1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: S3/26/03 A Bill Act 1105 of 2003 2 84th General Assembly HOUSE BILL 2402 Regular Session, 2003 3 4 5 By: Representative Cowling 6 7 For An Act To Be Entitled 8 AN ACT TO EXPAND THE ARKANSAS BETTER CHANCE 9 PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. 10 11 **Subtitle** 12 AN ACT TO EXPAND THE ARKANSAS BETTER 13 14 CHANCE PROGRAM. 15 16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 17 18 19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-45-103 is amended to read as follows: 6-45-103. Definitions. 20 21 For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall 22 apply: "Appropriate early childhood program" means a developmentally 23 appropriate program for young children, ages birth through five (5), approved 24 by the Department of Education as complying with the regulatory guidelines of 25 the early childhood state accreditation by the Department of Human Services 26 and Arkansas Better Chance Core Quality Approval Standards of the Department 27 of Education to be issued by the department pursuant to this chapter; 28 29 (2) "Arkansas Early Childhood Commission" or "commission" means an eighteen-member advisory body appointed by the Governor to perform certain 30 duties and responsibilities relating to the development, expansion, and 31 32 coordination of early childhood programs, including, but not limited to, 33 serving as the advisory body to the Department of Education on early 34 childhood program issues; 35 (3) "Arkansas HIPPY Advisory Board" means a citizen board appointed through the Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) 36

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| 1 | Regional Technical Assistance and Training Center to develop public |
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| 2 | awareness, to promote program expansion, to encourage local development of |
| 3 | the Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, and to provide |
| 4 | consultation and guidance to the center; and |
| 5 | (4) "Department" means the Department of Education or its authorized |
| 6 | agents. |
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| 8 | SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-45-106(a)(1)(A) is amended to read as |
| 9 | follows: |
| 10 | (a)(1)(A) Any not-for-profit licensed early childhood program with |
| 11 | early childhood accreditation by the Department of Human Services and meeting |
| 12 | the Arkansas Better Chance Core Quality Approval Standards of the Department |
| 13 | of Education may apply for funding, regardless of the sponsorship of the |
| 14 | program. Local school districts may apply for funding to operate early |
| 15 | childhood programs, not including public school kindergarten, but an |
| 16 | appropriate early childhood program need not be affiliated with a school |
| 17 | district in order to receive funding. |
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| 19 | /s/ Cowling |
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