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MIKULSKI CONGRATULATES MARYLAND ON WINNING \$250 MILLION “RACE TO THE TOP” GRANT

Federal funds will help implement systemic, statewide education reforms

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.) today made the following statement on the U.S. Department of Education’s Race to the Top program fully funding Maryland’s \$250 million proposal:

“I am so proud Maryland is a *Race to the Top* winner,” **Senator Mikulski** said. “Governor O’Malley has dedicated himself to making Maryland’s schools the best in the nation and it shows! Families deserve schools they can rely on to help their children advance in the workplace and prepare for college. Hats off to Governor O’Malley, the Maryland Department of Education and all those who made Maryland’s K-12 schools and students winners in the *Race to the Top*.”

Maryland will receive \$250 million as a *Race to the Top* winner. The program rewards states that have made a commitment to implement statewide education reforms to improve student achievement. The grants are designed to help winners blaze a new trail in comprehensive education reform by providing resources to improve academic standards and assessments, support teachers and principals, and turn around the lowest performing schools. Maryland was one of 10 winners in the second round of the *Race to the Top* grant competition.

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