



## Sample Language for a Measure to Move a State Toward “Afterschool for All”

(All dollar amounts are based on large states with a high number of schools and students.)

<b>Points to consider</b>	<i>Potential Language for the Measure</i>
Create the <b>title</b> of the Act and the program using <b>key message points</b> . “Education” and “safety” are themes that do very well in polling.	<i><u>Afterschool Education and Safety Act</u> The state grant program will be named the “Afterschool Education and Safety Program,” and grants will be called “Afterschool Education and Safety Grants.”</i>
<b>Clarify</b> what falls under the term “afterschool.”	<i>Afterschool hours are defined as from 6:30 in the morning until school opens, and from the time school closes until 6 p.m. Programs must remain open for at least the afternoon hours on every school day. Afterschool hours do not include weekends, summer school or vacation time.</i>
Establish desired <b>program elements</b> .	<i>Afterschool programs will include an educational component, homework assistance, and physical fitness, and will be individually designed at the local school site.</i>
Establish a <b>big vision</b> for the act when you lay out the purposes of the measure.	<i>The purpose of this measure is to create an afterschool program on every public school site in the state so every child has a safe learning environment to attend after school.</i>
Ideally, the <b>office responsible for afterschool</b> in a state will rank high in the state’s bureaucracy. It could report to the Governor or to the Chief State School Officer in the state.	<i>To do this, the measure will create the state Office of Afterschool Programs. The director of this office will report directly to the governor.</i>
A key policy and coalition building decision is <b>who is eligible</b> to apply for grants.	<i>Grants will be used exclusively to establish or support afterschool programs at public schools.</i>
One way to <b>involve nonprofits and community-based organizations</b> in the program is to emphasize their role as contractors that provide services.	<i>School sites are authorized to contract with other school sites and/or nonprofit community organizations to provide any and all program services, as long as safe transportation is provided.</i>
<b>Funding goals</b> can be based upon ensuring sufficient resources to fund a certain number or category of schools or a desired number of	<i>The state will appropriate \$150 million in fiscal year 2007, \$300 million in FY2008, and \$500 million in FY2009, directly from the general fund, for Afterschool Education and Safety Grants.</i>

students.		
Research is still being conducted to determine the <b>funding necessary</b> to provide a quality program at a school site, but some say a minimum of \$120,000 is needed for a quality program at a typical elementary school.		<i>In FY2010, the state will appropriate the greater of \$600 million dollars, or the amount needed to provide a \$120,000 Education and Safety Grant to every elementary, junior high, and middle school site and \$150,000 for every high school in the state.</i>
The <b>state will need resources</b> to administer the act and to build the afterschool field.		<i>A minimum of 3 percent of the annual appropriation shall be available for training, curriculum development evaluation and state administration.</i>
It is important to establish <b>program priorities</b> when funding does not cover every school.		<i>Priority for grants will be given to schools where 50% or more of the students qualify for the federally subsidized lunch program.</i>
A <b>local match requirement</b> can increase community connections with programs and provide extra financial support.		<i>Schools will be required to provide a local match of 1 dollar for every 3 state dollars.</i>
To <b>build support</b> for the program, you may want to cover all schools first and then seek to cover all students.		<i>No school will receive a grant in excess of the maximum per year until all schools applying and qualified are funded.</i>
<b>Grandfathering</b> in existing programs can ease anxiety about the new program among current providers.		<i>Schools with state-funded afterschool programs in place prior to the enactment of this measure may apply for support for their programs on the same basis and standing as schools applying for start-up programs.</i>
Make explicit your intent to reach and maintain the goal of <b>Afterschool for All</b> .		<i>It is the intent of people of the state of ____ that the legislature increase or adjust this appropriation as needed until every child in the state who needs one has a safe place to go after school by the year 2010, and thereafter.</i>