designed to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress or any State legislature.

(b) The District of Columbia may use local funds provided in this Act to carry out lobbying activities on any matter other than--

(1) the promotion or support of any boycott; or

(2) statehood for the District of Columbia or voting representation in Congress for the District of Columbia.

(c) Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit any elected official from advocating with respect to any of the issues referred to in subsection (b).

SEC. 408. (a) None of the funds provided under this Act to the agencies funded by this Act, both Federal and District government agencies, that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2004, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditures for an agency through a reprogramming of funds which--

(1) creates new programs;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or responsibility center;

(3) establishes or changes allocations specifically denied, limited or increased under this Act;

(4) increases funds or personnel by any means for any program, project, or responsibility center for which funds have been denied or restricted;

(5) reestablishes any program or project previously deferred through reprogramming;

(6) augments any existing program, project, or responsibility center through a reprogramming of funds in excess of \$1,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or

(7) increases by 20 percent or more personnel assigned to a specific program, project or responsibility center,

unless the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate are notified in writing 30 days in advance of the reprogramming.

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(b) None the local funds contained in this Act may be available for obligation or expenditure for an agency through a transfer of any local funds from one appropriation heading to another unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate are notified in writing 30 days in advance of the transfer, except that in no event may the amount of any funds transferred exceed 4 percent of the local funds in the appropriations.

SEC. 409. Consistent with the provisions of section 1301(a) of title 31, United States Code, appropriations under this Act shall be applied only to the objects for which the appropriations were made except as otherwise provided by law.

SEC. 410. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the provisions of the District of Columbia Government Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978 (D.C. Law 2-139; D.C. Official Code, sec. 1-601.01 et seq.), enacted pursuant to section 422(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, sec. 1-2041.22(3)), shall apply with respect to the compensation of District of Columbia employees: Provided, That for pay purposes, employees of the District of Columbia government shall not be subject to the provisions of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 411. No later than 30 days after the end of the first quarter of fiscal year 2004, the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall submit to the Council of the District of Columbia and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate the new fiscal year 2004 revenue estimates as of the end of such quarter. These estimates shall be used in the budget request for fiscal year 2005. The officially revised estimates at midyear shall be used for the midyear report.

SEC. 412. No sole source contract with the District of Columbia government or any agency thereof may be renewed or extended without opening that contract to the competitive bidding process as set forth in section 303 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Act of 1985 (D.C. Law 6-85; D.C. Official Code, sec. 2-303.03), except that the District of Columbia government or any agency thereof may renew or extend sole source contracts for which competition is not feasible or practical, but only if the determination as to whether to invoke the competitive bidding process has been made in accordance with duly promulgated rules and procedures and has been reviewed and certified by the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 413. (a) In the event a sequestration order is issued pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 after the amounts appropriated to the District of Columbia for the fiscal year involved have been paid to the District of Columbia, the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall pay to the Secretary of the Treasury, within 15 days after receipt of a request therefor from the Secretary of the Treasury, such amounts as are sequestered by the order: Provided, That the sequestration percentage specified in the order shall be applied proportionately to each of the Federal appropriation accounts in this Act that are not specifically exempted from sequestration by such Act.

(b) For purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the term "program, project, and activity" shall be synonymous with and refer specifically to each account appropriating Federal funds in this Act, and any sequestration order shall be applied to each of the accounts rather than to the aggregate total of those accounts: Provided, That sequestration orders shall not be applied to any account that is specifically exempted from sequestration by the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 414. None of the Federal funds provided in this Act may be used by the District of Columbia to provide for salaries, expenses, or other costs associated with the offices of United States Senator or

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United States Representative under section 4(d) of the District of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention Initiatives of 1979 (D.C. Law 3-171; D.C. Official Code, sec. 1-123).

SEC. 415. None of the funds appropriated under this Act shall be expended for any abortion except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or where the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.

SEC. 416. None of the Federal funds made available in this Act may be used to implement or enforce the Health Care Benefits Expansion Act of 1992 (D.C. Law 9-114; D.C. Official Code, sec. 32-701 et seq.) or to otherwise implement or enforce any system of registration of unmarried, cohabiting couples, including but not limited to registration for the purpose of extending employment, health, or governmental benefits to such couples on the same basis that such benefits are extended to legally married couples.

