

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2013 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 945 (Delegate Valentino-Smith, *et al.*)  
Health and Government Operations

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**Children's Cabinet in the Governor's Office for Children - Study on Health and Social Services Needs of Juveniles**

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This bill requires the Children's Cabinet in the Governor's Office for Children (GOC) to review, compile, and make recommendations on specified information relating to juveniles in the State. The Children's Cabinet must report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 1, 2013.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2013, and terminates June 30, 2014.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures for GOC increase by \$130,000 in FY 2014 only for contractual services to complete the required study.

(in dollars)	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	130,000	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$130,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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

**Local Effect:** Local governments may be asked to gather and provide data on any applicable juvenile programs, but any impact is likely minimal.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Analysis

**Bill Summary:** The Children's Cabinet must:

- review and compile information and data on efforts or programs that have been implemented at the State, county, or municipal level that are designed to assess, diagnose, treat, or prevent mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders in juveniles, and report on the progress, costs, funding, and outcomes of those efforts, including specified programs in Baltimore City and Prince George's County and any other efforts targeted at coordinating health and social services needs for juveniles;
- make recommendations on the development of a combined care management model to address both care and coordination of physical and mental health, substance abuse care, and other nonmedical delinquency risk factors for at-risk juveniles in State and local government programs, including anticipated costs and potential sources of funding for the model; and
- make recommendations on the development of a screening tool designated and tested for use with juveniles located in multiple State and local systems, including anticipated costs and potential sources of funding for the screened tool.

**Current Law:** GOC is responsible for providing a coordinated, comprehensive, interagency approach to the development of integrated systems of care that are child and family focused. It also emphasizes prevention, early intervention, and community-based services for all children and families and pays special attention to at-risk populations. GOC informs and supports the work of the Children's Cabinet, works with local management boards, and oversees the use of monies from the Children's Cabinet Interagency Fund (CCIF) in accordance with policies and procedures established by the Children's Cabinet. It also assists the Children's Cabinet in the allocation of any funds assigned for distribution as grants.

The Executive Director of GOC also chairs the Children's Cabinet, which works to ensure the effective, efficient, and comprehensive delivery of services to Maryland's children and families by coordinating the programs, policies, and budgets of the State child-serving agencies. The Children's Cabinet includes the secretaries of the Department of Budget and Management, the Department of Disabilities, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Human Resources, the Department of Juvenile Services, and the State Superintendent of Schools.

**State Fiscal Effect:** GOC advises that the Children's Cabinet cannot absorb the workload required by the bill using existing resources, particularly with the condensed timeframe within which the findings and recommendations must be reported. The timeframe also does not make it practicable for GOC to hire new staff to fulfill the bill's requirements. Accordingly, general fund expenditures for GOC increase by an estimated \$130,000 in fiscal 2014 only for contractual services to gather data, make recommendations, and otherwise complete the bill's requirements. It is assumed that GOC will contract with the Institute for Innovation and Implementation at the University of Maryland School of Social Work. The estimated cost of the contractual services is based on previous experience GOC has had with the institute. Although the bill takes effect June 1, 2013, it is assumed that expenditures do not occur until fiscal 2014.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** GOC advises that local governments may be asked to provide information on juvenile services that are available at the local level. For example, local management boards that are units of county government may need to provide information to GOC in order for it to review and compile relevant information and make the specified recommendations. It is assumed that any impact on local governments is minimal, however.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Governor's Office for Children, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 8, 2013  
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