

Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

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Senator Patricia H. Vance

Chairman

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Summary HB 477 PN 1126

This legislation creates the Early Childhood Vision Care Education Act and directs the Department of Health to establish a public outreach and education campaign on early childhood vision care. This campaign shall include:

- Information on the importance of exams and a description of the vision disorders and eye diseases impacting young children such as amblyopia, strabismus and retinoblastoma.
- Educational materials and brochures that are available at health care and child care providers
- Coordination with public education programs on early childhood vision care

The Early Childhood Vision Care Education Program shall be evaluated every two years. The department shall report their findings to the General Assembly and make them available on their internet website. The evaluation shall include information on:

- The materials developed
- · How, when and where the materials were disseminated and
- Relationships developed between the department, health care providers and community based organizations.

Authority is granted to the department to accept grants, services and property from the Federal Government and private entities to implement this act.

Effective Date

This act shall take effect in 60 days.