

**M00R01**  
**Health Regulatory Commissions**  
**Maryland Department of Health**

**Budget Amendment**

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Health Services Cost Review Commission within the Maryland Department of Health and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems support the continuation of a workgroup to discuss, monitor, and assess emergency department and hospital throughput. The workgroup shall be administered by a third-party consultant and shall involve stakeholder participation, including providers, payers, and patients. The workgroup shall meet through the end of calendar 2025 and submit an interim report by December 1, 2024, and a final report by December 1, 2025, to the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House Health and Government Operations Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee. The interim and final reports shall outline the workgroup’s findings and proposed recommendations.

**Explanation:** In calendar 2023, a hospital throughput workgroup administered by the Maryland Hospital Association began meeting. This language expresses the intent of the General Assembly that the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) support the continuation of a workgroup on emergency department and hospital throughput that is administered by a third-party consultant. This language further details the General Assembly’s intent that the workgroup meet through the end of calendar 2025 and submit an interim report by December 1, 2024, and a final report by December 1, 2025, to the Senate Finance committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation committee, the House Health and Government Operations committee, and the House Appropriations committee.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Interim report of the Emergency Department and Hospital Throughput Workgroup	HSCRC MIEMSS	December 1, 2024
Final report of the Emergency Department and Hospital Throughput Workgroup	HSCRC MIEMSS	December 1, 2025

**M00R01**  
**Health Regulatory Commissions**  
**Maryland Department of Health**

**Budget Amendment**

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$125,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) may not be expended until HSCRC, in consultation with the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC), submits a report evaluating findings and recommendations from the Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland. Specifically, the report should discuss:

- (1) the difference in incremental trauma expenses and standby payments incorporated in regulated hospital rates versus actual incremental trauma costs and standby costs **that are subject to HSCRC rate regulation;**
- ~~(2) efforts to cover the difference in actual incremental trauma costs and standby costs compared to costs currently paid for through regulated hospital rates;~~
- ~~(3) plans to implement the recommendation to allow all standby costs for the four primary specialties to be fully included in hospital rates;~~
- (2) **plans to audit annual supplemental schedules of regulated trauma costs provided to HSCRC by trauma hospitals;**
- (3) **pending the results of the audit, efforts to ensure all regulated costs for the four primary specialties are accounted for in regulated hospital rates;**
- ~~(4) plans to implement recommendations to audit incremental trauma costs and fully account for incremental trauma costs, as opposed to considering these costs as part of hospital efficiency methodology **consider covering additional incremental costs that are subject to HSCRC rate regulation;**~~
- (5) the status of aligning data systems with MHCC and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems to enable more complete analysis of trauma care and costs; and
- (6) specific timelines for implementing recommendations made by the Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland.

The report shall be submitted by ~~September~~ **October** 1, 2024, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted

pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

**Explanation:** Chapters 341 and 342 of 2023 established the Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland to study the adequacy of trauma center funding. This language restricts funding for administrative purposes until HSCRC, **in consultation with MHCC**, submits a report evaluating findings and recommendations from the Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on trauma center funding recommendations	HSCRC MHCC	<del>September</del> <b>October 1, 2024</b>

**M00R01**  
**Health Regulatory Commissions**  
**Maryland Department of Health**

**Budget Amendment**

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports within the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission (MCHRC) procure a closed-loop referral and data reporting platform. The platform shall ensure individuals are referred to appropriate behavioral health services and allow MCHRC to ensure that services have been rendered through accurate, consistent, and timely submission of key reporting metrics associated with Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports programs. In procuring the closed-loop referral platform, MCHRC shall account for:

- (1) the scalability of the platform;
- (2) the ease of implementation for community providers;
- (3) person-centered longitudinal records;
- (4) bi-directional referral capabilities; and
- (5) reporting and analytics tools available.

**Explanation:** Chapter 36 of 2021 (the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future – Implementation) established the Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports within MCHRC to develop partnerships to meet student behavioral health needs and other related challenges. The fiscal 2025 budget includes \$110 million in special funds from the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Fund for Consortium activities, with increased minimum funding levels required in future fiscal years. Given the scale of this investment, the General Assembly is interested in ensuring that relevant technology infrastructure is put in place to allow appropriate data elements to be collected for each grantee and reported in a standardized electronic format to the consortium on a regular basis. This language expresses the intent of the General Assembly that the consortium within MCHRC procure a closed-loop referral and data reporting platform to promote consistent reporting and allow the evaluation of the effectiveness of consortium spending while identifying gaps in behavioral health service areas.

**N00G**  
**Local Department Operations**  
**Department of Human Services**

**Budget Amendments**

**N00G00.02 Local Family Investment Program**

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$950,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of two-generation model grant may be expended only to provide a grant for a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) association that advocates on behalf of community action agencies and partnering organizations that serve individuals and families with low incomes who reside in Maryland to support the transition of community action agencies or other community organizations to a two-generation model of service delivery. Support may include technical assistance, strategic planning, enhanced data management, and management of information systems. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund. Further provided that the Department of Human Services shall submit a report to the budget committees on the effectiveness of the grant program, including information on the uses of the program funding from fiscal 2020 through 2025 year-to-date, in supporting the community action agencies and community organizations in the transition to a two-generation model. The report shall provide information on the plans to continue to fund the program. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees by December 1, 2024.

**Explanation:** This language restricts funds intended to be used for a grant to support the two-generation model to be used for a grant to an entity to support community action agencies or other community organizations as the organizations transition to a two-generation model of service delivery. The language also requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to submit a report on the effectiveness of the program and uses of the funding for the program since its first funding in fiscal 2020.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Effectiveness and use of two-generation model grant	DHS	December 1, 2024

**S00A**  
**Department of Housing and Community Development**

**Committee Narrative**

**S00A20.01 Office of the Secretary**

**Just Communities:** SB 308 and HB 241 would authorize the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to designate areas meeting certain criteria as “Just Communities” that would be eligible for prioritization for State funding under programs to be identified by the Governor. The committees request that DHCD submit a list of communities designated as Just Communities. DHCD should also report to the committees on how the department plans to communicate these designations to the public.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on Just Communities designations	DHCD	Within 30 days of designation