SEC. 417. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Mayor, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia may accept, obligate, and expend Federal, private, and other grants received by the District government that are not reflected in the amounts appropriated in this Act.

(b)(1) No such Federal, private, or other grant may be accepted, obligated, or expended pursuant to subsection (a) until--

(A) the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia submits to the Council a report setting forth detailed information regarding such grant; and

(B) the Council has reviewed and approved the acceptance, obligation, and expenditure of such grant.

(2) For purposes of paragraph (1)(B), the Council shall be deemed to have reviewed and approved the acceptance, obligation, and expenditure of a grant if--

(A) no written notice of disapproval is filed with the Secretary of the Council within 14 calendar days of the receipt of the report from the Chief Financial Officer under paragraph (1)(A); or

(B) if such a notice of disapproval is filed within such deadline, the Council does not by resolution disapprove the acceptance, obligation, or expenditure of the grant within 30 calendar days of the initial receipt of the report from the Chief Financial Officer under paragraph (1)(A).

(c) No amount may be obligated or expended from the general fund or other funds of the District of Columbia government in anticipation of the approval or receipt of a grant under subsection (b)(2) or in anticipation of the approval or receipt of a Federal, private, or other grant not subject to such subsection.

(d) The Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall prepare a quarterly report setting forth detailed information regarding all Federal, private, and other grants subject to this section. Each such report shall be submitted to the Council of the District of Columbia and to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate not later than 15 days after the end of the quarter covered by the report.

SEC. 418. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, none of the funds made available by this Act or by any other Act may be used to provide any officer or employee of the District of Columbia with an official vehicle unless the officer or employee uses the vehicle only in the performance of the officer's

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or employee's official duties. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "official duties" does not include travel between the officer's or employee's residence and workplace, except in the case of--

(1) an officer or employee of the Metropolitan Police Department who resides in the District of Columbia or is otherwise designated by the Chief of the Department;

(2) at the discretion of the Fire Chief, an officer or employee of the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day;

(3) the Mayor of the District of Columbia; and

(4) the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia.

(b) The Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall submit by March 1, 2004, an inventory, as of September 30, 2003, of all vehicles owned, leased or operated by the District of Columbia government. The inventory shall include, but not be limited to, the department to which the vehicle is assigned; the year and make of the vehicle; the acquisition date and cost; the general condition of the vehicle; annual operating and maintenance costs; current mileage; and whether the vehicle is allowed to be taken home by a District officer or employee and if so, the officer or employee's title and resident location.

SEC. 419. None of the funds contained in this Act may be used for purposes of the annual independent audit of the District of Columbia government for fiscal year 2004 unless--

(1) the audit is conducted by the Inspector General of the District of Columbia, in coordination with the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia, pursuant to section 208(a)(4) of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Act of 1985 (D.C. Official Code, sec. 2-302.8); and

(2) the audit includes as a basic financial statement a comparison of audited actual year-end results with the revenues submitted in the budget document for such year and the appropriations enacted into law for such year using the format, terminology, and classifications contained in the law making the appropriations for the year and its legislative history.

SEC. 420. (a) None of the funds contained in this Act may be used by the District of Columbia Corporation Counsel or any other officer or entity of the District government to provide assistance for any petition drive or civil action which seeks to require Congress to provide for voting representation in Congress for the District of Columbia.

(b) Nothing in this section bars the District of Columbia Corporation Counsel from reviewing or commenting on briefs in private lawsuits, or from consulting with officials of the District government regarding such lawsuits.

SEC. 421. (a) None of the funds contained in this Act may be used for any program of distributing sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug.

(b) Any individual or entity who receives any funds contained in this Act and who carries out any program described in subsection (a) shall account for all funds used for such program separately from any funds contained in this Act.

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SEC. 422. None of the funds contained in this Act may be used after the expiration of the 60-day period that begins on the date of the enactment of this Act to pay the salary of any chief financial officer of any office of the District of Columbia government (including any independent agency of the District of Columbia) who has not filed a certification with the Mayor and the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia that the officer understands the duties and restrictions applicable to the officer and the officer's agency as a result of this Act (and the amendments made by this Act), including any duty to prepare a report requested either in the Act or in any of the reports accompanying the Act and the deadline by which each report must be submitted. The Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate by the 10th day after the end of each quarter a summary list showing each report, the due date, and the date submitted to the Committees.

