

Budget & Policy Analysis Division

June 9, 2025

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

TO:	Colette R. Gresham, Esq.
	Interim Council Administrator

Karen T. Zavakos Associate Council Administrator

- THRU: Josh Hamlin Director of Budget and Policy Analysis
- FROM: David Williams D W Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst
- RE: Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement CB-049-2025 Youth Advisory Inclusion Act

<u>CB-049-2025</u> (*Proposed by:* Council Members Burroughs and Oriadha)

Assigned to the Government, Operations, and Fiscal Policy (GOFP) Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH ADVISORY INCLUSION ACT for the purpose of establishing the Youth Advisory Program; establishing the appointment requirements for the Youth Advisory Program; to establish the appointment process for the Youth Advisory Program; to the roles and responsibilities for appointees of the Youth Advisory Inclusion Program; and generally relating to the Youth Advisory Program.

Fiscal Summary

Direct Impact

Expenditures: Minimal additional expenditures may be required.

Revenues: No anticipated revenue impact.

Website: https://pgccouncil.us | Wayne K. Curry Administration Bldg. Office: (301) 952-3431 | 1301 McCormick Drive, 3rd Floor FAX: (301) 780-2097 | Largo, Maryland 20774

Indirect Impact

Potential favorable indirect impact.

Legislative Summary:

CB-049-2025¹, proposed and sponsored by Council Members Burroughs and Oriadha, was presented on May 27, 2025, and referred to the Government, Operations, and Fiscal Policy (GOFP) Committee. This bill establishes the Youth Advisory Program, the appointment process for the program, and the roles and responsibilities for program appointees.

Background/Current Law:

In 2008, the state of Maryland established the Youth Advisory Council to ensure that Maryland youth can provide feedback and recommendations to the Maryland General Assembly, the Governor, and all associated state agencies.² The Prince George's County program would be the first of its kind within the County to have direct youth advisement to some of the County's boards and commissions.

Prince George's County

Prince George's County has a variety of initiatives with the goal of enhancing youth civic participation. The Maryland Coalition of Families partnered with the Prince George's County Health Department to create a Youth Advisory Council³ with the goal of including youth input on pertinent policy matters such as substance abuse and mental health concerns. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission also has a Youth Advisory Council made up of approximately 20 high school-aged students who have the ability to participate in the agency's administration and policy-making process. Participants are also eligible for student service learning or community service hours.⁴

Anne Arundel County

Anne Arundel County has a Youth Advisory Council⁵ meant to complement the County Council. It is made up of 11 students between the ages of 14-22. They are charged with attending meetings and advising on relevant policy matters.

¹ Prince George's County- <u>CB-049-2025</u>

² Maryland State Senate- <u>SB1</u>

³ Prince George's County- <u>Youth Advisory Council</u>

⁴ M-NCPPC- <u>Youth Advisory Council</u>

⁵ Anne Arundel County- <u>Bill 77-22</u>

Montgomery County

Montgomery County has a Youth Advisory Council⁶, started by Councilmember Laurie-Anne Sayles. It is composed of students from grades 7-12 and ages 13 and older. The council serves to provide youth advisement directly to the Montgomery County Council on relevant policy matters.

Resource Personnel:

• Preston Ross, Chief of Staff, Council District 8

Discussion/Policy Analysis:

This bill adds Section 2-394.01 under Subtitle 2. Division 24. Boards and Commissions. It establishes the Youth Advisory Program, the County boards and commissions that would be exempted, member eligibility, and compensation guidelines. The program details are as follows:

- County Boards and Commissions will have at least two members between the ages of 16-24 (*excluding* the Administrative Charging Committee, Board of Ethics, Charter Review Commission, Compensation Review Commission, Personnel Board, and Police Accountability Board).
- All members appointed through the member appointment process established by the respective board or commission to which the member would be joining.
- Board and commission members covered by this bill shall not receive compensation unless expressly authorized by Section 2-390 of Division 24.
- Board and Commission members appointed under this section shall be entitled to compensation so long as the following two parameters are met: the member is between the ages of 21 and 24, and the board or commission authorizes its member's compensation.
- If a board or commission member under this section is eligible for compensation and is aged 20 or younger at the time of appointment, they shall receive compensation in the form of a scholarship disbursed upon successful completion of their term.
- Any scholarship awards under this section shall be equivalent to the total remuneration accrued by the sitting members of the Board or Commission during a full term.

Youth appointments represent a unique opportunity to engage directly with students on matters that directly affect their demographic. Having students present on select boards and commissions

⁶ Montgomery County-<u>Youth Advisory Council</u>

has the potential to provide a direct perspective from County students, thereby enhancing the board and/or commission's ability to make critical policy recommendations.

Policy Questions/Concerns:

- Is the list of exempted boards and commissions exhaustive? The County has 56 total boards and commissions covering a variety of subject matter.⁷ Matters that fall under economic development or financial oversight (such as the Pension Trust Fund Board of Trustees) may not be compatible with the youth experience.
- Will the youth members be in addition to the existing membership complement for each board or commission?
- Will the appointees have voting rights on their board or commission?
- Will participants be eligible for community service hours?
- How long is a complete term of service?

Fiscal Impact:

• Direct Impact

Enactment of CB-049-2025 may have a minor direct adverse impact on the County. The administrative time required for appointment and onboarding, in addition to any compensation/scholarships for members appointed under this bill, will require County expenditures. Any such impact is likely to be minimal.

• Indirect Impact

Enactment of CB-049-2025 may have a positive indirect impact by enhancing agency service delivery in relation to youth policy matters.

• Appropriated during the Current Fiscal Year Budget:

No.

Effective Date:

CB-049-2025 shall be effective (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

⁷ Prince George's County-Boards and Commissions

If you require additional information or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please email me.