HOUSE BILL 1411

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By: **Delegates Smith, Cain, and Mosby**
Introduced and read first time: March 4, 2019
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

CASH Campaign of Maryland Grant

FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to include in the annual State budget a certain appropriation for the CASH Campaign of Maryland for certain services to promote the financial capability of low–income individuals and families; specifying the purposes for which the appropriations may be used; and generally relating to services to promote the financial capability of low–income individuals and families.

BY adding to
Article – Human Services
Section 6–801 and 6–802 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 8. Financial Capability Services"
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2007 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

Article – Human Services

SUBTITLE 8. FINANCIAL CAPABILITY SERVICES.

6–801.

FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL STATE BUDGET AN APPROPRIATION OF $250,000 FOR THE CASH CAMPAIGN OF MARYLAND TO PROMOTE THE FINANCIAL CAPABILITY OF LOW–INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES BY PROVIDING OUTREACH, EDUCATION, AND FREE TAX PREPARATION SERVICES.

6–802.

AN APPROPRIATION MADE UNDER § 6–801 OF THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE USED ONLY TO:

(1) PROVIDE FREE VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE THAT HELPS LOW–INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES:

(I) FILE TAX RETURNS;

(II) AVOID PREDATORY FEES; AND

(III) CLAIM THE FEDERAL EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT OR THE STATE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT UNDER § 10–704 OF THE TAX – GENERAL ARTICLE;

(2) COORDINATE AND EXPAND ACCESS TO FREE, FACT–BASED FINANCIAL EDUCATION AND COACHING FOR LOW–INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES;

(3) CONNECT LOW–INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES TO AFFORDABLE, HIGH–QUALITY FINANCIAL SERVICES;

(4) RECRUIT, TRAIN, AND MANAGE A CORPS OF VOLUNTEERS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL EDUCATION, COACHING, AND TAX PREPARATION SERVICES FOR LOW–INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES; AND

(5) CONDUCT OUTREACH TO LOW–INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019.