

By Senator Bullard

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to children's promise zones; amending  
3           s. 409.147, F.S.; renaming "children's zones" as  
4           "children's promise zones"; revising legislative  
5           findings and intent and policy and purpose; revising  
6           definitions; requiring the governing body to establish  
7           a children's promise zone planning team; providing  
8           powers and responsibilities of the planning team;  
9           revising provisions relating to the strategic  
10          community plan; providing for additional focus areas;  
11          renaming and extending duration of the Magic City  
12          Children's Zone, Inc., pilot project; providing for  
13          the corporation to be administered by the Department  
14          of Children and Family Services; revising composition  
15          of the board of directors and election and duties of  
16          officers; providing for the department to enter into a  
17          contract with a not-for-profit corporation to  
18          implement the children's promise zone program;  
19          authorizing the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida,  
20          Inc., to retain certain interest earnings to finance  
21          project activities; requiring annual documentation of  
22          interest earnings and expenditures; providing an  
23          effective date.

24  
25 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

26  
27           Section 1. Section 409.147, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
28 read:

29           409.147 Children's promise zones.—

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30 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—

31 (a) The Legislature finds that:

32 1. There are neighborhoods in the state where the  
33 infrastructure and opportunities that middle-class communities  
34 take for granted are nonexistent or so marginal that they are  
35 ineffective.

36 2. Children living in these neighborhoods are not read to  
37 by an adult on a regular basis and attend a prekindergarten  
38 education program at a much lower rate than children in other  
39 communities. These children experience below-average performance  
40 on standardized tests and graduate from high school and attend  
41 college in fewer numbers. Most of these children are living in  
42 poverty and are eligible for the free or reduced-price school  
43 lunch program.

44 3. Children in these neighborhoods often suffer from high  
45 rates of asthma, a higher risk of lead poisoning, and inadequate  
46 health care, and they are routinely exposed to violence and  
47 crime.

48 4. In spite of these obstacles, these neighborhoods are  
49 many times home to strong individuals and institutions that are  
50 committed to making a difference in the lives of children and  
51 their families.

52 (b) It is therefore the intent of the Legislature to assist  
53 disadvantaged areas within the state in creating a high quality,  
54 neighborhood-based, comprehensive, coordinated ~~community-based~~  
55 service network that develops, coordinates, and provides quality  
56 education, accessible health care, youth development programs,  
57 opportunities for employment, and safe and affordable housing  
58 combined with efforts to rebuild the basic fabric of the

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59 community for children, young adults, and their families living  
60 within the ~~its~~ boundaries of such a community.

61 (2) POLICY AND PURPOSE.—It is the policy of this state to  
62 provide the necessary means to assist local communities, the  
63 children, young adults, and their families who live in those  
64 communities, and the private sector in creating a sound  
65 educational, social, and economic environment. To achieve this  
66 objective, the state intends to provide investments sufficient  
67 to encourage community partners to commit financial and other  
68 resources to severely disadvantaged areas. The purpose of this  
69 section is to establish a process that clearly identifies the  
70 severely disadvantaged areas and provides guidance for  
71 developing a new social service paradigm that systematically  
72 coordinates programs and focuses on integrating previously  
73 compartmentalized approaches to early childhood, education,  
74 health care, after-school services, parenting education, college  
75 preparation, and neighborhood revitalization that address the  
76 critical needs of children and their families and for directing  
77 efforts to rebuild the basic infrastructure of the community.  
78 The Legislature, therefore, declares the creation of children's  
79 promise zones, through the collaborative efforts of government  
80 and the private sector, to be a public purpose. Over time, each  
81 designated children's promise zone will create a pipeline of  
82 accessible, linked, best-practice programs, and high-quality  
83 schools for neighborhood children and young adults, starting  
84 before birth and ending with college graduation. The pipeline  
85 shall include additional programs to support parents, families,  
86 and the larger community.

87 (3) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

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88 (a) "Governing body" means the commission or other  
89 legislative body charged with governing a county or  
90 municipality.

