

# SENATE BILL 550

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CF HB 548

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By: **The President (By Request – Administration) and Senators Augustine, Benson, Carter, Elfreth, Ellis, Feldman, Gile, Hayes, Hettleman, Kagan, King, Hester, Jackson, Lam, McCray, Muse, Waldstreicher, M. Washington, Watson, West, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Financial Regulation – Maryland Community Investment Venture Fund –**  
3 **Establishment**  
4 **(Access to Banking Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of authorizing the establishment of a Maryland Community Investment  
6 Venture Fund by the Commissioner of Financial Regulation for certain purposes;  
7 providing for certain assessment offset credits for certain banking institutions and  
8 credit unions that establish de novo branches or maintain branches in certain areas;  
9 authorizing the use of the Banking Institution and Credit Union Regulation Fund for  
10 certain purposes; and generally relating to financial regulation and the assessment of  
11 banking institutions and credit unions.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Financial Institutions  
14 Section 2–118, 5–203, and 6–712  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

17 BY adding to  
18 Article – Financial Institutions  
19 Section 2–118.1  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Financial Institutions**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 2-118.

2 (a) In this section, "Fund" means the Banking Institution and Credit Union  
3 Regulation Fund established under this section.

4 (b) There is a Banking Institution and Credit Union Regulation Fund that  
5 consists of:

6 (1) All revenue received for the chartering and regulation of persons who  
7 engage in the business of a banking institution or credit union under this article; and

8 (2) Any other fee, assessment, or revenue received by the Commissioner  
9 from banking institutions and credit unions under this article.

10 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, the Commissioner shall pay all  
11 fines and penalties collected by the Commissioner from banking institutions and credit  
12 unions under this article into the General Fund of the State.

13 (d) The purpose of the Fund is to pay all the costs and expenses incurred by the  
14 Commissioner that are related to the regulation of banking institutions and credit unions  
15 under this article, including:

16 (1) Expenditures authorized under this article; [and]

17 **(2) INVESTMENTS AUTHORIZED UNDER § 2-118.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE;**  
18 **AND**

19 **[(2)] (3)** Any other expense authorized in the State budget.

20 (e) (1) All the costs and expenses of the Commissioner relating to the  
21 regulation of banking institutions and credit unions under this article shall be included in  
22 the State budget.

23 (2) Any expenditures from the Fund to cover costs and expenses of the  
24 Commissioner may be made only:

25 (i) By an appropriation from the Fund approved by the General  
26 Assembly in the annual State budget; or

27 (ii) By the budget amendment procedure provided for in § 7-209 of  
28 the State Finance and Procurement Article.

29 (3) If, in any given fiscal year, the amount of the revenue collected by the  
30 Commissioner and deposited into the Fund exceeds the actual appropriation for the  
31 Commissioner to regulate banking institutions and credit unions under this article, the  
32 excess amount shall be carried forward within the Fund.

1 (f) (1) The State Treasurer is the custodian of the Fund.

2 (2) The State Treasurer shall deposit payments received from the  
3 Commissioner into the Fund.

4 (g) (1) The Fund is a continuing, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to §  
5 7-302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, and may not be deemed a part of the  
6 General Fund of the State.

7 (2) Unless otherwise provided by law, no part of the Fund may revert or be  
8 credited to:

9 (i) The General Fund of the State; or

10 (ii) A special fund of the State.

11 **2-118.1.**

12 (A) (1) **IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
13 **INDICATED.**

14 (2) **“LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACT” HAS THE MEANING**  
15 **STATED IN § 5-203 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

16 (3) **“PRIVATE VENTURE FUND” MEANS THE SEPARATE ENTITY OR**  
17 **ENTITIES CHARTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (K) OF THIS**  
18 **SECTION.**

19 (B) (1) **THE COMMISSIONER MAY INVEST IN A MARYLAND COMMUNITY**  
20 **INVESTMENT VENTURE FUND.**

21 (2) **THE MARYLAND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT VENTURE FUND IS A**  
22 **PRIVATE VENTURE FUND THAT IS A SEPARATELY CHARTERED EQUITY FUND USING**  
23 **BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INVESTMENT FUNDS.**

