

Economic Impact Statement

Montgomery County, Maryland

Bill 9-23

Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council – Rename

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) anticipates that enacting Bill 9-23 would have an insignificant impact on economic conditions in the County in terms of the Council's priority indicators.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF BILL 9-23

The Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council (AODAAC) is comprised of experts and representatives with a range of viewpoints concerning alcohol and drug addiction in the County. AODAAC provides guidance in identifying alcohol and other drug prevention and treatment needs in the County and in reviewing the County's efforts to address these needs.¹

If enacted, Bill 9-23 would rename the Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council to the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Council. The Bill also makes amendments to language throughout the County Code, replacing the word "abuse" with "addiction." The AODAAC has requested these changes to reduce the stigma associated with the word "abuse" and better reflect the need to provide access and support for persons afflicted with addictions.²

Bill 9-23, Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council – Rename, was introduced by the Council on behalf of the County Executive on February 14, 2023.

INFORMATION SOURCES, METHODOLOGIES, AND ASSUMPTIONS

Per Section 2-81B of the Montgomery County Code, the purpose of this Economic Impact Statement is to assess the impacts of Bill 9-23 on County-based private organizations and residents in terms of the Council's priority economic indicators and whether the Bill would likely result in a net positive or negative impact on overall economic conditions in the County.³ Because the changes to AODAAC are technical in nature, OLO anticipates the Bill would have insignificant impacts on private organizations, residents, and overall economic conditions in the County in terms of the economic indicators prioritized by the Council.

VARIABLES

Not applicable

¹ [Montgomerycountymd.gov, "Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council."](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/Alcohol-Other-Drug-Abuse-Advisory-Council/)

² [Introduction Staff Report for Bill 9-23.](#)

³ Montgomery County Code, [Sec. 2-81B.](#)

IMPACTS

WORKFORCE ▪ TAXATION POLICY ▪ PROPERTY VALUES ▪ INCOMES ▪ OPERATING COSTS ▪ PRIVATE SECTOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT ▪ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ▪ COMPETITIVENESS

Not applicable

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Not applicable

WORKS CITED

Montgomery County Code. [Sec. 2-81B, Economic Impact Statements](#).

Montgomery County Council. [Introduction Staff Report for Bill 9-23](#). Introduced February 14, 2023.

Montgomerycountymd.gov. "[Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council](#)." Department of Health and Human Services.

CAVEATS

Two caveats to the economic analysis performed here should be noted. First, predicting the economic impacts of legislation is a challenging analytical endeavor due to data limitations, the multitude of causes of economic outcomes, economic shocks, uncertainty, and other factors. 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.

AUTHOR

Stephen Roblin (OLO) prepared this report.