91 (b) "The Ounce" means the Ounce of Prevention Fund of  
92 Florida, Inc.

93 ~~(c) "Planning team" means a children's zone planning team~~  
94 ~~established under this section.~~

95 ~~(c)-(d)~~ "Resident" means a person who lives or operates a  
96 small community-based business or organization within the  
97 boundaries of the children's promise zone.

98 (4) CHILDREN'S PROMISE ZONE NOMINATING PROCESS.—A county or  
99 municipality, or a county and one or more municipalities  
100 together, may apply to the Ounce to designate an area as a  
101 children's promise zone after the governing body:

102 (a) Adopts a resolution that:

103 1. Finds that an area exists in such county or  
104 municipality, or in the county and one or more municipalities,  
105 that chronically exhibits extreme and unacceptable levels of  
106 poverty, unemployment, physical deterioration, as well as  
107 limited access to quality educational, health care, and social  
108 services.

109 2. Determines that the rehabilitation, conservation, or  
110 redevelopment, or a combination thereof, of the area is  
111 necessary in the interest of improving the health, wellness,  
112 education, living conditions, and livelihoods of the children  
113 and their families who live in the county or municipality.

114 3. Determines that the revitalization of the area can occur  
115 only if the state and the private sector invest resources to  
116 improve infrastructure and the provision of services.

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117 (b) Establishes a children's promise zone planning team as  
118 provided in subsection (5).

119 (c) Develops and adopts a strategic community plan as  
120 provided in subsection (6).

121 (d) Creates a corporation not for profit as provided in  
122 subsection (7).

123 (5) CHILDREN'S PROMISE ZONE PLANNING TEAM.—

124 (a) After the governing body adopts the resolution  
125 described in subsection (4), the county or municipality shall  
126 establish a children's promise zone planning team.

127 (b) The planning team shall include residents, parents,  
128 teachers, business leaders, and other key stakeholders  
129 ~~representatives~~ from community-based organizations and other  
130 community institutions. At least half of the members of the  
131 planning team must be residents.

132 (c) The planning team shall:

133 1. Develop a planning process that sets the direction for,  
134 builds a commitment to, and develops the capacity to realize the  
135 children's promise zone concept.

136 2. Develop a vision of what the children's promise zone  
137 will look like when the challenges, problems, and opportunities  
138 ~~in the children's zone~~ are successfully addressed.

139 3. Identify important opportunities, strengths, challenges,  
140 and problems in the children's promise zone.

141 4. Develop a strategic community plan consisting of goals,  
142 objectives, tasks, the designation of responsible parties, the  
143 identification of resources needed, timelines for implementation  
144 of the plan, and procedures for monitoring outcomes. The  
145 strategic community plan shall serve as the foundation for the

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146 work of the children's promise zone and evaluation of the plan  
147 shall measure program performance based on the stated objectives  
148 and outcomes. The evaluation shall provide feedback to  
149 stakeholders within the community regarding the programs,  
150 information on which to base program modifications and  
151 enhancements, and results-oriented indicators of success.

152 5. Develop a program that seeks to provide children living  
153 in poverty with every possible chance to succeed through the  
154 combined development of high-quality, comprehensive,  
155 coordinated, neighborhood-based programs for children, young  
156 adults, and parents, combined with efforts to rebuild the fabric  
157 of the community.

158 (d) The planning team shall designate working groups to  
159 specifically address each of the following focus areas:

- 160 1. Early development and care of children.
- 161 2. Education of children and youth.
- 162 3. Health and wellness.
- 163 4. Youth support.
- 164 5. Parent and guardian support.
- 165 6. Adult education, training, and jobs.
- 166 7. Community safety.
- 167 8. Housing and community development.
- 168 9. Elder affairs.
- 169 10. Faith community.
- 170 11. Arts and culture.
- 171 12. Evaluation.
- 172 13. Marketing and communication.
- 173 14. Fundraising and development.

