

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 530
Finance

(Senator Hettleman)

**Aging-in-Place Programs - Grants - Multigenerational Third Places (Village
Multigenerational Third Places Act)**

This bill authorizes the Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA) to make grants to nonprofit organizations and area agencies on aging (AAAs) to support social connection for individuals in aging-in-place programs through events or gathers at “multigenerational third places.” The bill codifies the authorization for any nonprofit organization or AAA to apply to MDOA for a State grant to be applied toward operational costs, including administrative costs or short-term or long-term leases or rental costs, for a senior village to provide access to multigenerational third places. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill primarily alters the purposes for which existing funds may be used. To the extent it requires administrative changes, MDOA can handle them with existing resources.

Local Effect: Local governments that operate AAAs as a unit of government may receive grants for the purposes identified under the bill. Local government expenditures increase correspondingly.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: “Multigenerational third place” means a community space other than a personal home or workplace that supports social connection, events, or gathering among individuals of different ages.

Current Law: MDOA coordinates, evaluates, and plans the delivery of services for, and advocates on behalf of, older adults at all levels of government. The department also administers programs and activities under the provisions of the federal Older Americans Act. Most of the direct services funded by MDOA are delivered through AAAs. In Maryland, each of the 23 counties and Baltimore City designate an AAA. The agency may be a unit of local government or a private, nonprofit corporation. AAAs provide a variety of adult services, incorporating assisted living, protective services, and temporary disability programs.

“Senior village” means a local, member-driven, nonprofit organization that (1) supports community members who choose to age in place by fostering social connections through activities and events and coordinating volunteer help at a senior’s home using a neighbor-helping-neighbor model and (2) is exempt from taxation.

MDOA may make grants to nonprofit organizations and AAAs to expand and establish aging-in-place programs for seniors. Any nonprofit organization or AAA may apply for a State grant to be applied toward the cost of expanding or establishing an aging-in-place program that provides to seniors:

- assistance with the cost of in-home personal care services for activities of daily living, including bathing, personal hygiene and grooming, dressing, toileting, functional mobility, food preparation, laundry, and house cleaning;
- psychological, economic, or functional assistance to enable successful health management, access to medical care, or compliance with treatment recommendations;
- awareness of and access to resources, services, and benefits;
- support services and care coordination;
- affordable transportation;
- assistance making in-home modifications or repairs to improve safety, mobility, and accessibility; or
- the opportunity to live in a senior village.

A nonprofit organization or AAA must demonstrate an equal match for the funds requested. Funding for the grants is as provided by the Governor in the annual State budget.

Additional Comments: MDOA advises that the bill clarifies the existing authorization for senior village grantees to use grant funds to cover the administrative cost of specified rental costs.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: HB 811 (Delegate Wolek) - Health.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Aging; Department of Legislative Services

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jg/jc

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