

## Chapter 977

**(House Bill 358)**

AN ACT concerning

**Prince George's County – Workgroup on Health and Wellness****PG 409–24**

FOR the purpose of establishing a Workgroup on Health and Wellness in Prince George's County to review and evaluate certain information and make certain recommendations related to health and wellness in Prince George's County; and generally relating to the Workgroup on Health and Wellness in Prince George's County.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
That:

(a) There is a Workgroup on Health and Wellness in Prince George's County.

(b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

(1) the Chair of the Prince George's County Senate Delegation, or the Chair's designee;

(2) the Chair of the Prince George's County House Delegation, or the Chair's designee;

(3) the Chair of the Prince George's County Council, or the Chair's designee;

~~(4) the Director of the Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation, or the Director's designee;~~ one representative of the Prince George's County Parks and Recreation Department, designated by the Chair of the Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning Commission;

~~(4)~~ (5) the following members, appointed by the Chair of the Prince George's County Senate Delegation:

(i) two representatives of small and local health and wellness businesses; and

(ii) one integrative health and wellness practitioner; and

~~(5)~~ (6) the following members, appointed by the Prince George's County Executive:

(i) one certified dietitian providing services in Prince George's County;

(ii) two health and wellness practitioners in Prince George's County;

(iii) one representative of the Prince George's County Food Equity Council;

(iv) one representative from Nonprofit Prince George's County; and

(v) one representative from the South County Economic Development Association.

(c) The Prince George's County Health Officer shall designate the chair of the Workgroup.

(d) The Prince George's County Health Department shall provide staff for the Workgroup.

(e) A member of the Workgroup or a subgroup established under subsection (g) of this section:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup or subgroup; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Workgroup shall:

(1) review the availability of health and wellness practices in Prince George's County;

(2) review available options for integrative health and wellness programs in Prince George's County;

(3) review programs that promote healthy eating within the Prince George's County government agencies;

(4) make recommendations regarding the best practices in health and wellness community programming, including strategies and programs that:

(i) promote healthy eating;

(ii) improve equitable access to healthy, affordable, and accessible food retailers;

(iii) improve equitable access to environments that are built and promote physical activity, including:

1. gymnasiums;
2. recreation centers;
3. athletic fields and facilities;
4. playgrounds;
5. sidewalks; and
6. bicycle and walking paths;

(iv) reduce the density in specified areas of calorie-dense and fast food restaurants and retailers; and

(v) promote healthy eating, physical activity, and nonsedentary habits for obesity prevention;

(5) make recommendations for incentives that may be provided to employers, businesses, and Prince George's County agencies to promote health and wellness strategies and programs identified under item (4) of this subsection;

(6) review and report on the benefits of incorporating integrative health into various aspects of Prince George's County; and

(7) evaluate the benefit and feasibility of creating integrative health and wellness hubs in Prince George's County.

(g) (1) The Workgroup may establish a subgroup to assist in carrying out its duties, including conducting research and producing reports.

(2) A subgroup established under paragraph (1) of this subsection may include an individual who is not a member of the Workgroup, such as a representative of a relevant expert.

(h) On or before December 1, 2025, the Workgroup shall report its findings and recommendations to the Prince George's County Executive, the Chair of the Prince George's County Council, the Governor, and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2026, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

**Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2024.**