174 (6) CHILDREN'S PROMISE ZONE STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN.—After

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175 the governing body adopts the resolution described in subsection  
176 (4), the working groups shall develop objectives and identify  
177 strategies for each focus area. The objectives, specified by  
178 focus area, for a working group may include, but not be limited  
179 to:

180 (a) Early development and care of children.

181 1. Providing resources to enable every child to be  
182 adequately nurtured during the first 3 years of life.

183 2. Ensuring that all schools are ready for children and all  
184 children are ready for school.

185 3. Facilitating enrollment in half-day or full-day  
186 prekindergarten for all 3-year-old and 4-year-old children.

187 4. Strengthening parent and guardian relationships with  
188 care providers.

189 5. Providing support and education for families and child  
190 care providers.

191 (b) Education of children and youth.

192 1. Increasing the level and degree of accountability of  
193 persons who are responsible for the development and well-being  
194 of all children in the children's promise zone.

195 2. Changing the structure and function of schools to  
196 increase the quality and amount of time spent on instruction and  
197 increase programmatic options and offerings.

198 3. Creating a safe and respectful environment for student  
199 learning.

200 4. Identifying and supporting points of alignment between  
201 the children's promise zone community plan and the school  
202 district's strategic plan.

203 (c) Health and wellness.

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204 1. Facilitating enrollment of all eligible children in the  
205 Florida Kidcare program and providing full access to high-  
206 quality drug and alcohol treatment services.

207 2. Eliminating health disparities between racial and  
208 cultural groups, including improving outcomes and increasing  
209 interventions.

210 3. Providing fresh, good quality, affordable, and  
211 nutritious food ~~within the children's zone~~.

212 4. Providing all children ~~in the children's zone~~ with  
213 access to safe structured and unstructured recreation.

214 (d) Youth support.

215 1. Increasing the high school graduation rate.

216 2. Increasing enrollment in postsecondary educational  
217 programs.

218 ~~3.2.~~ Increasing leadership development and employment  
219 opportunities for youth.

220 (e) Parent and guardian support.

221 1. Increasing parent and adult literacy.

222 2. Expanding access for parents to critical resources, such  
223 as jobs, transportation, day care, and after-school care.

224 3. Improving the effectiveness of the ways in which support  
225 systems communicate and collaborate with parents and the ways in  
226 which parents communicate and collaborate with support systems.

227 4. Making the services of the Healthy Families Florida  
228 program available to provide multiyear support to expectant  
229 parents and persons caring for infants and toddlers.

230 (f) Adult education, training, and jobs.

231 1. Creating job opportunities for adults that lead to  
232 career development.



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233           2. Establishing a career and technical school, or a  
234 satellite of such a school ~~in the children's zone~~, which  
235 includes a one-stop career center.

236           (g) Community safety.

237           1. Providing a safe environment for all children at home,  
238 in school, and in the community.

239           2. Eliminating the economic, political, and social forces  
240 that lead to a lack of safety within the family, the community,  
241 schools, and institutional structures.

242           3. Assessing policies and practices, including sentencing,  
243 incarceration, detention, and data reporting, in order to reduce  
244 youth violence, crime, and recidivism.

245           (h) Housing and community development.

246           1. Strengthening the residential real estate market.

247           2. Building on existing efforts to promote socioeconomic  
248 diversity when developing a comprehensive land use strategic  
249 plan.

250           3. Promoting neighborhood beautification strategies.

251           (i) Elder affairs.

252           1. Identifying elder residents who are primary caregivers  
253 for younger children.

254           2. Improving the ability of elders to engage with the  
255 school system.

256           3. Ensuring that elders are aware of the many legal options  
257 for relationships with children in their care, including  
258 guardianship, adoption, kinship care, and becoming a foster  
259 parent.

260           (j) Faith community.

261           1. Encouraging churches to institute "One Church, One

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262 Child” programming as part of their social mission to increase  
263 the number of foster children who are adopted in the children’s  
264 promise zone.

