

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
 First Reader

House Bill 1579 (Delegate Clippinger)
 Judiciary

Public Safety - Crime Plan and Law Enforcement Councils (Maryland State Crime Plan)

This emergency bill establishes the Law Enforcement Coordinating Council within the Department of State Police (DSP) to prevent and reduce crime by (1) coordinating and focusing State resources and (2) ensuring interagency communications and intelligence sharing. DSP must establish a regional law enforcement council (regional council) for each of the regions established by the council to prevent and reduce crime by (1) coordinating and focusing State and local resources and (2) ensuring interagency communications and intelligence sharing. The bill establishes membership, duties, and reporting requirements for the council and the regional councils and requires DSP to provide staff for the council and each regional council. Beginning October 1, 2020, the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) must submit a specified monthly report. **The bill’s provisions relating to GOCCP terminate September 30, 2022.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures increase by \$560,200 in FY 2020. Future years are annualized and reflect ongoing costs. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	560,200	1,364,500	1,402,100	1,399,400	1,433,000
Net Effect	(\$560,200)	(\$1,364,500)	(\$1,402,100)	(\$1,399,400)	(\$1,433,000)

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

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in local government expenditures to work with the council and regional councils. Local revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary:

Law Enforcement Coordinating Council: The council must meet at least quarterly and must prepare and revise, as necessary, a comprehensive crime plan for the State. The plan must:

- identify State resources and assets that State agencies are using to support law enforcement activities and provide support services for communities with the greatest concentration of crime;
- establish law enforcement regions in the State based on public safety commonalities and priorities across jurisdictions;
- specify strategies to share intelligence between law enforcement agencies, develop patrol agreements across jurisdictions, and provide mutual aid to law enforcement agencies across jurisdictions;
- establish targeted initiatives, as specified;
- identify regions for the establishment of regional councils; and
- identify areas where law enforcement agencies can collaborate to provide support and human services to individuals most likely to be victims or perpetrators of crime.

By December 1 each year, the council must submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly concerning the council's activities and recommendations.

A member of the council may not receive compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the standard State travel regulations, as provided in the State budget.

Regional Law Enforcement Council: Each regional council must meet at least quarterly to:

- share intelligence;
- identify regional crime trends;
- strategize the deployment of resources to prevent and respond to regional crime, particularly violent crime;
- review outstanding warrants in the region; and
- discuss community engagement efforts, technology, and training programs.

By December 1 each year, each regional council must submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly concerning the council's activities and recommendations.

Report on Deployment of State Assets: Beginning October 1, 2020, GOCCP must submit an updated report by the first day of each month to the Governor and the General Assembly describing how State assets are being deployed to prevent crime. The report must:

- specify the number of individuals that the Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) is monitoring, as specified;
- specify the number of individuals DPP has referred to other State agencies for assistance;
- identify the housing services the State is providing to individuals recently released from incarceration;
- identify the job training and assistance with employment opportunities the State is providing to individuals recently released from incarceration;
- describe issues relating to access to transportation for individuals recently released from incarceration;
- identify the support services provided to individuals at high risk for committing crimes; and
- specify the manner in which State agencies are sharing specific information about individuals who have had contact with the criminal justice system.

Current Law: The State Law Enforcement Coordinating Council was established by executive order in 2012 (Executive Order 01.01.2012.03). The council adopts written policies and procedures that provide a framework for coordination of the work of State law enforcement agencies. The council has the authority and responsibility to coordinate among its member agencies to further the safety and security of State residents and to improve the administration and enforcement of the laws of Maryland by ensuring that police resources are deployed across the State to address statewide crime trends, regional and local crime, maintain homeland security, respond to any threats to homeland security, and to address emergencies either natural or man-made.

Collaborative efforts by the council may concern homeland security; natural or man-made emergency response; actions to increase the safety of roadways and other forms of transportation; and targeted investigation and law enforcement of crime trends or specific criminal activity. In addition, the council explores ways that State law enforcement agencies can share resources and eliminate overlapping or redundant functions in areas such as campus security, communications, emergency planning, homeland security, information technology, procurement, and training.

By September 1 of each year, the council must submit a summary report to the Governor concerning all actions taken for the previous fiscal year ending June 30, including the member agency participants and the location of each action.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures increase by \$560,216 in fiscal 2020 for DSP and GOCCP to implement the bill’s provisions, which reflects the fact that the bill is an emergency measure. Future years reflect annualization and ongoing costs. The effect by agency is described below.

Department of State Police

General fund expenditures for DSP increase by \$550,620 in fiscal 2020, which assumes an April 1, 2020 implementation date. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring six regional coordinators, seven administrative aides, and five intelligence analysts to staff the council and the regional councils, provide administrative support, and perform intelligence gathering. It includes salaries, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs (including the purchase of vehicles and computers), and ongoing operating expenses. The information and assumptions used in calculating the estimate are stated below:

- an estimated six regional councils are established; to the extent that more regional councils are established, general fund expenditures increase further;
- each regional council needs a regional law enforcement coordinator;
- DSP needs to hire five intelligence analysts to perform the required duties in five of the regions; DSP can use existing staff at the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) for the region that encompasses MCAC’s headquarters;
- DSP needs seven administrative aides to the support the work of the council and each regional council and to coordinate the overall work under the bill; and
- each regional law enforcement coordinator needs a vehicle and a computer.

Positions	18
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$334,702
Vehicles and Computers	125,040
Other Operating Expenses	<u>90,878</u>
Total FY 2020 DSP Expenditures	\$550,620

Future year expenditures, which total \$1.3 million in fiscal 2021, increasing to \$1.4 million by fiscal 2025, reflect full salaries with annual increases and employee turnover and ongoing operating expenses. This estimate does not reflect vehicle replacement costs.

Any expense reimbursements for council members are assumed to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgeted resources.

Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

General fund expenditures for GOCCP increase by \$9,596 in fiscal 2020, which assumes a June 1, 2020 implementation date. GOCCP advises that it needs one regular full-time position to implement the bill. However, the Department of Legislative Services advises that the added responsibilities incurred by this legislation are not permanent and, thus, may be performed by a contractual employee. Accordingly, this estimate reflects the cost of hiring one contractual data and research coordinator to research, complete, and submit monthly reports as required under the bill. It includes a salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

Contractual Position	1
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$4,655
Operating Expenses	<u>4,941</u>
Total FY 2020 GOCCP Expenditures	\$9,596

Future year expenditures, which total \$53,993 in fiscal 2021, \$55,487 in fiscal 2022, and \$14,338 in fiscal 2023, reflect a full salary with annual increases and employee turnover and ongoing operating expenses. The estimate assumes termination of the contractual employee on September 30, 2022.

This estimate does not include any health insurance costs that could be incurred for specified contractual employees under the State's implementation of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

DPSCS can provide the required information to GOCCP with existing resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: SB 907 (Senator Smith, *et al.*) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City; Prince George's County; Maryland Association of Counties; City of Bowie; Maryland Municipal League; Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention; Department of Housing and Community Development; Department of Juvenile Services; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Department of State Police; Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

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