

Bill No. 11-25
Concerning: Child Care Coordination -
Amendments
Revised: 4/1/2025 Draft No. 1
Introduced: April 8, 2025
Enacted: November 4, 2025
Executive: November 14, 2025
Effective: February 13, 2026
Sunset Date: None
Ch. 25, Laws of Mont. Co. 2025

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Lead Sponsor: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

AN ACT to:

- (1) eliminate the Child Care and Early Education Officer;
- (2) eliminate the Early Childhood Coordinating Council; and
- (3) generally amend the Code relating to early childhood care and education.

By repealing

Chapter 10A, Child Care
Sections 10A-1 and 10A-3

Chapter 44, Schools and Camps
Section 44-4A

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Boldface | <i>Heading or defined term.</i> |
| <u>Underlining</u> | <i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i> |
| [Single boldface brackets] | <i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i> |
| <u>Double underlining</u> | <i>Added by amendment.</i> |
| [[Double boldface brackets]] | <i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i> |
| * * * | <i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i> |

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

Sec. 1. Section 10A-1, Article 2 of Chapter 10A, and Sections 10A-3 and 44-4A are repealed as follows:

10A-1. [Child Care and Early Education Officer] Reserved.

[(a) *Definition.* In this Section *Officer* means the Child Care and Early Education Officer.

[(b) The County Executive must designate an employee in the Department of Health and Human Services to serve as a Child Care and Early Education Officer. Among other duties, the Officer must:

- (1) promote coordination and collaboration among county agencies and departments to expand child care opportunities throughout the County;
- (2) monitor and support the coordination between the Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of Community Use of Public Facilities to administer the selection of providers in public spaces, including in Montgomery County Public School facilities, to the extent authorized by State law;
- (3) monitor and support the implementation of the Child Care Expansion and Quality Enhancement Initiative described in Section 10A-2;
- (4) provide staff support for the Early Childhood Coordinating Council established in Section 10A-3;
- (5) monitor and support the implementation of the Early Childhood Initiative as developed by the Coordinating Council;
- (6) serve as a liaison between County government and the public on child care-related issues; and
- (7) prepare a Strategic Plan for Child Care by 1 year from date of enactment that includes:

- (A) specific goals and implementation strategies for improving early childhood services and child care provider assistance and counseling;
- (B) planning for new child care services in public space, including in public school projects;
- (C) planning for expansion of child care space through public-private partnerships;
- (D) research on the supply, demand, and affordability of child care throughout the County;
- (E) a plan for a countywide universal child care and preschool program that provides every child an opportunity to participate in a high-quality preschool, early care, and education program; and
- (F) a plan to improve readiness for children entering kindergarten through enhanced early care and education services.

[(c) Annual report. By February 1 of each year, the Officer must submit to the County Council and County Executive an annual report on:

- (1) its activities, accomplishments, plans, and objectives;
- (2) the implementation of the Child Care Expansion and Quality Enhancement initiative, including the number of family child care providers services and types of services provided;
- (3) steps taken to implement the Strategic Plan for Child Care, Early Care, and Education in the preceding year; and
- (4) the activities, accomplishments, plans, and objectives of the Early Childhood Coordinating Council, including implementation of the Early Childhood Initiative.]

ARTICLE 2. [EARLY CHILDHOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL]

RESERVED.

10A-3. [Early Childhood Coordinating Council] Reserved.

[(a) Definitions. In this Section, the following words have the meanings indicated:

Coordinating Council means the Early Childhood Coordinating Council.

Department means the Department of Health and Human Services.

Director means the Director of the Department or the Director's designee.

[(b) Established. The Executive must appoint, subject to confirmation by the Council, an Early Childhood Coordinating Council.

[(c) Composition and terms of members.

(1) The Coordinating Council has up to 33 members.

(2) The Executive must appoint up to 15 public members. The public members should include:

(A) up to 4 representatives of local providers of early childhood education and development services;

(B) one representative of the Montgomery County Council Parent Teacher Associations;

(C) one representative of the Montgomery County Commission on Child Care;

(D) one representative of the Organization of Child Care Directors;

(E) one representative of the Family Child Care Association of Montgomery County;

(F) one representative of the Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children;

- (G) one representative of the business community with demonstrated leadership in early childhood care and education;
- (H) one representative of the local pediatrician community;
- (I) one representative of the local philanthropic community;
- (J) one representative of the local interfaith community; and
- (K) up to 2 parent representatives.

(3) The Executive must appoint the following to serve as an ex officio member:

- (A) the Director of the Department;
- (B) one representative of the Department's Division of Early Childhood Services;
- (C) one representative of the Department's Community Health Services;
- (D) one representative of the Department's School Health Services;
- (E) one representative of the Department's Infants and Toddlers Program;
- (F) one representative of the Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families;
- (G) one representative of the Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center;
- (H) one representative of the Montgomery County Community Action Agency, the administrator of public Head Start programs in Montgomery County;
- (I) one representative of Montgomery County Department of Public Libraries; and

- 108 (J) one representative of the Montgomery County Council.
- 109 (4) The Executive must invite the following to serve as an ex officio
- 110 member:
- 111 (A) the Montgomery County Public Schools Superintendent or
- 112 the Superintendent's designee;
- 113 (B) one representative of the Montgomery County Public
- 114 School's Division of Early Childhood Programs and
- 115 Services;
- 116 (C) one representative of the School's Division of
- 117 Prekindergarten, Special Programs and Related Services;
- 118 (D) one representative of the Office of Child Care Region 5,
- 119 Maryland State Department of Education;
- 120 (E) up to 2 representatives of public institutions of higher
- 121 education in the County;
- 122 (F) one elementary school principal in Montgomery County
- 123 Public Schools; and
- 124 (G) one prekindergarten teacher in Montgomery County Public
- 125 Schools.
- 126 (5) The term of each member is 4 years. If a member is appointed to
- 127 fill a vacancy before a term expires, the successor serves the rest
- 128 of the unexpired term.
- 129 [(d) Voting, officers, chairs, meetings, and compensation.
- 130 (1) Each member of the Coordinating Council is a voting member.
- 131 (2) The Executive must designate the Chair and Vice-Chair.
- 132 (3) The Coordinating Council meets at the call of the Chair. The
- 133 Coordinating Council must meet as often as necessary to perform
- 134 its duties, but not less than 9 times each year.

- 135 (4) A member serves without compensation. However, a member may
136 request reimbursement for mileage and dependent care costs at
137 rates established by the County.

138 [(e) Duties. The Coordinating Council must:

- 139 (1) conduct a periodic county-wide needs assessment concerning the
140 quality and availability of early childhood education and
141 development programs and services for children from birth to
142 school entry, including an assessment of the availability of child
143 care, prekindergarten, and other supportive services for low-
144 income children and their families in the County;
- 145 (2) identify opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and
146 coordination among child development, child care and early
147 childhood education programs, services, and advocacy groups
148 including collaboration and coordination among State and local
149 agencies and organizations responsible for administering or
150 providing oversight for such efforts;
- 151 (3) develop recommendations for increasing the overall participation
152 of children and their families in existing programs, including
153 outreach to underrepresented and special populations;
- 154 (4) develop recommendations regarding the implementation and use
155 of the State- established unified data collection system for public
156 early childhood education and development programs and services
157 throughout the County;
- 158 (5) develop recommendations regarding professional development,
159 career advancement plans, compensation scales and incentives for
160 early childhood educators in the County; and

- (6) assess the capacity and effectiveness of 2- and 4-year public and private institutions of higher education toward supporting the development of early childhood educators, including the extent to which such institutions have in place articulation agreements, professional development and career advancement plans, and practice or internships for students to spend time in Early Head Start, Head Start, prekindergarten, or child care programs;
- (7) recommend uniform regulations for the availability of quality child care in public spaces;
- (8) develop ways to leverage public and private partnerships between private businesses, Montgomery County Public Schools, and the County;
- (9) develop a hub consortium that connects family child care providers to accredited child care centers and schools to provide training, technical assistance, and mentoring to family child care providers; and
- (10) update and implement an Early Childhood Initiative to integrate public and private early childhood services, including areas such as child care, early literacy, early childhood mental health consultation services, and parent support services.

[(f) Advocacy. The Coordinating Council must not engage in any legislative advocacy at the State or federal levels unless that activity is approved by the Office of Intergovernmental Relations.

[(g) Staff. The Department of Health and Human Services must provide appropriate staff to the Coordinating Council.]

[Sec. 44-4A. Child Care in Public Spaces] Reserved.

[The Child Care and Early Education Officer designated in Section 10A-1 must

188 monitor and support the coordination between the Department of Health and Human
189 Services and the Office of Community Use of Public Facilities to administer the
190 selection of providers in public space, including in Montgomery County Public School
191 facilities to the extent authorized by State law.]

Approved:

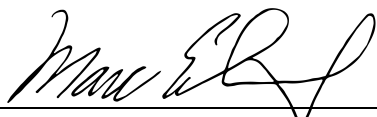


Kate Stewart, President, County Council

November 4, 2025

Date

Approved:



Marc Elrich, County Executive

November 14, 2025

Date

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Sara R. Tenenbaum, Clerk of the Council

November 14, 2025

Date