

SENATE BILL 537

E3

6lr2751
CF 6lr2271

By: **Senator McCray**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings and Budget and Taxation

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:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Article – State Finance and Procurement

6–226.

(a) (1) Except as otherwise specifically provided by law or by regulation of the Treasurer, the Treasurer shall credit to the General Fund any interest on or other income from State money that the Treasurer invests.

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

(ii) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General Fund of the State.

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

212. the Department of Social and Economic Mobility Special Fund; [and]

213. the Population Health Improvement Fund; AND

214. THE YOUTH DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUND.

Article – State Government

9–3603.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “FUND” MEANS THE YOUTH DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUND.

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

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

(1) PROVIDE COMMUNITY-ORIENTED DELINQUENCY PREVENTION, YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION, DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION, AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT;

1 (2) AMELIORATE CONDITIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO DELINQUENCY,
2 YOUTH SUICIDE, DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE, AND FAMILY DISRUPTION; AND

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.

8 (2) THE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY, AND THE
9 COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

10 (F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

11 (1) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND;

12 (2) INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND; AND

13 (3) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR
14 THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.

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.

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

9-3604.

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

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

(2) THE NUMBER OF GRANTS DISTRIBUTED BY THE YOUTH DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUND;

(3) THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT DISTRIBUTED BY THE YOUTH DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUND;

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

(I) AGE OF THE CHILD;

(II) GEOGRAPHIC REGION;

(III) RACE; AND

(IV) ETHNICITY;

(5) IF A CHILD OR FAMILY SERVED USING THE GRANTS DISTRIBUTED FROM THE YOUTH DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUND HAS INTERACTED WITH THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM OR THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM AFTER RECEIVING THE GRANT;

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

1 **(7) THE REASONS WHY THE FUNDS UNDER ITEM (5) OF THIS SECTION,**
2 **IF ANY, WERE NOT SPENT.**

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