



# Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET  
AND MANAGEMENT

WES MOORE  
*Governor*

ARUNA MILLER  
*Lieutenant Governor*

HELENE GRADY  
*Secretary*

MARC L. NICOLE  
*Deputy Secretary*

## House Bill 185 Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program—Funding—Alterations

### STATEMENT OF INFORMATION

**DATE:** January 29th

**COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** HB 185 alters the fiscal years during which the Governor must include an annual appropriation of \$3.7 million to the Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program. The bill would extend the mandatory funding beyond fiscal years 2023-2025 to include fiscal year 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter.

### **POSITION: Statement of Information**

The Administration has included \$1.5 million in the FY 2026 budget to maintain continuity of operations for the Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program. The bill would require a mandated appropriation of \$3.7 million annually beginning in FY 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter, and therefore the fiscal impact relative to the FY 2026 budget as proposed is \$2.2 million general funds. Of this amount, \$1,283,000 would go to existing providers maintaining FY 2022 levels, \$1,917,000 to existing providers for additional services, and \$500,000 to new providers or existing providers for enrolling additional children.

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) is charged with submitting a balanced budget to the General Assembly annually and will be working with the General Assembly to achieve structural balance over the long term. In light of current projected general fund deficits in fiscal 2027 forward, the Department urges caution in passing legislation to significantly increase general fund expenditures/decreasing general fund revenues. State government must be intentional, disciplined, and strategic with its allocation of State funding to ensure maximum impact toward priority outcomes.

**For additional information, contact Dana Phillips at  
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