



# House of Representatives

**File No. 930**

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

**(Reprint of File No. 186)**

Substitute House Bill No. 6841  
As Amended by House Amendment  
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
May 16, 2025

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY METHODS  
AND PROGRAMS FOR REDUCING RATES OF POVERTY.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

- 1      Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working  
2      group to (1) study methods and programs for reducing rates of poverty  
3      among families in the state, including, but not limited to, universal basic  
4      income and other cash assistance programs, educational and  
5      employment training programs and programs to assist in paying for  
6      and reducing costs associated with child care services, (2) analyze the  
7      efficacy of such methods and programs and provide recommendations  
8      for the implementation of such methods and programs on a state-wide  
9      basis, (3) study systemic barriers to alleviating poverty, including, but  
10     not limited to, housing policies, transportation access, health care access,  
11     child care access and racial disparities, (4) study the ways in which  
12     inflation and regional cost differences impact rates of poverty across the  
13     state, (5) develop a method for tracking improvements in income, home  
14     ownership, job retention and other markers of economic mobility in

15 areas of the state with high rates of poverty, (6) study the availability of  
16 educational, employment and child care programs in areas of the state  
17 with high rates of poverty and analyze gaps in such availability to  
18 determine where and how to meet the need for such programs, (7)  
19 identify any policies and programs, including, but not limited to,  
20 programs described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, that may be  
21 implemented in the short-term to reduce rates of poverty and any  
22 structural reforms necessary to reduce rates of poverty into the future,  
23 (8) identify funding sources for programs that may reduce rates of  
24 poverty, including, but not limited to, state budget allocations, federal  
25 grants and philanthropic support, and (9) identify ways in which state  
26 agencies may collaborate to create efficiencies in the delivery of  
27 programs and services to reduce rates of poverty.

28 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

29 (1) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's  
30 designee;

31 (2) The Commissioner of Children and Families, or the  
32 commissioner's designee;

33 (3) The Commissioner of Early Childhood, or the commissioner's  
34 designee;

35 (4) The Commissioner of Developmental Services, or the  
36 commissioner's designee;

37 (5) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's  
38 designee;

39 (6) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

40 (7) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
41 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
42 relating to children, human services and appropriations, or the  
43 chairpersons' and ranking members' designees; and

44 (8) Not more than ten members jointly appointed by the  
45 cochairpersons of the working group, each of whom shall (A) have  
46 expertise in nonprofit administration, business administration,  
47 economics, education, housing, child welfare, child care, labor,  
48 workforce development or social services administration, or (B) be a  
49 representative of a faith-based or municipal organization or entity.

50 (c) Any member of the working group described or appointed under  
51 subdivision (7) or (8) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member  
52 of the General Assembly.

53 (d) All initial appointments to the working group shall be made not  
54 later than thirty days after the effective date of this session. Any vacancy  
55 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

56 (e) The House chairpersons of the joint standing committees of the  
57 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and  
58 human services, or the chairpersons' designees, shall serve as  
59 cochairpersons of the working group. Such cochairpersons shall  
60 schedule each meeting of the working group, the first of which shall be  
61 held not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section.

62 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
63 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children  
64 shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

65 (g) Not later than June 1, 2026, the cochairpersons shall submit a  
66 preliminary report on the findings and recommendations of the  
67 working group to the joint standing committees of the General  
68 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, human  
69 services and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, in  
70 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

71 (h) Not later than July 1, 2026, the cochairpersons shall hold a public  
72 forum, at which the cochairpersons shall present the preliminary report  
73 submitted pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and solicit public  
74 comment.

75 (i) Not later than June 1, 2027, the cochairpersons shall submit a final  
76 report on the findings and recommendations of the working group to  
77 the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
78 cognizance of matters relating to children, human services and  
79 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, in accordance with the  
80 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The working group  
81 shall terminate on the date the cochairpersons submit such final report  
82 or June 1, 2027, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill, which establishes a working group to research poverty reduction strategies, does not result in a fiscal impact to the state. Workload adjustments can be managed within the current staffing levels of the specified state agencies listed in the bill.

House "A" makes technical and clarifying changes that do not result in a fiscal impact.

### **The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 6841 (as amended by House "A")**

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY  
METHODS AND PROGRAMS FOR REDUCING RATES OF  
POVERTY.***

**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13    Nay 4    (03/06/2025)