

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 672

(Senator A. Washington)

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Ways and Means

**Prince George's County - Expanding Access to Early Childhood Education and
Child Care**

This bill requires the Prince George's County government to develop an implementation and financing plan to expand access to high-quality early childhood education and child care in Prince George's County for children from birth through three years of age. The county government must consult with the Prince George's County Public School System, the Prince George's County Council, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), businesses, and relevant organizations. The plan must include an analysis of (1) the cost to parents, the county, and the State; (2) the workforce needs of early childhood education and child care providers to expand access; (3) the capacity of early childhood education and child care providers to serve more children; and (4) additional county and State revenue options to expand access. By December 1, 2027, the county government must submit the plan to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the members of the Prince George's County Delegation to the General Assembly. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: MSDE can consult with Prince George's County with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: Prince George's County expenditures *may* increase by *at least* \$200,000 between FY 2027 and 2028, as discussed below. Revenues are not affected. **This bill may impose a mandate on a unit of local government.**

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The State oversees a variety of early education services that are provided to Maryland children and their families in cooperation with local governments, local school systems, and private child care providers. The [Division of Early Childhood](#) coordinates the State's early childhood care and education system and is composed of three subdivisions: (1) the Office of Child Care; (2) the Office of Early Learning and Instruction; and (3) the Office of Family Support Services.

Local Expenditures: Based on a preliminary analysis of the bill by Prince George's County, local expenditures may increase by *at least* \$200,000 for a study. The estimate is based on a similar requirement in legislation under consideration by the Prince George's County Council; to the extent the study would be conducted even in the absence of the bill because of local legislation, county expenditures directly attributable to the bill are likely reduced (or eliminated).

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County; Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 9, 2026
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