

HOUSE BILL 684

C8

(6lr0350)

ENROLLED BILL

— Appropriations/Budget and Taxation —

Introduced by **Delegates Hammen, Anderson, Branch, Busch, Carey, Carter, Clippinger, Conaway, Glenn, Hayes, Haynes, Lafferty, Lierman, Lisanti, McCray, McIntosh, Oaks, Pena-Melnyk, Pendergrass, B. Robinson, S. Robinson, Rosenberg, Smith, Sophocleus, M. Washington, West, and P. Young**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program – Codified**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program;
4 providing for the administration and purpose of the Program; establishing the type
5 of community enhancement projects eligible to receive Program funds; authorizing
6 certain community development organizations to apply to receive Program funds;
7 requiring a community development organization’s application to contain certain
8 information; providing that community enhancement projects may be located in
9 more than one political subdivision; requiring the Department of Housing and
10 Community Development to establish a certain quantitative system to evaluate each
11 application; providing for the review of each application; requiring certain ~~approval~~

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 ~~from~~ notification to certain political subdivisions before an application may be
 2 approved; requiring the Department and the recipient of Program funds to enter into
 3 a certain agreement; authorizing the Department to exercise certain powers
 4 necessary to implement the Program and determine certain terms and conditions of
 5 the financial assistance; requiring the recipient of financial assistance from the
 6 Program to submit a certain quarterly progress report; establishing the Baltimore
 7 Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund;
 8 specifying the purpose of the Fund; requiring the Secretary of Housing and
 9 Community Development to administer the Fund; requiring the State Treasurer to
 10 hold the Fund and the Comptroller to account for the Fund; specifying the contents
 11 of the Fund; specifying the purpose for which the Fund may be used; providing for
 12 the investment of money in and expenditures from the Fund; requiring the Governor,
 13 in certain fiscal years, to include a certain appropriation in the annual budget bill to
 14 the Fund; requiring the Governor to include a certain appropriation for a certain
 15 fiscal year; defining certain terms; *requiring the Department to issue a certain request*
 16 *for proposals on or before a certain date*; and generally relating to establishing the
 17 Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program.

18 BY adding to

19 Article – Housing and Community Development
 20 Section 6–501 through 6–510 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 5. Baltimore
 21 Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program”
 22 Annotated Code of Maryland
 23 (2006 Volume and 2015 Supplement)

24 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

25 Article – State Finance and Procurement
 26 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i)
 27 Annotated Code of Maryland
 28 (2015 Replacement Volume)

29 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

30 Article – State Finance and Procurement
 31 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)84. and 85.
 32 Annotated Code of Maryland
 33 (2015 Replacement Volume)

34 BY adding to

35 Article – State Finance and Procurement
 36 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)86.
 37 Annotated Code of Maryland
 38 (2015 Replacement Volume)

39 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 40 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

41 **Article – Housing and Community Development**

1 **SUBTITLE 5. BALTIMORE REGIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE PROGRAM.**

2 **6-501.**

3 **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
4 **INDICATED.**

5 **(B) “COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTION” HAS THE**
6 **MEANING STATED IN 12 U.S.C. § 4702.**

7 **(C) “COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION” MEANS AN ENTITY THAT**
8 **MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH UNDER § 6-504(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

9 **(D) (1) “FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE” MEANS A GRANT, A LOAN, OR AN**
10 **INVESTMENT PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

11 **(2) “FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE” INCLUDES:**

12 **(I) AN ASSURANCE;**

13 **(II) A GUARANTEE;**

14 **(III) A PREPAYMENT OF INTEREST ON A SUBORDINATE OR**
15 **SUPERIOR LOAN OR PORTION OF A LOAN;**

16 **(IV) A REDUCTION IN THE PRINCIPAL OBLIGATION OF OR RATE**
17 **OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON A LOAN OR A PORTION OF A LOAN; AND**

