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BILL NO.: HB 500

TITLE: State Lottery - Unclaimed Prizes - Distribution to Local Boards of Education

SPONSOR: Delegate Walker

COMMITTEE: Ways and Means

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 20, 2020

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 500 – State Lottery - Unclaimed Prizes - Distribution to Local Boards of Education. This bill would require the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency (SLGCA) to remit unclaimed prize money held in the unclaimed prize fund to the Comptroller to be distributed to local Boards of Education.

This legislation furthers the fulfillment of the State's obligation to devote commercial gaming revenues to education funding. Currently, if a lottery winner has not claimed their prize within 182 days, that money is put in an unclaimed prize fund to be used for prize money in other lottery games. The County feels that this is neither a productive nor necessary use for these revenues. The State and local jurisdictions would be better served if these funds were devoted to helping Maryland establish a world class education system.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 500. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, 443-900-6582.