



**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM FOR UNDER-SERVED INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) The Bureau of Rehabilitation Services of the  
2 Department of Social Services may receive state and federal funds to  
3 administer, within available appropriations, an employment  
4 opportunities program to serve individuals with the most significant  
5 disabilities who do not meet the eligibility requirements of supported  
6 employment programs administered by the Departments of Mental  
7 Retardation and Mental Health and Addiction Services. For the  
8 purposes of this section, "individuals with the most significant  
9 disabilities" means those individuals who (1) have serious employment  
10 limitations in a total of three or more functional areas including, but  
11 not limited to, mobility, communication, self-care, interpersonal skills,  
12 work tolerance or work skills, or (2) will require significant ongoing  
13 disability-related services on the job in order to maintain employment.

14 (b) The employment opportunities program shall provide extended  
15 services, as defined in 34 CFR 361.5(b)(19), that are necessary for  
16 individuals with the most significant disabilities to maintain supported  
17 employment. Such services shall include coaching and other related  
18 services that allow participants to obtain and maintain employment  
19 and maximize economic self-sufficiency.

