

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 764
 Finance

(Senator Sydnor)

**Childhood Exposure to Violence – Health and Social Impacts – Public Awareness
 Campaign Workgroup**

This bill establishes a Childhood Exposure to Violence Public Awareness Campaign Workgroup. The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) must provide staff for the workgroup. A member of the workgroup may not receive compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses, as provided in the State budget. The workgroup must (1) develop a public awareness and prevention campaign on child exposure to violence; (2) identify, review, and evaluate resources that can be used to educate the public on child exposure to violence; and (3) identify cost-effective methods for MDH to disseminate information to the public about the health and social impacts of children being exposed to violence and actions to address the occurrence of such events. By December 1, 2022, the workgroup must report its findings and recommendations to specified committees of the General Assembly. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2022, and terminates June 30, 2023.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: No effect in FY 2022. MDH general fund expenditures increase by \$45,500 in FY 2023 for contractual personnel to staff the workgroup. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	0	45,500	0	0	0
Net Effect	\$0	(\$45,500)	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note: () = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: None.

State Expenditures: MDH must provide staff to the workgroup, which must report its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2022. MDH advises, that given the short timeframe within which the workgroup must meet and report, additional personnel are needed. Thus, MDH general fund expenditures increase by \$45,467 in fiscal 2023, which reflects a 30-day start-up delay from the bill's June 1, 2022 effective date. This reflects the cost to hire one full-time contractual health policy analyst to support the workgroup and prepare the report by December 1, 2022. The contractual position terminates at the end of calendar 2022, following submission of the workgroup report.

Contractual Position	1.0
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$29,003
Operating Expenses	<u>16,464</u>
Total FY 2023 State Expenditures	\$45,467

This estimate does not include any health insurance costs that could be incurred for specified contractual employees under the State's implementation of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

This estimate does not reflect any additional costs to convene the workgroup such as expense reimbursements or any costs to *implement* a public awareness and prevention campaign developed by the workgroup.

Additional Comments: According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, community violence affects millions of people and their families, schools, and communities every year. Community violence can cause significant physical injuries and mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Living in a community experiencing violence is associated with increased risk for developing chronic diseases, as concerns about violence may prevent someone from engaging in healthy behaviors, such as walking, bicycling, using parks and recreational spaces, and accessing healthy food outlets.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: HB 1377 (Delegate Prettyman, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Maryland Department of Health; Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services; Department of Legislative Services

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js/ljm

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