

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
 First Reader

House Bill 464 (Delegate J. Lewis, *et al.*)
 Appropriations

Prince George’s County – Prince George’s County Reentry Employment
 Incentive Program – Funding

This bill requires the Governor to include an appropriation of \$500,000 in the annual budget bill for the Prince George’s County Reentry Employment Incentive Program. The mandated appropriation applies in fiscal 2025 through 2028. The annual appropriation must be used to supplement, but not supplant money appropriated to the county program. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2023 and terminates June 30, 2028.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures increase by \$500,000 in FY 2025 through FY 2028. State revenues are not affected. **This bill establishes a mandated appropriation beginning in FY 2025.**

(in dollars)	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	0	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Net Effect	\$0	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)

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

Local Effect: Prince George’s County revenues and expenditures increase by \$500,000 in FY 2025 through FY 2028.

Small Business Effect: Potentially meaningful.

Analysis

Current Law: Section 10-334 of the Prince George’s County Code establishes the criteria for the County Re-entry Employment Incentive Program. The following outlines several key components of the program.

A “qualifying employee” is a county resident who has been confined for 6 months or more for criminal conviction during the five years prior to becoming employed in a qualified position and been released within 36 months prior to becoming employed in a qualified position; was a county resident prior to their most recent incarceration; is eligible for employment with a qualifying employer; and has been a county resident continuously since being released from the most recent period of confinement.

A “qualifying employer” is a commercial or nonprofit business that conducts business within the county and complies with federal, State, and local requirements; employs a qualifying employee in a qualifying position; and has signed and is in compliance with the Re-entry Employment Reimbursement Program Agreement, as specified.

A “qualifying position” is an employment position located within the county for which the employer is required to pay the Maryland Unemployment Insurance Tax. A qualifying employee in a qualifying position works at least 21 hours per week; is paid at least \$15 per hour; and is hired by a qualifying employer after the employer signs a Re-entry Employment Reimbursement Program Agreement, as specified.

State and Local Fiscal Effect: General fund expenditures increase by \$500,000 annually in fiscal 2025 through 2028 due to the mandated appropriation to the Prince George’s County Reentry Employment Incentive Program. Prince George’s County government will receive the mandated appropriation from the State; however, the funds must be distributed to the county’s Reentry Employment Incentive Program. The program is currently administered by Employ Prince George’s, which currently receives a \$300,000 grant from the county government.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: SB 156 (Prince George's County Senators) - Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Prince George’s County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 9, 2023
js/hlb

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