



Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET
AND MANAGEMENT

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor

HELENE GRADY
Secretary

MARC L. NICOLE
Deputy Secretary

Senate Bill SB 0880 Governors Office of Children - Boys and Girls Club of Maryland - Grant Funding

Letter of Support with Amendments

DATE: February 26th 2025

COMMITTEE: Budget and Taxation

SUMMARY OF BILL: SB0880 requires the Governor to include \$5,000,000 in the annual budget bill each fiscal year to the Governor's Office for Children (GOC) to provide certain grants for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Maryland. If this legislation were to pass, the GOC would need to hire staff to administer the grant. The GOC anticipates the personnel cost to be \$66,000 annually (50% of a full-time employee at Grade 18 Step 11). Therefore, the total cost of this grant program would be 5,000,066 annually.

EXPLANATION: This funding initiative aligns with the Governor's Office of Children's (GOC) mission to create poverty-fighting opportunities and the Governor's shared commitment to strengthening community-based poverty reduction efforts. In 2024, the Maryland General Assembly passed the ENOUGH Act, and Maryland launched the Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households (ENOUGH) Initiative, a first-of-its-kind state-led, place-based strategy to create poverty-fighting opportunities driven by communities' lived experience and expertise, data cross-sector partnerships. The Boys and Girls Club, whose mission is to ensure children across the entire state reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens, is aligned with the Governor's poverty-fighting strategy. In fact, the Harford County Boys and Girls Club was awarded an ENOUGH grant, and the GOC is working with the Boys and Girls Club of Maryland to ensure that more Boys and Girls Clubs join ENOUGH neighborhood partnership tables as critical providers of out-of-school time enrichment and support for Maryland's youth growing up in communities of concentrated poverty.

The Departments propose the following amendments to this legislation to ensure these resources are deployed in a way that is aligned with the Governor's Office for Children's strategy to end child poverty in Maryland.

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Section 8-105(D)

THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN SHALL:
ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR DISTRIBUTING GRANTS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION;
DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING GRANT APPLICATIONS AND
MONITOR THE USE OF GRANT FUNDS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE

**For additional information, contact Dana Phillips at
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