



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

January 28, 2020

Committee: House Appropriations

Bill: HB 127 – Maryland Arts and Culture Grant Program

Position: Support

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports House Bill 127, which would earmark \$10 million annually from FY 2022 through 2027 for the creation and administration of a Maryland Arts and Cultural Capital Program.

Municipalities across the State market themselves to surrounding communities as a cultural hub. Increasingly, the arts have played a role in their economic development strategies. This is especially true of municipalities who are seeking an Arts & Entertainment District designation, as one economic impact report found the current “Maryland A&E Districts collectively supported more than \$1 billion in state GDP, approximately \$72.1 million in state and local tax revenues, and 9,987 jobs that paid more than \$320 million in wages.”

The League therefore respectfully requests that this committee provide HB 127 with a favorable report.

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