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STEVEN R. SCHUH County Executive

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 20

TO CREATE THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the County Executive is committed to meeting the early learning needs of each and every child in our community; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive recognizes the importance of an integrated and collaborative approach that includes a broad range of stakeholders to ensure school readiness for all children of Anne Arundel County; and

WHEREAS, investment in the early childhood years, from 0 to 5 years, builds a solid foundation for future growth and learning for every child.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steven R. Schuh, County Executive, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Charter and laws of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, hereby order and direct on this ____ day of November, 2016, as follows:

- 1. The Anne Arundel County Early Childhood Commission ("Commission") is created and shall include a diverse group of community stakeholders.
- 2. The Commission shall meet with the frequency it determines necessary to perform its functions under this Executive Order. There shall be at least one meeting per quarter.
- 3. The Commission shall consist of fifteen (15) members appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the County Executive.
- 4. Each member shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years and shall not serve more than four (4) consecutive terms.
- 5. The County Executive shall appoint one of the members as Chair.

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- 6. The mission of the Commission is to study and advise the County Executive on matters relating to making school readiness a priority in Anne Arundel County.
- 7. The Commission shall advise the County Executive and make recommendations to the County Executive on:
 - a. benchmarks of school readiness skills for children entering kindergarten;
 - b. local needs for the quality and availability of early childhood development programs and services;
 - c. opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination among federally-funded and state-funded early childhood development programs and services;
 - d. increasing the overall participation of children in existing programs, including methods to reach populations who are underrepresented and have special needs and elevating the quality of existing programs;
 - e. local professional development and career advancement plans for early childhood educators;
 - f. local family engagement practices with the State Family Engagement Coalition, local library family advisory councils, and local Reach Out and Read activities; and
 - g. local coordination for early childhood initiatives and reforms.
- 8. The Commission shall submit an annual report to the County Executive that sets forth the status of plans and progress of the responsibilities set forth herein, as well as goals and priorities for the next year.
- 9. The Commission shall meet annually with the County Executive or the designee of the County Executive.

This Executive Order shall be archived at the Office of Law and remain in existence until altered or terminated by a subsequent Executive Order.

STEVEN R. SCHUH

County Executive

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Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

Nancy McCutchan Duden County Attorney