

HOUSE BILL 1623

C8

7lr3646

By: **Delegates Sample–Hughes, Anderton, Carozza, Holmes, Mautz, McCray, and Otto**

Introduced and read first time: February 27, 2017

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Home Sprinkler and Fire Safety Assistance Fund**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Home Sprinkler and Fire Safety Assistance Fund as a
4 special, nonlapsing fund; specifying the purpose of the Fund; requiring the
5 Department of Housing and Community Development to administer the Fund;
6 requiring the State Treasurer to hold the Fund and the Comptroller to account for
7 the Fund; specifying the contents of the Fund; specifying the purpose for which the
8 Fund may be used; providing for the investment of money in, and expenditures from,
9 the Fund; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Home Sprinkler and
10 Fire Safety Assistance Fund.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Housing and Community Development
13 Section 4–103
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2006 Volume and 2016 Supplement)

16 BY adding to
17 Article – Housing and Community Development
18 Section 4–1501 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 15. Home Sprinkler and Fire
19 Safety Assistance Fund”
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2006 Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Housing and Community Development**

25 4–103.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 The Division includes:

2 (1) the Community Development Administration;

3 (2) the Disaster Relief Housing Program;

4 (3) the Down Payment and Settlement Expense Loan Program;

5 (4) federal and State weatherization programs;

6 (5) the Group Home Financing Program;

7 **(6) THE HOME SPRINKLER AND FIRE SAFETY ASSISTANCE FUND;**

8 ~~[(6)] (7)~~ the Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program;

9 ~~[(7)] (8)~~ the Lead Hazard Reduction Loan Program;

10 ~~[(8)] (9)~~ the local government infrastructure program;

11 ~~[(9)] (10)~~ the Maryland Home Financing Program;

12 ~~[(10)] (11)~~ the Maryland Housing Rehabilitation Program;

13 ~~[(11)] (12)~~ the Neighborhood Housing Services Fund;

14 ~~[(12)] (13)~~ the Operating Assistance Grants Demonstration Projects;

15 ~~[(13)] (14)~~ the Partnership Rental Housing Program;

16 ~~[(14)] (15)~~ the Radium Grant Program;

17 ~~[(15)] (16)~~ the Rental Allowance Program and other rental assistance
18 programs;

19 ~~[(16)] (17)~~ the Rental Housing Program; and

20 ~~[(17)] (18)~~ the Self-Help Homeownership Technical Assistance Program.

21 **SUBTITLE 15. HOME SPRINKLER AND FIRE SAFETY ASSISTANCE FUND.**

22 **4-1501.**

1 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE HOME SPRINKLER AND FIRE
2 SAFETY ASSISTANCE FUND.

3 (B) THERE IS A HOME SPRINKLER AND FIRE SAFETY ASSISTANCE FUND.

4 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO OFFSET THE
5 COSTS OF INSTALLING A SPRINKLER SYSTEM WHEN PURCHASING A HOME.

6 (D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

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

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

11 (F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

12 (1) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND; AND

13 (2) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR
14 THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.

15 (G) THE FUND SHALL BE AWARDED TO APPLICANTS IN THE ORDER THEY
16 APPLY AND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR PROVIDING GRANTS TO HOMEBUYERS WHO:

17 (1) ARE IN THE PROCESS OF PURCHASING A HOME THAT:

18 (I) IS A SINGLE-FAMILY DETACHED HOME;

19 (II) IS LESS THAN 2,500 SQUARE FEET;

20 (III) USES WELL WATER AND IS NOT IN AN AREA WHERE PUBLIC
21 WATER IS PROVIDED OR WHERE THERE IS A PLAN TO PROVIDE PUBLIC WATER; AND

22 (IV) WILL BE THE HOMEBUYER'S PRIMARY RESIDENCE AND
23 OWNER-OCCUPIED; AND

24 (2) HAVE AN ANNUAL INCOME EQUAL TO OR LESS THAN THE INCOME
25 LIMITS UNDER THE MARYLAND MORTGAGE PROGRAM.

26 (H) IN CALCULATING INCOME LEVELS UNDER SUBSECTION (G)(2) OF THIS
27 SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

1 **(1) USE THE TARGETED LIMITS FOR A COUNTY, IF AVAILABLE;**

2 **(2) USE THE NONTARGETED LIMITS IF THE TARGETED LIMITS ARE**
3 **UNAVAILABLE; AND**

4 **(3) USE THE APPROPRIATE TARGET LIMIT FOR THE HOUSEHOLD SIZE.**

5 **(I) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND**
6 **IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

7 **(2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO**
8 **THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.**

9 **(J) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE**
10 **WITH THE STATE BUDGET.**

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2017.