

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1058 (Delegates Moon and Clippinger)
 Judiciary and Health and Government
 Operations

Justice and Public Health Prioritization Council

This emergency bill establishes the Justice and Public Health Prioritization Council (JPHPC) in the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS). GOCPYVS must provide staff for JPHPC. JPHPC must (1) using a data-driven approach, develop a statewide framework of sentencing and corrections policies to further reduce the State’s incarcerated population, reduce spending on corrections, and reinvest in infrastructure, services, and strategies to prioritize public health, increase public safety, and reduce recidivism and (2) request technical assistance from the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center and the Public Safety Performance Project of the Pew Center on the States to develop the policy framework. JPHPC also must convene an advisory stakeholder group and conduct roundtable discussion forums to seek public input, as specified. JPHPC must report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2022. **The bill terminates June 30, 2023.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures increase by \$19,600 in FY 2022 and by \$48,500 in FY 2023. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	19,600	48,500	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$19,600)	(\$48,500)	\$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

Bill Summary: The bill delineates the membership of JPHPC and requires the Executive Director of GOCPYVS to be the chair of the council. A member of JPHPC may not receive compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses.

Current Law: Chapter 42 of 2015 established the Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council (JRCC) within GOCPYVS. JRCC was required to use a data-driven approach to develop a statewide policy framework for sentencing and corrections policies to further reduce the State's incarcerated population, reduce spending on corrections, and reinvest in strategies to increase public safety and reduce recidivism. The council and its subcommittees met numerous times in 2015 to analyze criminal justice data and review relevant research. Based on its findings, JRCC developed a comprehensive set of recommendations intended to focus prison resources on serious and violent offenders, strengthen community supervision efforts, improve and enhance release and reentry practices, support local corrections systems, and ensure oversight and accountability.

Chapter 515 of 2016, the Justice Reinvestment Act, generally implemented many of the recommendations of JRCC by altering provisions relating to sentencing, corrections, parole, and offender supervision. In addition, the Justice Reinvestment Act (1) altered provisions relating to criminal gangs; (2) increased maximum penalties for second-degree murder and first-degree child abuse resulting in death; (3) modified provisions regarding drug treatment; (4) expanded expungement provisions; and (5) provided for the reinvestment of savings from changes in incarceration policies.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures increase by \$19,613 in fiscal 2022, which assumes an April 1, 2022 effective date to the bill's emergency status, and by \$48,477 in fiscal 2023. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one contractual program analyst to provide staff support to JPHPC. It includes a salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

	<u>FY 2022</u>	<u>FY 2023</u>
Contractual Position (New)	1.0	0
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$12,800	\$47,411
Operating Expenses	<u>6,813</u>	<u>1,066</u>
Total State Expenditures	\$19,613	\$48,477

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. It also assumes termination of the contractual employee when JPHPC terminates on June 30, 2023 (the end of fiscal 2023).

Any expense reimbursements for council members are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 2022
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