



Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET
AND MANAGEMENT

LARRY HOGAN
Governor

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD
Lieutenant Governor

DAVID R. BRINKLEY
Secretary

MARC L. NICOLE
Deputy Secretary

HOUSE BILL 718 State Coordinator for Autism Strategy and Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism–Related Needs – Mandated Appropriation (Guyton)

STATEMENT OF INFORMATION

DATE: February 17, 2021

COMMITTEE: House Appropriations

SUMMARY OF BILL: HB 780 mandates an appropriation in the Department of Human Services of at least \$86,100 annually to fund the position of State Coordinator for Autism Strategy.

EXPLANATION: The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has allocated funds in the FY 2022 Budget to fund a Statewide Coordinator for Autism Strategy within the Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives. DBM understands the sponsor’s intent, but respectfully requests (1) the provision regarding the specific salary amount be deleted from the legislation and (2) transfer the position of Statewide Coordinator from the Department of Human Services to the Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives.

It is atypical to include salaries in the Annotated Code of Maryland because personnel matters are more aptly determined by DBM’s Classification and Salary Division. The Division is responsible for determining the classification for all State employee positions under the jurisdiction of the Secretary. The Division analyzes individual positions and systematically maintains the classification plan and the State Salary Plan. It also recommends emergency salary actions and develops salary and benefits data and costs for pay recommendations. To codify specific salary grades does not take into consideration future changes to the salary structure or changes to the professional responsibilities of the positions, which could result in assigned levels being out of date or under market rates.

Again, the Department has engaged with the sponsor on this matter and appreciates her cooperation in working with us to achieve the aims and objectives of the legislation.

**For additional information, contact Barbara Wilkins at
(410) 260-6371 or barbara.wilkins1@maryland.gov**