SEC. 423. (a) None of the funds contained in this Act may be used to enact or carry out any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or otherwise reduce penalties associated with the possession, use, or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802) or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative.

(b) The Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Initiative of 1998, also known as Initiative 59, approved by the electors of the District of Columbia on November 3, 1998, shall not take effect.

SEC. 424. Nothing in this Act may be construed to prevent the Council or Mayor of the District of Columbia from addressing the issue of the provision of contraceptive coverage by health insurance plans, but it is the intent of Congress that any legislation enacted on such issue should include a "conscience clause" which provides exceptions for religious beliefs and moral convictions.

SEC. 425. The Mayor of the District of Columbia shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate quarterly reports addressing--

(1) crime, including the homicide rate, implementation of community policing, the number of police officers on local beats, and the closing down of open-air drug markets;

(2) access to substance and alcohol abuse treatment, including the number of treatment slots, the number of people served, the number of people on waiting lists, and the effectiveness of treatment programs;

(3) management of parolees and pre-trial violent offenders, including the number of halfway houses escapes and steps taken to improve monitoring and supervision of halfway house residents to reduce the number of escapes to be provided in consultation with the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia;

(4) education, including access to special education services and student achievement to be provided in consultation with the District of Columbia Public Schools and the District of Columbia public charter schools;

(5) improvement in basic District services, including rat control and abatement;

(6) application for and management of Federal grants, including the number and type of grants for which the District was eligible but failed to apply and the number and type of grants awarded to the District but for which the District failed to spend the amounts received; and

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(7) indicators of child well-being.

SEC. 426. No later than 30 calendar days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress, the Mayor, and the Council of the District of Columbia a revised appropriated funds operating budget in the format of the budget that the District of Columbia government submitted pursuant to section 442 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, sec. 1-204.42), for all agencies of the District of Columbia government for fiscal year 2003 that is in the total amount of the approved appropriation and that realigns all budgeted data for personal services and other-than-personal-services, respectively, with anticipated actual expenditures.

SEC. 427. None of the funds contained in this Act may be used to issue, administer, or enforce any order by the District of Columbia Commission on Human Rights relating to docket numbers 93-030-(PA) and 93-031-(PA).

SEC. 428. None of the Federal funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

SEC. 429. During fiscal year 2004 and any subsequent fiscal year, in addition to any other authority to pay claims and judgments, any department, agency, or instrumentality of the District government may use local funds to pay the settlement or judgment of a claim or lawsuit in an amount less than \$10,000, in accordance with the Risk Management for Settlements and Judgments Amendment Act of 2000 (D.C. Law 13-172; D.C. Official Code, sec. 2-402).

SEC. 430. Notwithstanding any other law, the District of Columbia Courts shall transfer to the general treasury of the District of Columbia all fines levied and collected by the Courts under section 10(b)(1) and (2) of the District of Columbia Traffic Act (D.C. Official Code, sec. 50-2201.05(b)(1) and (2)). The transferred funds shall remain available until expended and shall be used by the Office of the Corporation Counsel for enforcement and prosecution of District traffic alcohol laws in accordance with section 10(b)(3) of the District of Columbia Traffic Act (D.C. Official Code, sec. 50-2201.05(b)(3)).

SEC. 431. During fiscal year 2004 and any subsequent fiscal year, any agency of the District government may transfer to the Office of Labor Relations and Collective Bargaining (OLRCB) such local funds as may be necessary to pay for representation by OLRCB in third-party cases, grievances, and dispute resolution, pursuant to an intra-District agreement with OLRCB. These amounts shall be available for use by OLRCB to reimburse the cost of providing the representation.

SEC. 432. None of the funds contained in this Act may be made available to pay--

(1) the fees of an attorney who represents a party in an action or an attorney who defends an action, including an administrative proceeding, brought against the District of Columbia Public Schools under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) in excess of \$4,000 for that action; or

(2) the fees of an attorney or firm whom the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia determines to have a pecuniary interest, either through an attorney, officer or employee of the firm, in any special education diagnostic services, schools, or other special education service providers.

