

HOUSE BILL 108

C8

8lr0588

By: **Delegate Lafferty**

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2018

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Housing and Community Development – Baltimore Regional**
3 **Neighborhood Initiative Program – Application Requirement**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that an application to the Department of
5 Housing and Community Development for funds under the Baltimore Regional
6 Neighborhood Initiative Program contain a local government resolution of support
7 or letter of support; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating
8 to the Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Housing and Community Development
11 Section 6–502
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2006 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Housing and Community Development
16 Section 6–505
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2006 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Housing and Community Development**

22 6–502.

23 (a) There is a Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program.

24 (b) The Department shall administer the Program.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) The purpose of the Program is to:

2 (1) provide strategic investment in local housing and businesses to
3 encourage healthy, sustainable communities with a growing tax base and enhanced quality
4 of life; and

5 (2) focus on areas where modest investment and coordinated strategies will
6 have an appreciable neighborhood revitalization impact.

7 6–505.

8 (a) (1) A community development organization may apply to the Department
9 to receive Program funds for community enhancement projects.

10 (2) The Department shall establish the application process.

11 (3) The application shall contain:

12 (i) the neighborhood revitalization plan;

13 (ii) a description of each community enhancement project;

14 (iii) [a local government resolution of support or letter of support;

15 (iv)] organizational documents for the community development
16 organization; and

17 [(v)] (IV) any other information the Department requires.

18 (b) (1) The Department, by regulation, shall establish a quantitative system
19 to evaluate each application.

20 (2) The quantitative evaluation system shall evaluate each application
21 based on:

22 (i) the neighborhood revitalization plan and how the plan relates to
23 the goals outlined in the community's larger sustainable communities plan;

24 (ii) the description of the community conditions and the
25 appropriateness of outlined strategies to address those conditions;

26 (iii) the ability of each proposed community enhancement project to
27 address identified challenges within the community; and

28 (iv) the capacity and experience of the applicant and the applicant's
29 partners to complete the proposals and leverage additional financing.

1 (c) The Department may give additional consideration to applications that
2 include:

3 (1) opportunities that promote compact redevelopment and connect
4 housing and job opportunities with transportation options;

5 (2) activities in specially designated districts that encourage residential
6 reinvestment that reinforces the success of the businesses in the districts;

7 (3) community enhancement projects that encourage or incorporate
8 elements that address environmental responsibility and stewardship into the site and
9 project development, design, and construction;

10 (4) community enhancement projects that incorporate additional State and
11 local revitalization and smart growth programs and financing tools;

12 (5) capital investments and business practices that incorporate
13 inclusionary hiring practices that increase local workforce opportunities; and

14 (6) projects whose purpose is to identify for acquisition, acquire, develop,
15 or promote the development of vacant or blighted properties.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to
17 apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or
18 application to any application to the Department of Housing and Community Development
19 for funds under the Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program submitted before
20 the effective date of this Act.

21 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 2018.