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By: Delegates Miller and Buckel

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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## Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports – Workgroup and Study

FOR the purpose of requiring the Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports to convene a workgroup to study the effectiveness of the framework for community supports partnerships in meeting the needs of local school systems and equitable distribution of grant funding across the State; prohibiting the Consortium from awarding grants in a certain fiscal year; and generally relating to a workgroup and study and the Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, 11 That:

- (a) The Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports shall convene a stakeholder workgroup to examine whether the framework established by the Consortium for the creation of coordinated community supports partnerships for the awarding of grants to providers for the provision of community behavioral health services in local school systems is effective in granting awards to community providers that meet the needs determined by a local school system and whether grant awards are distributed equitably across the State.
- 19 (b) The workgroup shall consist of the following members:
- 20 (1) the Chair of the Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports;
- 21 (2) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's 22 designee;
- 23 (3) the Chair of the Accountability and Implementation Board, or the 24 Chair's designee;



- 1 (4) one representative each from a small, midsized, and large local school 2 system; and
- 3 (5) any other members as determined by the Chair of the Consortium.
- 4 (c) The workgroup shall:
- 5 (1) analyze the effectiveness of the community supports partnerships pilot 6 hub model in matching community behavioral health service providers with the needs of 7 local school systems as determined by a local school system;
- 8 (2) examine reports of grantees on key performance measures to determine 9 whether grantees are providing services that have anticipated behavioral health outcomes;
- 10 (3) review existing requirements for provider and Consortium 11 collaboration with local school systems to determine whether the service needs of every 12 local school system are being acknowledged and considered in the awarding of grants; and
- 13 (4) review all the grants awarded by the Consortium in February 2024 to 14 determine whether the number and amount of grants awarded were equitably distributed 15 throughout the State.
- 16 (d) On or before December 1, 2025, the workgroup shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government 18 Article, to the General Assembly.
- 19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:
- 20 (a) The Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports may not award any 21 grant funding for fiscal year 2026 under § 7–447.1 of the Education Article.
- 22 (b) The Consortium may resume awarding grants for fiscal year 2027 if the report 23 of the workgroup under Section 1 of this Act finds that:
- 24 (1) the pilot hub model is an effective method for organizing community 25 supports partnerships because it successfully matches community behavioral health 26 service providers to the needs determined by local school systems; and
- 27 (2) the grants awarded by the Consortium are equitably distributed 28 throughout the State to meet the needs of all school children and their families in every 29 local school system.
- SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2025. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2026, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no

33 further force and effect.