265 2. Empowering churches with the capacity to provide quality  
266 human services and technical assistance in grant writing and  
267 program management.

268 3. Encouraging churches to extend their ministries to hard-  
269 to-reach populations.

270 (k) Arts and culture.

271 1. Strengthening arts and music programs for children and  
272 young adults throughout the zone.

273 2. Encouraging businesses, professional sports  
274 organizations, and civic leaders to sponsor the attendance of  
275 youth at special events in the children’s promise zone.

276 3. Increasing the exposure of the youth to other cultures  
277 through travel and observation.

278 (l) Evaluation.

279 1. Facilitating the evaluation as developed by the external  
280 evaluation team.

281 2. Developing the capacity of member organizations to  
282 conduct evaluations.

283 3. Increasing the capability of member organizations to  
284 collect and manage data.

285 4. Assisting in the assessment needs, strengths, and  
286 capacities of member organizations.

287 5. Assisting in the development of ongoing sustainability  
288 strategies.

289 (m) Marketing and communication.

290 1. Developing a marketing plan.

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- 291        2. Beginning the process of brand development.
- 292        3. Developing community outreach plan goals and objectives.
- 293        (n) Fundraising and development.

294        1. Developing fundraising goals and an overall development  
 295 strategy for a sustained 10-year outlook.

296        2. Identifying potential donors.

297        3. Outlining specific benefits to the community and the  
 298 economy of the children's promise zone.

299        (7) CHILDREN'S PROMISE ZONE CORPORATION.—After the  
 300 governing body adopts the resolution described in subsection  
 301 (4), the county or municipality shall create a corporation not  
 302 for profit which shall be registered, incorporated, organized,  
 303 and operated in compliance with chapter 617. The purpose of the  
 304 corporation is to facilitate fundraising, to secure broad  
 305 community ownership of the children's promise zone, and, if the  
 306 area selected by the governing body is designated as a  
 307 children's promise zone, to:

308        (a) Begin to transfer responsibility for planning from the  
 309 planning team to the corporation.

310        (b) Begin the implementation and governance of the  
 311 ~~children's zone~~ community plan.

312        (8) CREATION OF MIAMI ~~MAGIC CITY~~ CHILDREN'S PROMISE ZONE,  
 313 INC., PILOT PROJECT.—

314        (a) There is created within the Liberty City neighborhood  
 315 in Miami-Dade County a 10-year pilot project ~~zone~~ that, by  
 316 November 1, 2009 ~~2008~~, shall be managed by an entity organized  
 317 as a corporation not for profit which shall be registered,  
 318 incorporated, organized, and operated in compliance with chapter  
 319 617. The corporation shall be known as the Miami ~~Magic City~~

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320 Children's Promise Zone, Inc., and shall be administratively  
 321 housed within the Department of Children and Family Services  
 322 ~~Belafonte Tacooley Center~~. However, Miami Magic City Children's  
 323 Promise Zone, Inc., is not subject to control, supervision, or  
 324 direction by the Department of Children and Family Services  
 325 ~~Belafonte Tacooley Center~~ in any manner. The Legislature  
 326 determines, however, that public policy dictates that the  
 327 corporation operate in the most open and accessible manner  
 328 consistent with its public purpose. Therefore, the Legislature  
 329 specifically declares that the corporation is subject to chapter  
 330 119, relating to public records, chapter 286, relating to public  
 331 meetings and records, and chapter 287, relating to procurement  
 332 of commodities or contractual services.

333 (b) This pilot project ~~zone~~ is designed to encompass an  
 334 area that is large enough to include all of the necessary  
 335 components of community life, including, but not limited to,  
 336 schools, places of worship, recreational facilities, commercial  
 337 areas, and common space, yet small enough to allow programs and  
 338 services to reach every willing member of the neighborhood.  
 339 Therefore, the geographic boundaries of the pilot project ~~zone~~  
 340 are:

- 341 1. Northwest 79th Street to the north;
- 342 2. Northwest 36th Street to the south;
- 343 3. North Miami Avenue to the east; and
- 344 4. Northwest 27th Avenue to the west.

