

SENATE BILL 855

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8lr1293
CF HB 988

By: ~~Senator Guzzone~~ Senators Guzzone, Madaleno, and Muse

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2018

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 12, 2018

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **2020 Census Grant Program – Establishment and Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the 2020 Census Grant Program for a certain purpose;
4 establishing the 2020 Census Grant Program Panel; providing for the composition,
5 chair, and staffing of the Grant Panel; prohibiting a member of the Grant Panel from
6 receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain
7 expenses; authorizing a local government or nonprofit organization to apply to the
8 Grant Panel for certain matching funds on or before a certain date; requiring the
9 Grant Panel to award certain matching funds on or before a certain date; requiring
10 the Grant Panel to notify local governments of the Program; expressing the intent of
11 the General Assembly that local governments provide certain notice to certain
12 nonprofit organizations; requiring the Governor to include a certain appropriation in
13 the State operating budget for a certain entity in a certain fiscal year; providing for
14 the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the 2020 Census Grant
15 Program.

16 Preamble

17 WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2015, the 50 states and the District of Columbia received
18 \$589,700,000,000 from 16 large federal assistance programs that allocate funds on the basis
19 of decennial census–derived statistics; and

20 WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2015, Maryland benefited from \$10,900,000,000 in grants
21 and direct payments from federal health care, education, transportation, nutrition, child

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.



1 care, housing, and energy assistance programs that allocated funds on the basis of
2 decennial census–derived statistics; and

3 WHEREAS, Undercounting the population of the State and local jurisdictions could
4 jeopardize funding from federal assistance programs that allocate funds on the basis of
5 decennial census–derived statistics; and

6 WHEREAS, There are census tracts in jurisdictions throughout the State where
7 achieving an accurate count of the population is challenging, including Allegany County,
8 Anne Arundel County, Baltimore County, Caroline County, Cecil County, Harford County,
9 Howard County, Frederick County, Montgomery County, Prince George’s County, St.
10 Mary’s County, Somerset County, Washington County, Wicomico County, and Baltimore
11 City; and

12 WHEREAS, The U.S. Government Accountability Office added the 2020 Census to
13 the High Risk list because of concerns about funding and effective operations, increasing
14 concerns about an undercount of the population; now, therefore,

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
16 That:

17 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

18 (2) “2020 Census” means the decennial census conducted by the federal
19 U.S. Census Bureau in the year 2020 to determine the number of people living in the United
20 States for purposes of apportionment of representatives in the House of Representatives.

21 (3) “Grant Panel” means the 2020 Census Grant Program Panel.

22 (b) There is a 2020 Census Grant Program for the purpose of issuing matching
23 grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations to support the accurate counting
24 of the population of the State and its local jurisdictions, and the collection of basic
25 demographic and housing information of the population of the State for the 2020 Census.

26 (c) (1) There is a 2020 Census Grant Program Panel.

27 (2) The Grant Panel consists of the following members:

28 (i) a chair appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the
29 Speaker of the House of Delegates;

30 (ii) two members appointed by the Governor; and

31 (iii) two members appointed jointly by the President of the Senate
32 and the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

1 (3) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Grant
2 Panel.

3 (4) A member of the Grant Panel:

4 (i) may not receive compensation as a member of the Grant Panel;
5 but

6 (ii) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
7 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

8 (d) (1) On or before March 1, 2019, a local government or nonprofit
9 organization may apply to the Grant Panel for matching funds to support the accurate
10 counting of the population of its jurisdiction or the State and the collection of basic
11 demographic and housing information of the population of the State for the 2020 Census.

12 (2) On or before April 1, 2019, the Grant Panel shall award matching funds,
13 in an amount determined by the Grant Panel, to local governments and nonprofit
14 organizations for approved applications.

15 (e) (1) The Grant Panel shall notify local governments of the 2020 Census
16 Grant Program.

17 (2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that local governments notify
18 nonprofit organizations within the jurisdiction of the local government of the 2020 Census
19 Grant Program.

20 ~~(e)~~ (f) For fiscal year 2020, the Governor shall include in the annual State operating
21 budget for the 2020 Census Grant Program a general fund appropriation of \$5,000,000.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
23 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of ~~1 year~~ 2 years and 1 month and, at the end
24 of June 30, ~~2019~~ 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly,
25 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.