24 (3) **THE PURPOSE OF THE PRIVATE VENTURE FUND IS TO DEVELOP**  
25 **OPPORTUNITIES FOR BANKING INSTITUTIONS AND CREDIT UNIONS TO BETTER**  
26 **SERVE THE NEEDS OF LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACTS BY:**

27 (I) **INVESTING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF FINANCIAL PRODUCT**  
28 **OR FINANCIAL PRODUCT UNDERWRITING INNOVATIONS THAT WILL ENHANCE**  
29 **ACCESS TO CAPITAL, FUNDING, AND OTHER FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR BUSINESSES**  
30 **IN LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACTS IN MARYLAND;**

1                   **(II) DEPLOYING, TESTING, AND EVALUATING THESE**  
2 **INNOVATIONS FOR PROVIDING CAPITAL AND FUNDING TO BUSINESSES IN LOW- TO**  
3 **MODERATE-INCOME TRACTS IN MARYLAND; AND**

4                   **(III) PROMOTING AND MAKING THESE INNOVATIONS AVAILABLE**  
5 **TO A VARIETY OF BANKING INSTITUTIONS AND CREDIT UNIONS FOR USE IN**  
6 **ENHANCING ACCESS TO CAPITAL, FUNDING, AND OTHER FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR**  
7 **BUSINESSES IN LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACTS IN MARYLAND.**

8           **(C) THE COMMISSIONER MAY EXPEND UP TO \$250,000 FROM THE BANKING**  
9 **INSTITUTION AND CREDIT UNION REGULATION FUND UNDER § 2-118 OF THIS**  
10 **SUBTITLE TO COVER THE EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH CHARTERING AND**  
11 **ORGANIZING THE PRIVATE VENTURE FUND, INCLUDING ACCOUNTING, ADVISORY,**  
12 **THIRD-PARTY SERVICE PROVIDER, MARKETING, AND OTHER NECESSARY**  
13 **EXPENSES.**

14           **(D) TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE INVESTMENT, THE COMMISSIONER MAY**  
15 **PROVIDE THE INITIAL EQUITY CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN THE PRIVATE VENTURE**  
16 **FUND IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$2,500,000 FROM THE BANKING INSTITUTION AND**  
17 **CREDIT UNION REGULATION FUND.**

18           **(E) THROUGH JUNE 30, 2028, THE COMMISSIONER MAY MATCH ANY**  
19 **INVESTMENT MADE IN THE PRIVATE VENTURE FUND BY A BANKING INSTITUTION OR**  
20 **CREDIT UNION UP TO THE AMOUNT OF THE ASSESSMENT CREDIT EARNED BY THAT**  
21 **BANKING INSTITUTION OR CREDIT UNION UNDER § 5-203(C) OR § 6-712(C)(4) OF**  
22 **THIS ARTICLE.**

23           **(F) THE COMMISSIONER MAY NOT MAKE ANY FURTHER INVESTMENTS IN**  
24 **THE PRIVATE VENTURE FUND AFTER JUNE 30, 2028.**

25           **(G) ANY AND ALL INVESTMENT RETURNS OR RETURN OF CAPITAL FROM**  
26 **THE PRIVATE VENTURE FUND WITH RESPECT TO ANY INVESTMENT AUTHORIZED BY**  
27 **THE COMMISSIONER SHALL BE THE PROPERTY OF THE BANKING INSTITUTION AND**  
28 **CREDIT UNION REGULATION FUND.**

29           **(H) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**  
30 **COMMISSIONER MAY NEGOTIATE APPROPRIATE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES FOR**  
31 **THE PRIVATE VENTURE FUND WITH OTHER INVESTORS.**

32                   **(2) THE COMMISSIONER OR A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE**  
33 **COMMISSIONER SHALL ALWAYS SERVE ON THE BODY GOVERNING THE PRIVATE**  
34 **VENTURE FUND.**

1           **(3) (I) THE PURPOSE OF THE PRIVATE VENTURE FUND MAY NOT BE**  
2 **ALTERED OR AMENDED WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE COMMISSIONER.**

