

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 436 (Senator McFadden)
Budget and Taxation

Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2008 - Baltimore City - Roberta's House

This bill removes the matching fund requirement for the Board of Directors of Roberta's House, Inc., for a \$300,000 State capital grant authorized by Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2008, as amended by Chapter 372 of 2010.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2012.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect the finances or operations of Baltimore City.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 336 of 2008 authorizes up to \$300,000 in matching funds to the Board of Directors of Roberta's House, Inc., for the acquisition, planning, design, renovation, construction, reconstruction, repair, and capital equipping of Roberta's House, located in Baltimore City. Matching funds may consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2008 effective date of Chapter 336. As amended by Chapter 372 of 2010, the grantee has until June 1, 2012, to present evidence that a matching fund will be provided.

Background: Roberta's House offers grief counseling and other similar services to children and families in Baltimore City through peer support, education, and community awareness. The organization currently operates out of a temporary location and plans to build a full-service facility with funding from various public and private sources. The grantee advises that the organization has acquired half of the necessary matching funds for the State grant and is in negotiations with Baltimore City for a loan for the remainder of the required funds; however, the loan paperwork has been delayed.

The grantee reports that it plans to demolish the existing structure for its new building in March and then put out a request for architectural bids. The new building will be approximately 15,000 square feet and will serve at least 500 urban families annually who seek bereavement support. The new building will include adult peer groups, a large family gathering area, a game room, an expression room, conference rooms, offices, and a resource library for families, students, and practitioners.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services; Roberta's House, Inc.; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 13, 2012
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