

Racial Equity and Social Justice (RESJ) Impact Statement

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 would have a minimal impact on racial equity and social justice (RESJ) in the County. Aligning County law to the County's current practices related to payments to service providers for people with developmental disabilities is not likely to meaningfully benefit or burden community members by race and ethnicity nor impact racial and social inequities in the County.

PURPOSE OF RESJ IMPACT STATEMENTS

RESJ impact statements (RESJIS) evaluate the anticipated impact of legislation on racial equity and social justice in the County. RESJ is a **process** that focuses on centering the needs, leadership, and power of Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) and communities with low incomes. RESJ is also a **goal** of eliminating racial and social inequities. Applying a RESJ lens is essential to achieve RESJ.¹ This involves seeing, thinking, and working differently to address the racial and social inequities that cause racial and social disparities.²

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."³

The purpose of Bill 12-26 is to modify the DD Supplement program to reflect current County practices. If enacted, Bill 12-26 would:⁴

- Remove 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
- Change eligibility for payments to require service providers to provide services in Montgomery County to clients who reside in Montgomery County.

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

This RESJIS builds on the one for Bill 10-23, which OLO published in March 2023.⁵ Please refer to this RESJIS for background on intellectual and developmental disabilities and racial equity.

ANTICIPATED RESJ IMPACTS

To consider the anticipated impact of Bill 12-26 on RESJ in the County, OLO recommends the consideration of two related questions:

- Who would primarily benefit or be burdened by this bill?
- What racial and social inequities could passage of this bill weaken or strengthen?

RESJ Impact Statement

Bill 12-26

OLO anticipates Bill 12-26 would have a minimal impact on RESJ in the County. As explained by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), this Bill would align County law with the County’s existing practices for determining payment amounts and eligibility for payments to service providers for people with developmental disabilities.⁶ This is not likely to meaningfully benefit or burden community members by race and ethnicity nor impact racial and social inequities in the County.

RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS

The County’s RESJ Act requires OLO to consider whether to recommend amendments to bills that could reduce racial and social inequities and advance RESJ.⁷ OLO anticipates Bill 12-26 would have a minimal impact on RESJ in the County. As such, OLO does not offer recommended amendments.

CAVEATS

Two caveats to this RESJIS should be noted. First, predicting the impact of bills on RESJ is challenging due to data limitations, uncertainty, and other factors. Second, this RESJIS is intended to inform the Council’s decision-making process rather than determine it. Thus, any conclusion made in this statement does not represent OLO’s endorsement of, or objection to, the bill under consideration.

¹ Definition of racial equity and social justice adopted from M. Gamblin et al., [“Applying Racial Equity to U.S. Federal Nutrition Programs,”](#) Bread for the World and [Racial Equity Tools](#).

² Ibid.

³ Memo from County Executive to Council President, [Introduction Staff Report for Bill 12-26](#), Montgomery County Council, Introduced February 10, 2026, pg. (4).

⁴ Bill 12-26, [Introduction Staff Report for Bill 12-26](#).

⁵ [RESJIS for Bill 10-23](#), Office of Legislative Oversight, March 2023.

⁶ Fiscal Impact Statement, [Introduction Staff Report for Bill 12-26](#), pg. (9).

⁷ [Bill 27-19, Administration – Human Rights – Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice – Racial Equity and Social Justice Advisory Committee – Established, Montgomery County Council.](#)