***State Awarded $250 Million as Part of "Race to the Top" Program***

**WASHINGTON, DC –** Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD) released the following statement today af

"In awarding this grant, the U.S. Department of Education recognizes Maryland's commitment to reform its public schools. This funding will help Maryland build on the progress it has made in the past

**stated Congressman Hoyer.** "Investing in education is one of the most important investments we can make in our future. I

"While Maryland is home to some of the best public schools in the nation, the state's achievement gap is still

**continued Hoyer.**

The Race to the Top competition is a groundbreaking education reform program that will directly impact

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workpla
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principa
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where
- Turning around their lowest-performing schools.

For more information on the Race to the Top program, click here

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