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SEC. 433. The Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall require attorneys in special education cases brought under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) in the District of Columbia to certify in writing that the attorney or representative rendered any and all services for which they receive awards, including those received under a settlement agreement or as part of an administrative proceeding, under the IDEA from the District of Columbia: Provided, That as part of the certification, the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall require all attorneys in IDEA cases to disclose any financial, corporate, legal, memberships on boards of directors, or other relationships with any special education diagnostic services, schools, or other special education service providers to which the attorneys have referred any clients as part of this certification: Provided further, That the Chief Financial Officer shall prepare and submit quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate on the certification of and the amount paid by the government of the District of Columbia, including the District of Columbia Public Schools, to attorneys in cases brought under IDEA: Provided further, That the Inspector General of the District of Columbia may conduct investigations to determine the accuracy of the certifications.

SEC. 434. Section 603(e)(3)(C)(iv) of the Student Loan Marketing Association Reorganization Act of 1996 (20 U.S.C. 1155(e)(3)(C)(iv)) is amended as follows:

- (1) by inserting ``for a fiscal year" after ``this subparagraph"; and
- (2) by inserting ``for the fiscal year" before the period.

CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement includes Sec. 434 to amend the Student Loan Marketing Association Reorganization Act of 1996 to clarify that annual administrative costs should be provided through the credit enhancement fund. The House and Senate bills contained no similar provision. The administrative fee cannot exceed 5 percent within any year, is non-cumulative, and is to be based on annual calculations. Any unobligated amounts at the close of the fiscal year shall revert back to the credit enhancement fund prior to the calculation of the following year's administrative cap. These funds will enable the Office of Charter School Financing and Support to expand its ability to conduct outreach to charter schools and provide technical assistance to attain appropriate facilities.

SEC. 435. Chapter 3 of title 16, District of Columbia Code, is amended by inserting at the end the following new section:

``SEC. 16-316. APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION OF COUNSEL; GUARDIAN AD LITEM.

``(a) When a petition for adoption has been filed and there has been no termination or relinquishment of parental rights with respect to the proposed adoptee or consent to the proposed adoption by a parent or guardian whose consent is required under D.C. Code section 16-304, the Court may appoint an attorney to represent such parent or guardian in the adoption proceeding if the individual is financially unable to obtain adequate representation.

``(b) The Court may appoint a guardian ad litem who is an attorney to represent the child in an adoption proceeding. The guardian ad litem shall in general be charged with the representation of the child's best interest.

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“(c) An attorney appointed pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section shall be compensated in accordance with D.C. Code section 16-2326.01, except that compensation in the adoption case shall be subject to the limitation set forth in D.C. Code section 16-2326.01(b)(2).”

The table of sections for chapter 3 of title 16, District of Columbia Code, is amended by inserting at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 16-316. Appointment and compensation of counsel; guardian ad litem.”

SEC. 436. The amount appropriated by this Act may be increased by no more than \$15,000,000 from funds identified in the comprehensive annual financial report as the District's fiscal year 2003 unexpended general fund surplus. The District may obligate and expend these amounts only in accordance with the following conditions:

(1) The Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall certify that the use of any such amounts is not anticipated to have a negative impact on the District's long-term financial, fiscal, and economic vitality.

(2) The District of Columbia may only use these funds for the following expenditures:

(A) Unanticipated one-time expenditures;

(B) To avoid deficit spending;

(C) Debt Reduction;

(D) Unanticipated program needs; or

(E) To avoid revenue shortfalls.

(3) The amounts shall be obligated and expended in accordance with laws enacted by the Council in support of each such obligation or expenditure.

(4) The amounts may not be used to fund the agencies of the District of Columbia government under court ordered receivership.

(5) The amounts may be obligated and expended only if approved by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate in advance of any obligation or expenditure.

ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE NOTES:

The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the House to prohibit the use of funds in the Act to support the action of District of Columbia, et al., v. Beretta U.S.A. et al. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the Senate related to the District acceptance and use a gift or donation. The House bill contained no similar provision. This provision is permanent law.

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The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the Senate related to the procurement of goods or services. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the Senate related to payments within the District of Columbia Courts. The House bill contained no similar provision. This provision is permanent law.

The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the Senate related to the Crime Victims Compensation Fund. The House bill contained no similar provision. This provision is permanent law.

The conference agreement does not include a provision as proposed by the Senate related to other type funds. The House bill contained no similar provision.

This division may be cited as the "District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2004".