



# The State of Maryland

## Executive Department

EXECUTIVE ORDER

01.01.2017.03

### Two Generation Family Economic Security Commission and Pilot Program

- WHEREAS, 26.5 percent of children in Maryland are from low-income families, 36 percent of children in Maryland live in single-mother households, and 50.2 percent of African-American or Hispanic children who live in single-mother households are from low-income families;
- WHEREAS, 42 percent of children who grow up in poverty or in low-income families experience economic hardship themselves as adults;
- WHEREAS, Individuals in multigenerational poverty require support to make sound long-term personal and financial plans;
- WHEREAS, The “Two-Generation Approach” seeks to break the cycle of multigenerational poverty by implementing and intentionally linking programs and services that create opportunities for, and address the needs of both parents and children, particularly in the areas of early-childhood education, elementary education, economic stability, and family engagement;
- WHEREAS, Higher education leads to stable careers with family-sustaining wages, providing opportunities for families to break the cycle of multigenerational poverty;
- WHEREAS, The State of Maryland can foster greater family economic security and child well-being by serving parents and children individually and together as a family unit through the Two-Generation Approach;
- WHEREAS, The Two-Generation Approach improves the strength and resilience of families and assists them in building societal relationships, helping parents achieve the aspirations they have for their children and themselves and;

WHEREAS,

The Two-Generation Approach provides the State of Maryland with an opportunity to pursue innovative reforms that seek to improve academic achievement of children and increase the earning potential of parents, which are supported by, among others, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Aspen Institute, National Governors Association, and Urban Institute.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

A. There is a Two-Generation Family Economic Security Commission (“Commission”).

(1) The Commission shall initially consist of the following members:

(a) The Lieutenant Governor, who shall serve as the ex officio chair of the Commission;

(b) Two members of the Maryland Senate, appointed as follows:

(i) One member of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee appointed by the President of the Senate, and;

(ii) One member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;

(c) Two members of the Maryland House of Delegates, appointed as follows:

(i) One member of the House Appropriations Committee appointed by the Speaker of the House, and;

(ii) One appointed by the Minority Leader of the House;

(d) The Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary’s Designee;

(e) The Secretary of the Department of Housing and Community Development, or the Secretary’s Designee;

(f) The Secretary of the Department of Human Resources, or the Secretary's Designee;

(g) The Secretary of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, or the Secretary's Designee;

(h) The Executive Director of the Governor's Office for Children, or the Executive Director's Designee;

(i) The Superintendent of the Maryland State Department of Education, or the Superintendent's Designee;

(j) One Director of a Local Department of Social Services appointed by the Maryland Association of Social Services Directors;

(k) One County Health Officer appointed by the Maryland Association of County Health Officers;

(l) One member appointed by the Maryland Association of Community Colleges; and

(m) Five public members appointed by the Governor, including one parent with experience in child-welfare advocacy or community-action partnerships. The public members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(2) If one or more pilot program sites are selected pursuant to section B(2) of this executive order, the following members shall be appointed to the Commission by the Governor:

(a) One representative of a pilot program site;  
and

(b) One local-government representative from a jurisdiction containing a pilot program, nominated by a County Executive, County Administrator, or Mayor as appropriate.

B. Duties.

(1) The Commission shall investigate policy challenges, opportunities, and recommendations regarding the mitigation of multigenerational poverty as follows:

(a) Identify services and policies within State programs that can be coordinated to support a multigenerational approach;

(b) Identify program and service gaps and inconsistencies between federal, State policies, and local policies;

(c) Identify, test, and recommend best practices utilized on federal, State and local levels;

(d) Solicit input and guidance regarding Two-Generation Approach practices and policies from external sources with direct knowledge and experience in the field of multigenerational poverty including, but not limited to, Two-Generation Approach practicing states, federal and Maryland Agencies, private foundations, community-action partnerships, and welfare-advocacy organizations.

(2) The Commission may utilize State and federal funding to establish criteria for the assessment and selection of up to four pilot program sites in areas with the highest percentage of children experiencing multigenerational poverty, and then implement such programs.

(3) The Commission shall submit its recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House as follows:

(a) An interim report shall be submitted on or before December 31, 2017; and

(b) A final report summarizing Commission and pilot-program activities and outcomes, and recommended legislative, policy, and regulatory actions that would better support a multigenerational approach to breaking cyclical poverty, shall be submitted on or before December 31, 2018, for consideration during the 2019 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.

#### C. Procedures.

(1) The Department of Human Resources shall provide staff to support the Commission. Other State agencies and their staff may be invited to participate by the Lieutenant Governor.

(2) All State agencies, departments, boards, and commissions within the Executive Branch are authorized and directed to coordinate with the Commission in implementing the provisions of this Executive Order.

(3) The Commission shall meet as frequently as necessary to meet the deadlines established herein.

(4) The Commission may adopt such other procedures as may be necessary to ensure the orderly transaction of business, including the creation of committees.

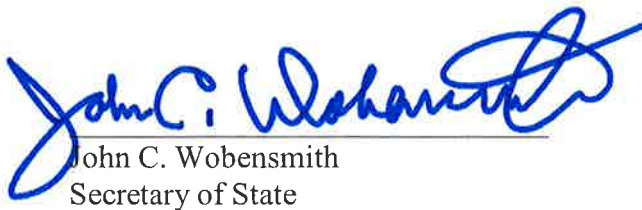
(5) A majority of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

(6) On December 31, 2018, with no further action required by the Governor, this Executive Order shall be abrogated and is of no further force and effect.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 9th Day of March 2017.

  
Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
John C. Wobensmith  
Secretary of State