345 (c)1. The corporation shall be governed by a 30-member ~~15-~~  
 346 ~~member~~ board of directors, which. ~~The board of directors~~ shall  
 347 consist of the following members:

- 348 a. The district administrator for Miami-Dade County from

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349 the Department of Children and Family Services or his or her  
350 designee.

351 b. The superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools  
352 or his or her designee.

353 c. A representative from the Miami-Dade office of the state  
354 attorney who works in child support enforcement.

355 d. A representative from the Miami-Dade County Health  
356 Department's Consortium for a Healthier Miami-Dade.

357 e. The director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation or  
358 his or her designee.

359 f. The circuit coordinator from the Department of Juvenile  
360 Justice or his or her designee.

361 g. A representative from the Greater Miami Chamber of  
362 Commerce.

363 h. A representative from the Miami-Dade Chamber of  
364 Commerce.

365 i. A representative from the Haitian-American Chamber of  
366 Commerce of Florida.

367 j. The mayor of Miami-Dade County or his or her designee.

368 k. A representative from the United Way of Miami-Dade.

369 l. A representative from the Liberty Square Housing  
370 Projects, appointed by the chair of resident council.

371 m. The director of the City of Miami Neighborhood  
372 Enhancement Team or his or her designee.

373 n. The executive director of the Jessie Trice Community  
374 Health Center.

375 o. A representative from the Public Health Trust at Jackson  
376 Memorial Hospital.

377 p. A representative from the City of Miami Police

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- 378 Department North District, to be chosen by the commander.
- 379 g. A representative from the Early Learning Coalition of  
380 Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties.
- 381 r. The executive director of Habitat for Humanity or his or  
382 her designee.
- 383 s. The Mayor of the City of Miami or his or her designee.
- 384 t. The Chief Executive Officer or President of the  
385 Children's Trust of Miami-Dade County or his or her designee.
- 386 u. A judge, to be appointed by the chief judge of the  
387 juvenile division of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit.
- 388 v. A representative from the Healthy Families Florida  
389 program, to be chosen by the executive director.
- 390 w. A representative from the local Healthy Start coalition.
- 391 x. The executive director of the Miami-Dade Affordable  
392 Housing Foundation or his or her designee.
- 393 y. Six members that include residents and representatives  
394 of local businesses, faith-based organizations, and nonprofit  
395 organizations.
- 396 ~~a. The chief executive officer of the Belafonte Taceley~~  
397 ~~Center.~~
- 398 ~~b. The executive director of the Carrie P. Meek~~  
399 ~~Entrepreneurial Education Center, Miami Dade College.~~
- 400 ~~e. The director of the Parks and Recreation Department of~~  
401 ~~the City of Miami.~~
- 402 ~~d. The director of the Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center.~~
- 403 ~~e. The chief executive officer of the Urban League of~~  
404 ~~Greater Miami.~~
- 405 ~~f. The director of the Liberty City Service Partnership.~~
- 406 ~~g. The regional superintendent of the Miami-Dade County~~

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407 ~~Public Schools.~~

408 ~~h. The president of the Student Government Association of~~  
409 ~~Northwestern High School.~~

410 ~~i. The president of the Student Government Association of~~  
411 ~~Edison High School.~~

412 ~~j. The president of the Parent Teacher Student Association~~  
413 ~~of Northwestern High School.~~

414 ~~k. The president of the Parent Teacher Student Association~~  
415 ~~of Edison High School.~~

416 ~~l. Four members from the local private business sector, to~~  
417 ~~be appointed by a majority vote of the members designated in~~  
418 ~~sub-subparagraphs a. k., all of whom must have significant~~  
419 ~~experience in one of the focus areas specified in subsection~~  
420 ~~(6).~~

421 2. All members of the board of directors shall be appointed  
422 no later than 90 days following the incorporation of the Miami  
423 Magie City Children's Promise Zone, Inc., and:

424 a. ~~Eleven~~ Members initially appointed pursuant to this  
425 paragraph shall each serve a 2-year ~~4-year~~ term.