18 **(V) ANY OTHER FORM OF CREDIT ENHANCEMENT.**

19 **(E) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE BALTIMORE REGIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD**
20 **INITIATIVE PROGRAM.**

21 **(F) “SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY” MEANS AN AREA DESIGNATED AS A**
22 **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY UNDER § 6-205 OF THIS TITLE.**

23 **6-502.**

24 **(A) THERE IS A BALTIMORE REGIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE**
25 **PROGRAM.**

26 **(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.**

1 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO:

2 (1) PROVIDE STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN LOCAL HOUSING AND
3 BUSINESSES TO ENCOURAGE HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES WITH A
4 GROWING TAX BASE AND ENHANCED QUALITY OF LIFE; AND

5 (2) FOCUS ON AREAS WHERE MODEST INVESTMENT AND
6 COORDINATED STRATEGIES WILL HAVE AN APPRECIABLE NEIGHBORHOOD
7 REVITALIZATION IMPACT.

8 **6-503.**

9 (A) THE COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE
10 PROGRAM FUNDS INCLUDE:

11 (1) DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR HOMEBUYERS TO PURCHASE
12 AND REHABILITATE HOMES;

13 (2) PROGRAMS TO ACQUIRE ~~AND REHABILITATE VACANT HOMES FOR~~
14 ~~RESALE TO NEW HOMEBUYERS~~ OR REHABILITATE VACANT OR BLIGHTED
15 PROPERTIES;

16 (3) PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE EXISTING RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS
17 PROPERTIES;

18 (4) PROGRAMS TO ACHIEVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY THROUGH
19 WEATHERIZATION AND ENERGY RETROFITS;

20 (5) DEVELOPMENT OF MIXED-USE PROJECTS THAT COMBINE
21 HOUSING, RETAIL, AND OFFICE SPACE;

22 (6) DEVELOPMENT OR ENHANCEMENT OF COMMUNITY OPEN SPACE
23 OR PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE; ~~AND~~

24 (7) WORKFORCE AND EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS; AND

25 (8) STRATEGIC DEMOLITION.

26 (B) PROGRAM FUNDS MAY BE USED FOR OPERATING COSTS NECESSARY TO
27 IMPLEMENT A COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT.

28 (C) THE SECRETARY MAY ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY
29 ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE PROGRAM FUNDS.

1 **6-504.**

2 (A) A CORPORATION, A FOUNDATION, OR ANY OTHER LEGAL ENTITY IS A
3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR PROGRAM
4 FUNDS IF:

5 (1) THE PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION IS TO IMPLEMENT A CLEAR
6 REVITALIZATION STRATEGY IN A NEIGHBORHOOD OR SET OF NEIGHBORHOODS
7 WITHIN BALTIMORE CITY OR THE INNER-BELTWAY COMMUNITIES OF BALTIMORE
8 COUNTY OR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY; AND

9 (2) NO PART OF THE ORGANIZATION'S NET EARNINGS INURES TO THE
10 BENEFIT OF A PRIVATE SHAREHOLDER OR AN INDIVIDUAL HOLDING AN INTEREST
11 IN THE ENTITY.

12 (B) THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION'S APPLICATION MUST
13 CONTAIN A NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PLAN THAT INCLUDES COMMUNITY
14 ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS LOCATED WITHIN A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY.

15 (C) A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION MAY APPLY WITH
16 ANOTHER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION OR WITH A COMMUNITY
17 DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTION THAT HAS THE CAPACITY AND EXPERIENCE
18 TO ASSIST IN THE FINANCING OF REAL ESTATE PROJECTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

19 (D) THE COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS FOR WHICH A COMMUNITY
20 DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION APPLIES FOR PROGRAM FUNDS MAY BE LOCATED IN
21 MORE THAN ONE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION.

22 **6-505.**

23 (A) (1) A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION MAY APPLY TO THE
24 DEPARTMENT TO RECEIVE PROGRAM FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT
25 PROJECTS.