3           **(II) ANY ALTERED OR AMENDED PURPOSE MUST REMAIN**  
4 **CONSISTENT WITH THIS SECTION.**

5           **(I) AT THE DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSIONER, AND IN ADDITION TO ANY**  
6 **CUSTOMARY AND APPROPRIATE AUDITS OF THE FUND, THE PRIVATE VENTURE**  
7 **FUND SHALL BE REQUIRED TO ENGAGE AN INDEPENDENT THIRD PARTY**  
8 **DESIGNATED BY THE COMMISSIONER ON AN ANNUAL BASIS TO EVALUATE WHETHER**  
9 **ALL INVESTMENTS MEET THE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THIS SECTION.**

10          **(J) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,**  
11 **DIVISION II OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE DOES NOT**  
12 **APPLY TO A SERVICE THAT THE COMMISSIONER OBTAINS UNDER THIS SECTION.**

13          **(2) THE COMMISSIONER IS SUBJECT TO TITLE 12, SUBTITLE 4 OF**  
14 **THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE FOR SERVICES CONTRACTED**  
15 **UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OR (K) OF THIS SECTION.**

16          **(K) (1) TO THE EXTENT THE COMMISSIONER DETERMINES THAT**  
17 **SEPARATE PRIVATE VENTURE FUNDS ARE NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THE**  
18 **PURPOSE OF THE PRIVATE VENTURE FUND, THE COMMISSIONER MAY EXPEND**  
19 **FUNDS TO CHARTER AND ORGANIZE ADDITIONAL PRIVATE VENTURE FUNDS.**

20          **(2) ANY ADDITIONAL PRIVATE VENTURE FUNDS CHARTERED AND**  
21 **ORGANIZED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION ARE SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS AND**  
22 **LIMITATIONS OF THIS SECTION ON THE MARYLAND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT**  
23 **VENTURE FUND UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, INCLUDING THE**  
24 **AGGREGATE EXPENSE AND INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS STATED IN SUBSECTIONS (C)**  
25 **THROUGH (F) OF THIS SECTION.**

26 5-203.

27          **(a) (1) IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT CLEARLY REQUIRES**  
28 **OTHERWISE, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.**

29          **(2) "BRANCH" MEANS A DEPOSIT-TAKING OFFICE OF A BANKING**  
30 **INSTITUTION IN MARYLAND OTHER THAN THE MAIN OFFICE AS DEFINED BY THE**  
31 **FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION.**

32          **(3) "DE NOVO BRANCH" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-1001 OF**  
33 **THIS TITLE WITH RESPECT TO A BANKING INSTITUTION.**



1 (i) \$5,000; plus

2 (ii) 1. 0.3 cents for each \$1,000 of managed assets held in a  
3 fiduciary capacity up to \$5,000,000,000;

4 2. 0.2 cents for each \$1,000 of managed assets held in a  
5 fiduciary capacity over \$5,000,000,000, but not more than \$20,000,000,000;

6 3. 0.1 cent for each \$1,000 of managed assets held in a  
7 fiduciary capacity over \$20,000,000,000 up to \$27,500,000,000;

8 4. 0.2 cents for each \$1,000 of nonmanaged and custodial  
9 assets held in a fiduciary capacity up to \$5,000,000,000; and

10 5. 0.1 cent for each \$1,000 of nonmanaged and custodial  
11 assets held in a fiduciary capacity over \$5,000,000,000 up to \$20,000,000,000.

12 (3) The assessments shall be based on assets stated in a banking  
13 institution's most recent financial report.

14 **(D) A WELL-CAPITALIZED BANKING INSTITUTION WITH A COMPOSITE**  
15 **CAMELS RATING OF 1 OR 2 MAY FILE WITH THE COMMISSIONER A REQUEST FOR**  
16 **AN ASSESSMENT OFFSET CREDIT OF:**

17 **(1) 12 CENTS FOR EACH \$1,000 OF DEPOSITS IN A DE NOVO BRANCH**  
18 **LOCATED IN A LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACT FOR THE FIRST 5 YEARS AFTER**  
19 **THE DATE THE BRANCH OPENED; OR**

20 **(2) 6 CENTS FOR EACH \$1,000 OF DEPOSITS IN A BRANCH LOCATED IN**  
21 **A LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACT NOT TO EXCEED THE DEPOSIT GROWTH CAP.**

22 **[(c)] (E)** Notwithstanding subsection **[(b)] (C)** of this section, for a banking  
23 institution with a composite CAMELS rating of 3, 4, or 5 for its most recent examination,  
24 the annual assessment imposed under this section shall be increased by an additional 25%.

