

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor



YAAKOV "JAKE" WEISSMANN
Secretary

MARC L. NICOLE
Deputy Secretary

TITLE: HB680 Children's Cabinet Fund - Renaming and Funding for Grants to Local Management Boards

DATE: March 10, 2026

COMMITTEE: Appropriations

POSITION: Opposition

SUMMARY OF BILL: The bill makes technical changes, updating references to the Children's Cabinet Fund to "the Children's Cabinet Interagency Fund." Additionally, it establishes a mandate to increase appropriations to the fund for FY 2028 - FY 2031. The mandated appropriations are to be used for grants to Local Management Boards (LMBs).

EXPLANATION: The bill mandates additional general fund appropriations to the Children's Cabinet Interagency Fund from FY 2028 - FY 2031 by the following amounts, for a total of \$24 million through FY 2031:

- \$3 million in FY 2028
- \$5 million in FY 2029
- \$7 million in FY 2030
- \$9 million in FY 2031

Given forecasted out-year deficits and significant uncertainty about the federal budget and policy changes, it would be challenging for the State to manage this increase in spending. This challenge is compounded by major, unforeseen changes in federal policy and other ongoing budgetary pressures. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) now forecasts significant shortfalls beginning in Fiscal Year 2027 and escalating into Fiscal Year 2028. The Department respectfully requests that the Committee vote unfavorably on HB680.

**For additional information, contact Dana Phillips at
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