

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2016 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader**

House Bill 66

(Chair, Appropriations Committee)(By Request -  
Departmental - Office for Children)

Appropriations

Budget and Taxation

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**Residential Child Care Capital Grant Program - Repeal**

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This departmental bill repeals the Residential Child Care Capital Grant Program.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill does not substantively change State operations or finances as the Residential Child Care Capital Grant Program has never been implemented.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Governor's Office for Children (GOC) has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** Residential child care programs, often referred to as group homes, are entities that provide structure and 24-hour supervision, basic care, social work, and health care services. Residential child care programs are licensed by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Human Resources, or the Department of Juvenile Services.

Chapter 441 of 2006 established the Residential Child Care Capital Grant Program under GOC to make grants to counties, municipal corporations, and nonprofit organizations for

(1) the conversion of public buildings or parts of public buildings to residential child care programs; (2) the acquisition of existing buildings or parts of buildings for use as residential child care programs; (3) the renovation of residential child care programs; (4) the purchase of capital equipment for residential child care programs; or (5) the planning, design, and construction of residential child care programs. The Board of Public Works was authorized to make the grants on the recommendation of the Executive Director of the Governor's Office for Children. GOC was responsible for adopting regulations to implement the program.

GOC advises that the program was never implemented as it was deemed duplicative and unnecessary. Furthermore, the need for residential child care facilities has decreased substantially over the past 20 years as State agencies have worked to reduce the number of children in out-of-home placements. According to GOC, the program's repeal is critical to the goal of streamlining government, identifying efficiencies, and eliminating obsolete and redundant programs.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Governor's Office for Children, Department of Budget and Management, Board of Public Works, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 21, 2016  
min/jc

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**ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS**

**TITLE OF BILL:** Residential Child Care Capital Grant Program - Repeal

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 66

**PREPARED BY:** Governor's Office for Children  
(Dept./Agency)

**PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING**

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND  
SMALL BUSINESSES

OR

WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND  
SMALL BUSINESSES

**PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS**