

Climate Assessment

Office of Legislative Oversight

BILL 12-26: FINANCE – PAYMENTS TO SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) anticipates Bill 12-26 will have no impact on the County's contribution to addressing climate change as it is proposing updates to an existing payment process to service providers for persons with developmental disabilities in the County.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF BILL 12-26

According to the County Executive, as part of the Developmental Disabilities (DD) Supplement, the County subsidizes "the cost of operations for providers of services to people with developmental disabilities in an equitable and administratively efficient system."¹

Bill 12-26 aims to modify the DD Supplement program to reflect current County practices. It would do so by:

- Removing the requirement for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to recommend a payment amount to service providers for persons with developmental disabilities; and
- Changing eligibility for payments to require service providers to provide services in Montgomery County to clients who reside in Montgomery County.²

The Council introduced Bill 12-26 on behalf of the County Executive on February 10, 2026.

ANTICIPATED IMPACTS

As the Bill is proposing updates to an existing payment process to service providers for persons with developmental disabilities in the County, OLO anticipates Bill 12-26 will have no impact on the County's contribution to addressing climate change, including the reduction and/or sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions and community climate resilience.

RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS

The Climate Assessment Act requires OLO to offer recommendations, such as amendments or other measures to mitigate any anticipated negative climate impacts.³ OLO does not offer recommendations or amendments as Bill 12-26 is likely to have no impact on the County’s contribution to addressing climate change, including the reduction and/or sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions and community climate resilience.

CAVEATS

OLO notes two caveats to this climate assessment. First, predicting the impacts of legislation upon climate change is a challenging analytical endeavor due to data limitations, uncertainty, and the broad, global nature of climate change. Second, the analysis performed here is intended to inform the legislative process, not determine whether the Council should enact legislation. Thus, any conclusion made in this statement does not represent OLO’s endorsement of, or objection to, the bill under consideration.

PURPOSE OF CLIMATE ASSESSMENTS

The purpose of the Climate Assessments is to evaluate the anticipated impact of legislation on the County’s contribution to addressing climate change. These climate assessments will provide the Council with a more thorough understanding of the potential climate impacts and implications of proposed legislation, at the County level. The scope of the Climate Assessments is limited to the County’s contribution to addressing climate change, specifically upon the County’s contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and how actions suggested by legislation could help increase the County’s community climate resilience.

While co-benefits such as health and cost savings may be discussed, the focus is on how proposed County bills may impact GHG emissions and community resilience.

CONTRIBUTIONS

OLO staffer Kaitlyn Simmons drafted this assessment.

¹ Marc Elrich to Natali Fani-González, [Memorandum: Bill 12-26 – Payment to Providers of Direct Services to Persons with Developmental Disabilities](#), January 9, 2026.

² Montgomery County Council, [Introduction Staff Report for Bill 12-26, Finance – Payments to Service Providers for Persons with Developmental Disabilities](#), February 10, 2026.

³ Bill 3-22, Legislative Branch – Climate Assessments – Required, Montgomery County Council, Effective date October 24, 2022