

**HB0350/863122/1**

BY: Delegate Buckel

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 350  
(First Reading File Bill – Committee Reprint)

On page 103, under:

Heading: MEDICAL CARE PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

Program: M00Q01.03

Entitled: Medical Care Provider Reimbursements

In line 22, after “Assessment” insert “. Further provided that \$141,962,438 of the appropriation made for the purpose of providing coverage of emergency medical services for undocumented or unqualified immigrants is reduced.”

Further provided that \$42,500,000 of the appropriation made for the purpose of providing coverage of dental services for adults with household incomes up to 133% of the federal poverty level as required in Section 15–103(a)(2)(xiii) of the Health – General Article is reduced.

Further provided that \$10,544,663 of the appropriation made for the purpose of a 1% rate increase for long–term services and supports providers is reduced.

Further provided that \$3,600,000 of the appropriation made for the purpose of provider reimbursements for home and community–based services is reduced to lower provider rates by 2%.

Further provided that \$3,000,000 of the appropriation made for the purpose of providing coverage for gender–affirming treatment is reduced.”.

On page 104, under:

Heading: MEDICAL CARE PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

Program: M00Q01.07

Entitled: Maryland Children's Health Program

In line 18, after "Appropriation" insert "provided that \$65,555,746 of the appropriation made for the purpose of providing comprehensive medical care and other health care services to noncitizen pregnant women as required in Section 15-103(a)(2)(xviii) of the Health – General Article is reduced.

Further provided that \$10,000,000 of the appropriation made for the purpose of provider reimbursements in the Maryland Children's Health Program is reduced. The Maryland Department of Health shall lower the income eligibility requirement for the Maryland Children's Health Program from a household income up to 322% of the federal poverty level to not more than 275% of the federal poverty level, effective July 1, 2025."

On page 152, under:

Heading: AID TO EDUCATION

Program: R00A02

Entitled: Blueprint for Maryland's Future Program

After line 6, insert "Provided that, contingent on HB 352 including a provision freezing growth in Blueprint for Maryland's Future supported programs with the exception of inflationary increases for the foundation formula and related formulas, funding for major education aid programs as defined in Section 5-201(l) of the Education Article is reduced in fiscal 2026 by a total of \$483,457,659. The Department of Budget

and Management shall allocate a reduction of \$119,975,821 among non-State aid Blueprint for Maryland's Future programs. The remainder of the reduction shall be allocated as follows:

<u>R00A02.01</u>	<u>State Share of Foundation Program</u>	<u>\$103,656,762</u>
<u>R00A02.02</u>	<u>Compensatory Education</u>	<u>\$44,454,602</u>
<u>R00A02.06</u>	<u>Full Day Prekindergarten</u>	<u>\$17,395,028</u>
<u>R00A02.07</u>	<u>Students with Disabilities</u>	<u>\$14,771,171</u>
<u>R00A02.07</u>	<u>Students with Disabilities</u>	<u>\$1,142,163</u>
<u>R00A02.24</u>	<u>Limited English Proficient</u>	<u>\$13,859,835</u>
<u>R00A02.55</u>	<u>Teacher Development</u>	<u>\$63,688,214</u>
<u>R00A02.55</u>	<u>At-Risk Early Childhood Grants</u>	<u>\$5,940,000</u>
<u>R00A02.61</u>	<u>Concentration of Poverty Grant Program</u>	<u>\$92,124,817</u>
<u>R00A02.63</u>	<u>Education Effort Adjustment</u>	<u>\$17,076,353</u> ".

On page 175, under:

Heading: MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Program: R62I00.03

Entitled: Joseph A. Sellinger Formula for Aid to Non-Public Institutions of Higher Education

In line 21, after "Appropriation" insert ", provided that \$36,661,362 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Joseph A. Sellinger Formula for Aid to Non-Public Institutions of Higher Education may not be expended for that purpose, but instead may be transferred by budget amendment to program R62I00.07 Educational Grants to be used only for providing grants to the Maryland Independent College and University Association institutions based on financial need of the institution. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.";

(Over)

and in the same line, strike “73,322,724” and substitute “36,661,362”.

On page 296, under:

Heading: SECTION 21

Strike beginning with “(7)” in line 15 down through “canceled,” in line 21.

On page 296, in lines 22, 28, 34, and 39, strike “(8)”, “(9)”, “(10)”, and “(11)”, respectively, and substitute “(7)”, “(8)”, “(9)”, and “(10)”, respectively.

On page 297, in lines 7, 13, 19, 24, and 30, strike “(12)”, “(13)”, “(14)”, “(15)”, and “(16)”, respectively, and substitute “(11)”, “(12)”, “(13)”, “(14)”, and “(15)”, respectively.

On page 298, in lines 5, 11, 18, 23, 29, and 35, strike “(17)”, “(18)”, “(19)”, “(20)”, “(21)”, and “(22)”, respectively, and substitute “(16)”, “(17)”, “(18)”, “(19)”, “(20)”, and “(21)”, respectively.

On page 299, in lines 1, 7, 12, and 18, strike “(23)”, “(24)”, “(25)”, and “(26)”, respectively, and substitute “(22)”, “(23)”, “(24)”, and “(25)”, respectively.

On page 309, under:

Heading: SECTION 40

In line 24, strike “\$97,000,000” and substitute “\$194,000,000”; after line 31, insert:

“SECTION 41. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Budget and Management shall implement a statewide hiring freeze, effective July 1, 2025, for all employees in the State Personnel Management System. The hiring freeze shall exclude direct custody positions and direct care positions responsible for

individuals in the custody or care of the State. The Secretary of Budget and Management shall establish guidelines for requesting and approving limited hiring freeze exceptions for positions for which hiring would result in cost reductions.

Further provided that funding provided for the 1% fiscal 2026 cost of living adjustment and fiscal 2026 employee increments may not be expended for that purpose.

Further provided that the following positions are abolished:

- (1) 25.0 new positions in the Office of the Public Defender;
- (2) 12.0 vacant positions in the Department of General Services; and
- (3) 5.0 new positions in the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives for the Office of Immigrant Affairs.

Further provided that funding provided for salaries and fringe benefits are hereby reduced by \$277,789,742 in general funds, \$49,111,511 in special funds, and \$40,473,282 in federal funds. Funding shall be reduced from within programs in the Executive Branch agencies in Section 1 of this Act in accordance with a schedule determined by the Department of Budget and Management. The Department of Budget and Management is authorized to distribute this reduction among Executive Branch agencies in a schedule which considers the cost reductions achieved in each agency due to the hiring freeze.”;

and in lines 32 and 38, strike “41.” and “42.”, respectively, and substitute “42.” and “43.”, respectively.

On page 317, under:

Heading: MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION

(Over)

Program: D13A13.08

Entitled: Renewable Energy and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives

Strike beginning with the comma in line 2 down through “only” in line 8 and substitute “, provided that the appropriation made for the purpose of local government clean energy projects shall be reduced by \$50,000,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation authorizing the transfer of \$100,000,000 from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to the General Fund in fiscal 2026.”.

On page 331, under:

Heading: DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Program: J00A01.03

Entitled: Facilities and Capital Equipment

Strike beginning with the comma in line 17 down through “only” in line 24 and substitute “, provided that the appropriation made for the purpose of solar energy projects on state government property shall be reduced by \$50,000,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation authorizing the transfer of \$100,000,000 from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to the General Fund in fiscal 2026.”.