

CHAPTER 461**(HB 240)**

AN ACT relating to reorganization.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 12 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

The Office of Early Childhood Development is hereby created within the Office of the Governor. The office shall be headed by an executive director, who shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance with KRS 11.040 and shall serve at the pleasure of and under the direction of the Governor.

- (1) The office's duties, rights, and responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, the following:*
 - (a) Provide assistance to the Governor's Early Childhood Task Force in accomplishing its mission and charge as set forth in Executive Order 99-351;*
 - (b) Create a strategic plan to design Kentucky's early childhood development efforts toward assisting families and enhancing opportunities for young children to succeed as citizens;*
 - (c) Craft coordination and collaboration between Kentucky communities, various levels of state and local government, nonprofit organizations, businesses, health organizations, churches, and parents to provide integrated and comprehensive services for all families that undergird the early development of children;*
 - (d) Identify and assess the most common challenges, existing resources, and services within the state and make recommendations to the Governor, state legislature, or other governing bodies regarding the demand and effectiveness of present services and improvements that should be addressed;*
 - (e) Develop performance measures that will provide consistent and fair evaluation and accountability regarding the effectiveness of service providers, programs, activities, and services affecting early childhood development;*
 - (f) Design information campaigns to raise public awareness and promote citizen engagement regarding the critical nature of early childhood development and to increase the will of citizens to make quality resources and services more widely available to families and children;*
 - (g) Create the beginning of a seamless system for youth that will assist them from birth until they begin their careers; and*
 - (h) Undertake new and progressive initiatives to improve and enhance the delivery of services affecting early childhood development.*
- (2) The executive director may, at the request of the Governor or any cabinet secretary, serve as a designee on boards, commissions, task forces, or other committees addressing issues relating to early childhood development.*
- (3) The Finance and Administration Cabinet, the Governor's Office of Policy and Management, and the Personnel Cabinet shall take all steps necessary to effectuate the provisions of this section.*

(4) *The Governor shall appoint a special advisor to serve the Office of Early Childhood Development.*

Section 2. KRS 12.023 is amended to read as follows:

The following organizational units and administrative bodies shall be attached to the Office of the Governor:

- (1) Council on Postsecondary Education;
- (2) Department of Military Affairs;
- (3) Department for Local Government;
- (4) Kentucky Commission on Human Rights;
- (5) Kentucky Commission on Women;
- (6) Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs;
- (7) Coal Marketing and Export Council;
- (8) Governor's Office of Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Services;
- (9) Office of the Chief Information Officer;~~[-and]~~
- (10) Office of Coal Marketing and Export; *and*
- (11) ***Office of Early Childhood Development.***

Section 3. The General Assembly hereby confirms Executive Order 99-1513, dated November 12, 1999, which created and established the Office of Early Childhood Development within the Office of the Governor, to the extent it is not otherwise confirmed or superseded by this Act.

Approved April 21, 2000

