Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE First Reader

House Bill 522 Judiciary (Delegate Taveras, et al.)

Department of Juvenile Services - Rehabilitation Services - Funding

This bill authorizes the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) to provide funding for up to one year of rehabilitation services to State juvenile rehabilitation institutions for which DJS is the central administrative department.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: To the extent that DJS elects to provide funding, unless DJS diverts existing funding from other purposes, general fund expenditures for DJS increase by an unknown amount. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect local government operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: DJS is the Executive Branch agency responsible for managing, supervising, housing, and providing programs to youth who are involved in the juvenile justice system. DJS is responsible for assessing the individual needs of referred youth and providing intake, detention, probation, commitment, and after-care services. The department collaborates with youth, families, schools, community partners, law enforcement, and other public agencies to coordinate services and resources.

DJS is the central administrative department for:

- juvenile intake, detention authorization, community detention, investigation, probation, protective supervision, predelinquent diversion services, and aftercare services; and
- the State juvenile diagnostic, training, detention, and rehabilitation institutions.

State Expenditures: While the bill authorizes DJS to provide funding for rehabilitation services, it does not require DJS to do so. Furthermore, the bill does not define "rehabilitation services." DJS advises that due to the lack of detail in the bill, it cannot determine the impact on the population served and the related fiscal impact. DJS did not respond to requests for additional information by the Department of Legislative Services.

Regardless, should DJS elect to provide funding for rehabilitation services, general fund expenditures increase unless the department diverts existing funding from other purposes. The magnitude of any such increase in expenditures cannot be reliably determined without additional information or detail in the bill.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Juvenile Services; Department of Legislative

Services

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