

# SENATE BILL 537

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6lr2751  
CF 6lr2271

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By: Senator McCray

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings and Budget and Taxation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 **Youth Delinquency Prevention Fund – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Youth Delinquency Prevention Fund; and generally  
4 relating to the Youth Delinquency Prevention Fund.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
6 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
7 Section 6–226(a)(1) and (2)(i) and (ii)  
8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
9 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
12 Section 6–226(a)(2)(iii)212. and 213.  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

15 BY adding to  
16 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
17 Section 6–226(a)(2)(iii)214.  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

20 BY adding to  
21 Article – State Government  
22 Section 9–3603 and 9–3604  
23 Annotated Code of Maryland  
24 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

25 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
26 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



## Article – State Finance and Procurement

2 6-226.

6 (2) (i) This paragraph does not apply in fiscal years 2024 through 2028.

13 (iii) The provisions of subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph do not  
14 apply to the following funds:

213. the Population Health Improvement Fund; AND

#### 4. THE YOUTH DELINQUENCY

20 9-3603.

21 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE YOUTH DELINQUENCY  
22 PREVENTION FUND.

23 (B) **THERE IS A YOUTH DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUND IN THE OFFICE.**

24 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO  
25 COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS, INCLUDING YOUTH SERVICE BUREAUS, THAT  
26 PROVIDE SERVICES TO:

3 (3) ADVOCATE FOR YOUTH NEEDS.

4 (D) THE OFFICE SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

5 (E) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT  
6 SUBJECT TO REVERSION UNDER § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND  
7 PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

10 (F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

(1) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND:

12 (2) INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND; AND

15 (G) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR CARRYING OUT THE PURPOSE OF  
16 THE FUND.

17 (H) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND  
18 IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.

19 (2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO  
20 THE FUND.

21 (I) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE  
22 WITH THE STATE BUDGET.

23 (J) MONEY EXPENDED FROM THE FUND FOR CARRYING OUT THE PURPOSE  
24 OF THE FUND IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND IS NOT INTENDED TO TAKE THE PLACE OF  
25 FUNDING THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE APPROPRIATED FOR CARRYING OUT THE  
26 PURPOSE OF THE FUND.

27 (K) NO PART OF THE FUND MAY REVERT OR BE CREDITED TO:

28 (1) THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE; OR

**(2) ANY OTHER SPECIAL FUND OF THE STATE.**

2 (L) THE FUND IS SUBJECT TO AUDIT BY THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE  
3 AUDITS ACCORDING TO § 2-1220 OF THIS ARTICLE.

4 9-3604.

5                   **ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2027, AND EVERY DECEMBER 1 THEREAFTER,**  
6   **THE OFFICE SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE,**  
7   **THE SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE, AND THE HOUSE**  
8   **APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THIS ARTICLE,**  
9   **THAT INCLUDES FOR THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING FISCAL YEAR:**

10 (1) THE AMOUNT OF FUNDS TRANSFERRED AND DISTRIBUTED FROM  
11 THE YOUTH DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUND;

12 (2) THE NUMBER OF GRANTS DISTRIBUTED BY THE YOUTH  
13 DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUND:

16 (4) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVED USING THE  
17 GRANTS DISTRIBUTED FROM THE YOUTH DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUND,  
18 DISAGGREGATED BY:

19 (I) AGE OF THE CHILD:

## 20 (II) GEOGRAPHIC REGION:

### 21 (III) RACE; AND

## 22 (IV) ETHNICITY;

27 (6) THE AMOUNT OF ANY UNSPENT MONEY IN THE YOUTH  
28 DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUND; AND

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
4 October 1, 2026.