26 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH THE APPLICATION
27 PROCESS.

28 (3) THE APPLICATION SHALL CONTAIN:

29 (I) THE NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PLAN;

30 (II) A DESCRIPTION OF EACH COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT
31 PROJECT;

1 (III) A LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT OR
2 LETTER OF SUPPORT;

3 (IV) ORGANIZATIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR THE COMMUNITY
4 DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION; AND

5 (V) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THE DEPARTMENT REQUIRES.

6 (B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT, BY REGULATION, SHALL ESTABLISH A
7 QUANTITATIVE SYSTEM TO EVALUATE EACH APPLICATION.

8 (2) THE QUANTITATIVE EVALUATION SYSTEM SHALL EVALUATE EACH
9 APPLICATION BASED ON:

10 (I) THE NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PLAN AND HOW THE
11 PLAN RELATES TO THE GOALS OUTLINED IN THE COMMUNITY'S LARGER
12 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLAN;

13 (II) THE DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMUNITY CONDITIONS AND
14 THE APPROPRIATENESS OF OUTLINED STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THOSE
15 CONDITIONS;

16 (III) THE ABILITY OF EACH PROPOSED COMMUNITY
17 ENHANCEMENT PROJECT TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED CHALLENGES WITHIN THE
18 COMMUNITY; AND

19 (IV) THE CAPACITY AND EXPERIENCE OF THE APPLICANT AND
20 THE APPLICANT'S PARTNERS TO COMPLETE THE PROPOSALS AND LEVERAGE
21 ADDITIONAL FINANCING.

22 (C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY GIVE ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION TO
23 APPLICATIONS THAT INCLUDE:

24 (1) OPPORTUNITIES THAT PROMOTE COMPACT REDEVELOPMENT
25 AND CONNECT HOUSING AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES WITH TRANSPORTATION
26 OPTIONS;

27 (2) ACTIVITIES IN SPECIALLY DESIGNATED DISTRICTS THAT
28 ENCOURAGE RESIDENTIAL REINVESTMENT THAT REINFORCES THE SUCCESS OF THE
29 BUSINESSES IN THE DISTRICTS;

30 (3) COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS THAT ENCOURAGE OR
31 INCORPORATE ELEMENTS THAT ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AND

1 STEWARDSHIP INTO THE SITE AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT, DESIGN, AND
2 CONSTRUCTION;

3 (4) COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS THAT INCORPORATE
4 ADDITIONAL STATE AND LOCAL REVITALIZATION AND SMART GROWTH PROGRAMS
5 AND FINANCING TOOLS; ~~AND~~

6 (5) CAPITAL INVESTMENTS AND BUSINESS PRACTICES THAT
7 INCORPORATE INCLUSIONARY HIRING PRACTICES THAT INCREASE LOCAL
8 WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITIES; AND

9 (6) PROJECTS WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO IDENTIFY FOR ACQUISITION,
10 ACQUIRE, DEVELOP, OR PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF VACANT OR BLIGHTED
11 PROPERTIES.

12 **6-506.**

13 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

14 (1) REVIEW EACH APPLICATION SUBMITTED UNDER § 6-505 OF THIS
15 SUBTITLE AND MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE APPLICANT;

16 (2) ACCEPT PUBLIC INPUT ON EACH APPLICATION; AND

17 (3) CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATION OF ANY STATE UNIT.

