



EXECUTIVE ORDER

NUMBER 5 (2001)

EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE
UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO PRE-SCHOOL TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, quality early education programs have a lasting impact on the health, education and well-being of Illinois' children; and

WHEREAS, a strong family environment coupled with good-quality early education is the foundation for the development of a strong and productive work force in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, research has demonstrated that children who receive two years of quality early educational programs have better short and long term outcomes related to school performance; and

WHEREAS, parents varied scheduling needs and preferences require a variety of pre-kindergarten options including part-day, full-day and full-year.

Therefore, I, George H. Ryan, Governor of the State of Illinois, order the following:

I. ESTABLISHMENT

There shall be established the Task Force on Universal Access to Pre-School.

II. PURPOSE

1. The Task Force on Universal Access to Pre-School will have the responsibility of creating a five-year blueprint, with cost estimates, for achieving the goal of quality early childhood education opportunities for all three to five year olds whose parents or guardians want them to participate.
2. The Task Force on Universal Access to Pre-School will gather information from parents, civic groups and others who serve young children in order to develop their recommendations.
3. The Task Force on Universal Access to Pre-School shall submit their five-year blueprint to the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2002.

FILED
INDEX DEPARTMENT

APR 18 2001

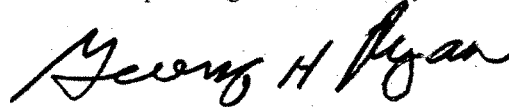
IN THE OFFICE OF
SECRETARY OF STATE

III. MEMBERSHIP

1. The Task Force shall consist of the First Lady, Lura Lynn Ryan, as Chairperson and at least 15 but not more than 35 additional members, all appointed by the Governor.
2. Members shall include, but are not limited to, persons who are active in and knowledgeable about the following areas: early child development, child welfare, and education.
3. Members shall serve one-year terms without compensation, but may be reimbursed for expenses.
4. The Task Force will be provided assistance and necessary staff support services by the Office of the Governor and the agencies of state government involved in the issues to be addressed by the Task Force.

IV. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Executive Order Number 5 (2001) shall be effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.



GEORGE H. RYAN
Governor

April 18, 2001

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