



GOVERNOR'S COORDINATING OFFICES

Community Initiatives · Service & Volunteerism · Performance Improvement
Crime Prevention, Youth, & Victim Services · Small, Minority, & Women Business Affairs
Banneker-Douglass Museum · Volunteer Maryland · Deaf & Hard of Hearing

FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES

February 18, 2020

Chair Maggie McIntosh
Room 121
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: House Bill 709: Youth Services Bureaus - Funding

POSITION: Letter of Information

Dear Chair McIntosh and Members of the House Appropriations Committee,

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services ("Office") is providing this letter of information for House Bill 709: Human Services - Youth Services Bureaus - Funding.

SUMMARY: The Office supports the current funding structure and believes it best serves Maryland's youth. House Bill 709 eliminates local decision-making for LMBs that have a YSB in the jurisdiction.

House Bill 709 revises the term "drug and alcohol abuse" to "use disorder", and removes "alternative leisure activities" from the list of YSB-provided activities. Additionally, the legislation requires the Governor, beginning in FY22, to provide an annual appropriation of at least \$1,800,000 in the budget to fund Youth Service Bureaus ("YSB") that meet the statutory requirements, with a minimum of \$100,000 provided to each YSB and \$100,000 per jurisdiction provided that YSBs serve more than one jurisdiction.

After the Governor's Office for Children was reintroduced as the Division of Children and Youth within the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services, the Office continued the practice of providing funding to the Local Management Boards ("LMBs") to make determinations on funding allocations to YSBs.

The Office supports the current funding structure and believes it best serves Maryland's youth. In that structure, some YSBs are providers of a variety of services administered by Local Management Boards (LMBs) that are charged with identifying priorities and targeting resources

for a jurisdiction's communities. Each LMB, as determined by its needs assessments and an analysis of the gaps in services, proposes the programs/strategies for Children's Cabinet funding and awards funding for those programs/strategies in accordance with local procurement policies.

House Bill 709 eliminates local decision-making for LMBs that have a YSB in the jurisdiction. Those LMBs would no longer have the ability to make local funding decisions that are driven by local needs and informed by performance, local purchasing and procurement requirements, and other requirements.

Additionally, pass-through funding or a carve-out for YSBs or for other service providers from the Children's Cabinet fund may hinder the LMBs' ability to fund the services that have been identified as a community need. Instead, we believe the LMBs should continue to have the opportunity to contract for services to meet community needs and gaps identified by its local planning processes. This does not preclude a YSB from responding to any solicitation (regardless of issuer) or entering into a services contract with an LMB should the LMB make that determination.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.

Executive Director

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

For all inquiries, please contact
Andy Baranauskas, Legislative Affairs Manager
410-855-2538
Anthony.Baranauskas@maryland.gov