18 (B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT APPROVE AN APPLICATION ~~UNLESS~~
19 UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT HAS PROVIDED WRITTEN NOTICE AND A REASONABLE
20 OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT TO THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION WHERE THE
21 PROPOSED COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT IS LOCATED ~~APPROVES THE~~
22 ~~APPLICATION BY:~~

23 (i) ~~RESOLUTION; OR~~

24 (ii) ~~LETTER DELIVERED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY THE~~
25 ~~POLITICAL SUBDIVISION.~~

26 (2) IF THE APPLICATION AFFECTS A NEIGHBORHOOD ENTIRELY
27 WITHIN A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, THE DEPARTMENT MUST PROVIDE NOTICE
28 AND A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
29 AND NOT THE SURROUNDING COUNTY ~~MUST APPROVE THE APPLICATION UNDER~~
30 ~~PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.~~

1 **(3) IF AN APPLICATION AFFECTS A NEIGHBORHOOD WITHIN MORE**
2 **THAN ONE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, THE DEPARTMENT MUST PROVIDE NOTICE AND**
3 **A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT TO EACH POLITICAL SUBDIVISION**
4 **~~MUST APPROVE THE APPLICATION BY:~~**

5 **~~(I) RESOLUTION; OR~~**

6 **~~(H) LETTER DELIVERED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY THE~~**
7 **~~POLITICAL SUBDIVISION.~~**

8 **(C) THE SECRETARY SHALL AWARD FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO AN**
9 **APPLICANT:**

10 **(1) IN THE AMOUNT AND OF THE TYPE THAT THE SECRETARY**
11 **DETERMINES; AND**

12 **(2) UNDER THE TERMS OF A PROGRAM AGREEMENT.**

13 **6-507.**

14 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT AND A RECIPIENT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM**
15 **THE PROGRAM SHALL EXECUTE A PROGRAM AGREEMENT.**

16 **(B) THE RECIPIENT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE PROGRAM**
17 **SHALL COMPLY WITH THE TERMS OF THE PROGRAM AGREEMENT.**

18 **(C) THE PROGRAM AGREEMENT MAY NOT ALLOW FOR MORE THAN ~~15%~~ 40%**
19 **OF THE TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THAT THE PROGRAM PROVIDES TO BE USED**
20 **FOR OPERATING EXPENDITURES.**

21 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT MAY EXERCISE ANY REMEDY PROVIDED UNDER THE**
22 **PROGRAM AGREEMENT OR BY LAW IF THE RECIPIENT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
23 **FROM THE PROGRAM:**

24 **(1) VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THE AGREEMENT; OR**

25 **(2) CEASES TO MEET ANY REQUIREMENT OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

26 **6-508.**

27 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT HAS THE POWERS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE**
28 **PROGRAM.**

1 **(B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY DETERMINE THE TERMS AND**
2 **CONDITIONS OR ESTABLISH TIME LIMITS FOR THE USE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
3 **AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

4 **(2) THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE**
5 **MAY BE SECURED BY A MORTGAGE, A LIEN, OR ANY OTHER SECURITY INTEREST**
6 **THAT IS SUPERIOR TO OR SUBORDINATE TO OTHER MORTGAGES, LIENS, OR OTHER**
7 **SECURITY INTERESTS.**

8 **(C) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ENFORCE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS**
9 **OF THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

10 **(2) IF ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE**
11 **IS SECURED BY A FIRST OR SUBORDINATE MORTGAGE OR OTHER LIEN, THE**
12 **DEPARTMENT MAY:**

13 **(I) BEGIN AN ACTION TO PROTECT OR ENFORCE ANY RIGHT**
14 **GIVEN BY LAW, CONTRACT, OR OTHER AGREEMENT;**

15 **(II) FORECLOSE ON PROPERTY;**

16 **(III) PURCHASE PROPERTY AT ANY FORECLOSURE OR OTHER**
17 **SALE, OR ACQUIRE OR TAKE POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY THROUGH**
18 **CONVEYANCE IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE OR OTHERWISE, AND CONVEY PROPERTY**
19 **AFTER ACQUIRING IT;**

20 **(IV) SETTLE OR COMPROMISE ANY DEBT OR OBLIGATION OWED**
21 **TO THE DEPARTMENT;**

22 **(V) PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON ANY OBLIGATION**
23 **INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPERTY AND DISPOSE OF OR OTHERWISE**
24 **DEAL WITH THE PROPERTY TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF THE PROGRAM; OR**

