

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2018 Session

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

House Bill 1650 (Delegate Rosenberg)  
 Health and Government Operations

**Maryland Department of Health - Maryland Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Grant Program**

This bill establishes the Maryland Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Grant Program in the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to provide grants and contracts on a competitive basis to fund specified teenage pregnancy prevention programs and teenage pregnancy prevention research and demonstration programs. If a teenage pregnancy prevention program receives funding under the grant program and is discontinued as a recipient of federal funding, the grant program must provide funding sufficient to maintain previous federal funding levels. Beginning in fiscal 2020, the program must be funded as provided for in the State budget.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by *at least* \$1,050,300 in FY 2020; future years reflect ongoing award of grants. To the extent that programs receive State funding under the bill and lose federal funding, general fund expenditures may increase significantly more, as discussed below. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	0	1,050,300	1,046,600	1,048,400	1,050,200
Net Effect	\$0	(\$1,050,300)	(\$1,046,600)	(\$1,048,400)	(\$1,050,200)

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

**Local Effect:** Local revenues and expenditures may increase from grant funding.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful.

## Analysis

**Bill Summary:** Teenage pregnancy prevention programs that receive grant funding must replicate one or more elements of teenage pregnancy prevention programs that have been proven effective through rigorous evaluation to reduce teenage pregnancy or behavioral risk factors underlying teenage pregnancy.

Grant funding must also be provided to teenage pregnancy prevention research and demonstration programs to (1) develop, replicate, refine, and test additional models and innovative strategies for preventing teenage pregnancy and (2) conduct evaluations of teenage pregnancy prevention approaches, including longitudinal evaluations.

### **Current Law/Background:**

#### *Federal Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program*

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program is a national, evidence-based program that provides grant funding to diverse organizations working to prevent teen pregnancy across the United States. According to the program's [website](#), the program invests in both the implementation of evidence-based programs and the development and evaluation of new and innovative approaches to prevent teen pregnancy. On August 28, 2017, the program issued a press release announcing the intention to halt funding to all current grantees on June 30, 2018.

#### *Maryland Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs*

MDH's Maternal and Child Health Bureau conducts a number of initiatives aimed at reducing teenage pregnancy, including the Maryland Family Planning Health Program, the Abstinence Education and Coordination Program, and the Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP). These programs all receive federal funding. According to MDH, the department received \$869,174 in federal funding for PREP for the project period beginning October 1, 2016, and ending September 30, 2019; \$746,597 for the Abstinence Education Grant Program for the program period beginning October 1, 2016, and ending September 30, 2018; and \$3.9 million for the Title X Family Planning Program, which partially funds the Maryland Family Planning Health Program. PREP was recently reauthorized, and the Abstinence Education Grant Program was reauthorized and renamed Sexual Risk Avoidance Education.

Three other entities in the State receive federal funding from the federal Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. The Baltimore City Health Department receives \$1.749 million annually to fund It's Your Game: Keep it Real, Making Proud Choices! and Seventeen Days programs. The Johns Hopkins University receives \$880,072 annually to evaluate the

effectiveness of the Respecting the Circle of Life: Mind, Body, and Spirit program in reducing behaviors resulting in sexually transmitted infection and pregnancy among American Indian adolescents. Finally, the Health Teen Network, Inc. receives \$723,000 annually to evaluate the impact of Pulse, an informative youth-engaging mobile application grounded in the Theory of Planned Behavior and self-efficacy to promote sexual and reproductive health and reduce pregnancies.

According to the Baltimore City Health Department, the city has a teen birth rate twice as high as the State and three times as high as the national average. The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative is one of B'more for Healthy Babies priority programs to reduce births in Baltimore City by ensuring that adolescents and young adults have access to (1) age appropriate and evidence-based sexual health education and information; (2) access to effective family planning and youth friendly and up-to-date clinical services; and (3) community support to make informed sexual health decisions.

**State Expenditures:** MDH general fund expenditures increase by at least \$1,050,265 in fiscal 2020, which accounts for the bill's requirement that the program be funded as provided for in the State budget beginning in fiscal 2020. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one part-time (50%) program administrator to establish regulations for the distribution and prioritization of grant money, evaluate grant applications, and award grants on a competitive basis, as well as an estimated *minimum* \$1.0 million for grant awards. It includes a salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenditures.

Position	0.5
Grant Funding	\$1,000,000
Salary and Fringe Benefits	45,062
Operating Expenses	<u>5,203</u>
<b>Total FY 2020 State Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,050,265</b>

Future year expenditures reflect a full salary with annual increases and employee turnover and ongoing operating expenses.

To the extent that a program receives grant funding under the bill and is discontinued as a recipient of federal funding, general fund expenditures increase by an additional and likely significant amount due to the bill's requirement that the State grant program provide funding in an amount necessary to maintain the level of funding for the teenage pregnancy prevention program before the federal funding was discontinued. As discussed above, MDH and three other programs in the State currently receive federal grant funding related to teen pregnancy prevention programs. The combined federal grant funding for these programs is \$4,967,843 annually.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** Local revenues and expenditures increase for any local government that successfully applies for and receives grant funding under the bill.

**Small Business Effect:** Certain small businesses may be eligible to receive grant funding under the bill.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** Substantially similar legislation, HB 437 of 2015, received a hearing in the House Health and Government Operations Committee and was later withdrawn.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Baltimore City Health Department; Maryland Association of County Health Officers; Maryland Department of Health; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 8, 2018  
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