25 **[(d)] (F)** A banking institution shall pay the assessment imposed under this  
26 section to the Commissioner on or before the April 15 after it is imposed.

27 **(G) THE COMMISSIONER MAY DESIGNATE A SUCCESSOR INDEX FOR:**

28 **(1) THE LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACT IF THE FEDERAL**  
29 **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS EXAMINATION COUNCIL TRACT INCOME LEVEL DATA IS**  
30 **NO LONGER PUBLISHED; OR**

31 **(2) THE DEPOSIT GROWTH CAP IF THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT**

1 **INSURANCE CORPORATION REPORT OF DOMESTIC OFFICE DEPOSITS IS NO LONGER**  
2 **PUBLISHED.**

3 6-712.

4 (a) (1) **IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT CLEARLY REQUIRES**  
5 **OTHERWISE, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.**

6 (2) **“DE NOVO BRANCH” MEANS A BRANCH OF A CREDIT UNION THAT**  
7 **WAS ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED BY THE CREDIT UNION IN MARYLAND.**

8 (3) **“DEPOSIT GROWTH CAP” MEANS THE YEAR-OVER-YEAR**  
9 **PERCENTAGE CHANGE OF TOTAL SHARES AND DEPOSITS REPORTED DECEMBER 31**  
10 **EACH YEAR BY FEDERALLY INSURED CREDIT UNIONS TO THE NATIONAL CREDIT**  
11 **UNION ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLISHED IN THE NATIONAL CREDIT UNION**  
12 **ADMINISTRATION CALL REPORT AGGREGATE FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**  
13 **REPORTS.**

14 (4) **“DEPOSITS” MEANS DEPOSITS ORIGINATED AND HOUSED AT A**  
15 **CREDIT UNION BRANCH LOCATED IN A LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACT AS**  
16 **REPORTED BY A CREDIT UNION TO THE COMMISSIONER EACH YEAR AS OF JUNE 30.**

17 (5) **“LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACT” HAS THE MEANING**  
18 **STATED IN § 5-203 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

19 (B) This section applies only to a credit union with assets of \$300,000 or greater.

20 [(b)] (C) (1) The Commissioner shall impose an annual assessment on each  
21 credit union as provided in this subsection to cover the expense of regulating credit unions.

22 (2) The Commissioner shall assess each credit union the sum of:

23 (i) \$1,000; and

24 (ii) 8 cents for each \$1,000 of the assets of the credit union over  
25 \$1,000,000.

26 (3) The assessment shall be based on assets stated in the credit union’s  
27 most recent financial report.

28 (4) **A WELL-CAPITALIZED CREDIT UNION WITH A COMPOSITE**  
29 **CAMELS RATING OF 1 OR 2 MAY FILE WITH THE COMMISSIONER A REQUEST FOR**  
30 **AN ASSESSMENT OFFSET CREDIT OF:**



1                   **(I) 12 CENTS FOR EACH \$1,000 OF DEPOSITS IN A DE NOVO**  
2 **BRANCH LOCATED IN A LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACT FOR THE FIRST 5 YEARS**  
3 **AFTER THE DATE THE DE NOVO BRANCH OPENED; OR**

4                   **(II) 6 CENTS FOR EACH \$1,000 OF DEPOSITS IN A BRANCH**  
5 **LOCATED IN A LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME TRACT NOT TO EXCEED THE DEPOSIT**  
6 **GROWTH CAP.**

7           **[(c)] (D)**       A credit union shall pay the assessment imposed under this section to  
8 the Commissioner on or before the March 1 after the assessment is imposed.

9           **(E) THE COMMISSIONER MAY DESIGNATE A SUCCESSOR INDEX FOR THE**  
10 **DEPOSIT GROWTH CAP IF THE NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION CALL**  
11 **REPORT AGGREGATE FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORTS IS NO LONGER**  
12 **PUBLISHED.**

13           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
14 1, 2023.