25 **(VI) RELEASE OR SELL ANY MORTGAGE, OBLIGATION, OR**
26 **PROPERTY THAT THE DEPARTMENT HOLDS AT PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SALE, WITH OR**
27 **WITHOUT PUBLIC BIDDING.**

28 **(D) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONTRACT WITH ANY PERSON OR**
29 **GOVERNMENTAL UNIT FOR PROPERTY OR SERVICES NECESSARY TO OPERATE THE**
30 **PROGRAM.**

31 **(2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONTRACT FOR AND ACCEPT ANY GRANT,**
32 **CONTRIBUTION, OR LOAN OF MONEY, PROPERTY, OR OTHER AID FROM THE**

1 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND MAY DO ALL THINGS CONSISTENT WITH THIS SUBTITLE
2 TO QUALIFY FOR THE AID.

3 (E) IN CONNECTION WITH ANY LOANS THAT THE DEPARTMENT MAKES, THE
4 DEPARTMENT MAY:

5 (1) REQUIRE AND OBTAIN APPRAISALS, CREDIT INFORMATION, AND
6 OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION; AND

7 (2) CHARGE INTEREST.

8 (F) THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONSENT TO THE MODIFICATION OF ANY
9 PROVISION OF A PROGRAM AGREEMENT IF THE MODIFICATION IS IN THE BEST
10 INTEREST OF THE PROGRAM.

11 **6-509.**

12 (A) THE RECIPIENT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE PROGRAM
13 SHALL SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE
14 DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT.

15 (B) (1) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 31 EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT
16 SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE
17 STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

18 (2) THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE, FOR THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR:

19 (I) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED;

20 (II) THE NUMBER AND LOCATION OF COMMUNITY
21 ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS;

22 (III) THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE
23 AMOUNT AND TYPES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ENCUMBERED AND DISBURSED;
24 AND

25 (IV) A SUMMARY OF THE QUARTERLY REPORTS SUBMITTED
26 UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

27 **6-510.**

28 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE BALTIMORE REGIONAL
29 NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE PROGRAM FUND.

1 **(B) THERE IS A BALTIMORE REGIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE**
2 **PROGRAM FUND.**

3 **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
4 **UNDER THE PROGRAM.**

5 **(D) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.**

6 **(E) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT**
7 **SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.**

8 **(2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY,**
9 **AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.**

10 **(F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:**

11 **(1) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND;**

12 **(2) EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE FUND;**

13 **(3) REPAYMENTS OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE**
14 **PROGRAM;**

15 **(4) INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND; AND**

16 **(5) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR**
17 **THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.**

18 **(G) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
19 **UNDER THE PROGRAM.**

20 **(H) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND**
21 **IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

22 **(2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO**
23 **THE FUND.**

24 **(I) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE**
25 **WITH THE STATE BUDGET.**

26 **(J) FOR ~~EACH FISCAL YEAR~~ FISCAL YEARS 2018 THROUGH 2022, THE**
27 **GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION TO THE FUND**
28 **IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,000,000.**

Article – State Finance and Procurement

6–226.

(a) (2) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General Fund of the State.

(ii) The provisions of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph do not apply to the following funds:

84. the Economic Development Marketing Fund; [and]

85. the Military Personnel and Veteran–Owned Small Business No–Interest Loan Fund; AND

86. THE BALTIMORE REGIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE PROGRAM FUND.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That for fiscal year 2018, the Governor shall include in the budget bill an appropriation to the Baltimore Metropolitan Council in the amount of \$250,000 for planning and programmatic efforts that facilitate coordination and collaboration among local jurisdictions and organizations in the Baltimore region to foster economic growth and development.

SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That *on or before September 1, 2016, the Department of Housing and Community Development shall issue a request for proposals for community enhancement projects from community development organizations eligible to apply for funds under the Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program as codified in Section 1 of this Act.*

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2016.