

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2023 Legislative Session

Reference No.:	CR-074-2023
Draft No.:	2
Committee:	EWD
Date:	09/25/2023
Action:	FAV w/Amendment(s)

REPORT: Favorable with amendments: Council Members Burroughs, Oriadha, Fisher, Olson, and Watson.

The Education and Workforce Development (EWD) Committee met on September 25, 2023, to consider CR-74-2023. The resolution would establish a “Truancy Study Workgroup” to examine the causes and effects of student truancy and propose solutions to address the impact of truancy.

The Resolution set out the composition for the 17-member Workgroup and define the scope of work and timeline for issuing the report.

The Workgroup will be tasked with studying the correlation, if any, among truancy, dropout rates, and juvenile delinquency and identifying possible goals and strategies to reduce overall failure across the County.

The sponsor expressed the need for the Truancy Study Workgroup, indicating that the number of young people committing crimes is increasing. The State's Attorney suggested a correlation between repeat offenders and high truancy rates, noting the need for early intervention. We need to review best practices and policies around the country and look at our local levels of government and resources. The Workgroup will bring all these stakeholders to the table, allowing for a thoughtful approach to helping young people.

The Legislative Officer provided proposed amendments to CR-74-2023 that were reflected in the proposed Draft 2. In addition, it was clarified that it would be two (2) representatives from two (2) different community-based non-profits serving youth

instead of two (2) representatives from a community-based non-profit serving youth. Also, the President of the PGCEA teachers' union and the DCAO for Health Services and Education, or their designees were added to the composition of the Truancy Study Workgroup for a total of 17 members.

The Office of Law has reviewed the resolution, introduced on September 6, 2023, and finds it in proper legislative form and sees no legal impediments to its adoption.

The Office of Law offered technical edits to align the dates for the start of the Truancy Study Workgroup to align with the date of adoption, which was addressed in the proposed Draft 2.

The Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement indicates that adopting CB-74-2023 should have minimal direct fiscal impact, if any, and no indirect effect.

The Education and Workforce Development Committee voted 5-0 favorably as amended on CR-74-2023.