

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2024 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

House Bill 1410 (Delegate Howard, *et al.*)  
Environment and Transportation

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**Anne Arundel County – Department of Housing and Community Development –  
Anne Arundel County Committee of Individuals With Lived Experience to  
Impact Policy on Homelessness**

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This bill establishes the Anne Arundel County Committee of Individuals with Lived Experience to Impact Policy on Homelessness, staffed by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Committee members may not receive compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses, as specified. The committee must study and make recommendations that would ensure individuals with lived experiences of homelessness are able to provide input on the development of policies and services related to low-income housing and homelessness. By December 1, 2025, the committee must report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Any expense reimbursements for committee members and staffing costs for DHCD are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

**Local Effect:** None. The bill does not directly affect local government operations or finances. The committee membership does not include local government representatives, and the report is not required to be submitted to any unit of local government.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Analysis

### Current Law:

#### *Homelessness Solutions Program*

The Division of Homeless Solutions within DHCD administers the [Homelessness Solutions Program](#) (HSP), which serves as a statewide response to homelessness in Maryland, providing technical support and funding to Continuums of Care (CoCs) and local homeless coalitions, which coordinate funding and resources for service providers across the State. The goals of HSP are to (1) reduce the number of individuals/households who become homeless or return to homelessness and (2) shorten the length of time an individual or household is homeless. HSP funds can be used for rapid rehousing, homelessness prevention, and other related services.

#### *Interagency Council on Homelessness*

Established by Chapter 341 of 2014, the [Interagency Council on Homelessness](#) coordinates State policy and working relationships among State, local, and nonprofit agencies working to prevent homelessness. Staffed by DHCD, the council must, among other things, coordinate outreach to each CoC to develop joint strategies that impact State and federal funding efforts to remedy and prevent homelessness, determine comprehensive and effective collaborative strategies and best practices for remediation and prevention of homelessness in the State (in particular, addressing the differing needs of the State's geographic areas), and review and analyze the need for and availability of affordable and accessible housing resources to address the needs of homeless individuals throughout the State. The council's most recent report can be read [here](#).

**Additional Comments:** The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has issued guidance encouraging public and nonprofit entities to compensate individuals with learned experience with homelessness for their participation with, among other things, serving as members of governance boards and advisory committees. That guidance can be read [here](#). The bill entitles members to be reimbursed for their expenses but does not otherwise provide compensation.

One of the committee members appointed by the Governor must be a representative of Arundel Community Development Services, Inc. (ACDS), a private nonprofit organization. DHCD advises that ACDS is the CoC lead agency for Anne Arundel County.

## **Additional Information**

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Anne Arundel County; Department of Housing and Community Development; Department of Human Services; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Arundel Community Development Services, Inc.; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 11, 2024  
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