426 ~~b. The remaining initial four appointees shall each serve a~~  
427 ~~2-year term.~~

428 ~~e. Each member appointed thereafter shall serve a 4-year~~  
429 ~~term.~~

430 ~~b.d.~~ A vacancy shall be filled in the same manner in which  
431 the original appointment was made, and a member appointed to  
432 fill a vacancy shall serve for the remainder of that term.

433 ~~c.e.~~ A member may not serve more than 8 years in  
434 consecutive terms.

435 3. The board of directors shall biennially ~~annually~~ elect a

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436 chairperson and a vice chairperson from among the board's  
437 members. The members may, by a vote of 16 ~~eight~~ members, remove  
438 a member from the position of chairperson or vice chairperson  
439 before the expiration of his or her term as chairperson or vice  
440 chairperson. His or her successor shall be elected to serve for  
441 the balance of the term of the chairperson or vice chairperson  
442 who was removed.

443 4. The board of directors shall meet at least four times  
444 each year upon the call of the chairperson, at the request of  
445 the vice chairperson, or at the request of a majority of the  
446 membership. A majority of the membership constitutes a quorum.  
447 The board of directors may take official action by a majority  
448 vote of the members present at any meeting at which a quorum is  
449 present. The board may conduct its meetings through  
450 teleconferences or other similar means.

451 5. A member of the board of directors may be removed by a  
452 majority of the membership. Absence from three consecutive  
453 meetings results in automatic removal.

454 6. Each member of the board of directors shall serve  
455 without compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for per  
456 diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061 while in the  
457 performance of his or her duties.

458 7. The corporation shall create a standing advisory board  
459 to assist in any part of its delegated duties. The membership of  
460 the standing advisory board shall reflect the expertise  
461 necessary for the implementation of the ~~children's zone~~ pilot  
462 project.

463 8. The board of directors has the power and duty to:

464 a. Adopt articles of incorporation and bylaws necessary to



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465 govern its activities.

466 b. Begin to transfer responsibility for planning from the  
467 ~~children's zone~~ planning team to the corporation.

468 c. Begin the implementation and governance of the  
469 ~~children's zone~~ community plan.

470 d. Enter into a contract with a management consultant who  
471 has experience working with social service and educational  
472 entities for the purpose of developing a 10-year comprehensive  
473 business plan to carry out the provisions of this section.

474 (d) Miami Magic City Children's Promise Zone, Inc., shall  
475 submit an annual report to the President of the Senate and the  
476 Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 31, 2010  
477 ~~2009~~, and by January 31 of each year thereafter, which shall  
478 include a comprehensive and detailed report of its operations,  
479 activities, and accomplishments for the prior year as well as  
480 its goals for the current year. The initial report shall also  
481 include information concerning the status of the development of  
482 a business plan.

483 (9) IMPLEMENTATION.—In order to implement ~~The~~  
484 ~~implementation of~~ this section, the Department of Children and  
485 Family Services shall contract ~~is contingent upon a specific~~  
486 ~~appropriation to provide a grant for a 3-year period for the~~  
487 ~~purpose of implementing this section, which includes contracting~~  
488 with a not-for-profit corporation for the development of a  
489 business plan and for the evaluation, fiscal management, and  
490 oversight of the Miami Magic City Children's Promise Zone, Inc.,  
491 pilot project.

492 (10) OUNCE INTEREST EARNINGS.—Notwithstanding s.  
493 216.181(16)(b), the Ounce may retain any interest earned on

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494 advances to expend on the children's promise zone activities.  
495 The department shall develop reporting requirements that require  
496 the Ounce to document the interest earnings and associated  
497 expenditures on an annual basis.

498 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.