

SENATE BILL 616

B1, P1

(4lr1655)

ENROLLED BILL

— Budget and Taxation / Appropriations —

Introduced by **Senator Guzzone**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Historical Trust – Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance**
3 **Program – Funding**

4 FOR the purpose of altering prohibitions on grants from the Maryland Historical Trust;
5 authorizing the Governor to include a certain appropriation in the annual budget bill
6 to the ~~Maryland Historical~~ Trust to be used to provide grants to museums under the
7 Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program; and generally relating to
8 funding for the Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – State Finance and Procurement
11 Section 5A–352, 5A–353(a) and (b), 5A–354 ~~through 5A–356~~, 5A–355, and 5A–358
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber / conference committee amendments.



1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 2 Article – State Finance and Procurement
 3 Section 5A–356
 4 Annotated Code of Maryland
 5 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

6 BY adding to
 7 Article – State Finance and Procurement
 8 Section 5A–360
 9 Annotated Code of Maryland
 10 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

14 5A–352.

15 There is a Historical and Cultural Museum Assistance Program of the Trust.

16 5A–353.

17 (a) The purpose of the Program is to provide political subdivisions and nonprofit
 18 organizations with financial assistance for museums.

19 (b) The Program shall make grants from the MHT Grant Fund under § 5A–328
 20 of this subtitle to political subdivisions and nonprofit organizations for use by museums for:

21 (1) research related to collections, exhibits, or other educational activities;

22 (2) the care, conservation, interpretation, and documentation of collections;

23 (3) the planning, design, and construction of exhibits;

24 (4) educational programs and projects;

25 (5) the development of master plans for museums, including activities
 26 required to achieve accreditation by the American Association of Museums or another
 27 appropriate entity;

28 (6) minor structural modifications to existing museum facilities;

29 (7) the development of plans and specifications and the provision of
 30 architectural, engineering, or other special services directly related to the construction or
 31 rehabilitation of museum facilities; or

1 (8) operating support for any museum–related activity, including activities
2 described in items (1) through (7) of this subsection.

3 5A–354.

4 (a) There is a Museum Assistance Review Panel in the Program.

5 (b) (1) The Panel shall include as members:

6 (i) the President of the Senate or the President’s designee; and

7 (ii) the Speaker of the House of Delegates or the Speaker’s designee.

8 (2) The Secretary shall appoint the other members of the Panel.

9 (3) Of the members that the Secretary appoints:

10 (i) one shall be a representative of the Executive Branch with
11 functions related to the purposes of the Program; and

12 (ii) the others shall fairly represent museums eligible for assistance
13 under this part.

14 (c) (1) The Panel shall:

15 (i) advise the Secretary and the staff of the Trust regarding
16 Program policies and activities;

17 (ii) review applications for grants under the Program and
18 recommend approval or disapproval to the Secretary; and

19 (iii) seek the advice and recommendations of the State Archivist in
20 reviewing grant applications that relate in any part to the care and preservation of, or
21 access to, archival material.

22 (2) The Panel shall recommend approval of a grant only after a competitive
23 selection process.

24 5A–355.

25 (a) The Trust shall administer the Program and coordinate the Program with
26 federal, State, and private programs that complement or facilitate carrying out the
27 Program.

28 (b) The Trust shall:

29 (1) survey the locations, resources, and needs of museums in the State;

1 (2) provide technical and general advisory assistance to museums that
2 qualify or seek to qualify for grants under the Program; and

3 (3) encourage museums to develop long-range plans and to achieve
4 accreditation by the American Association of Museums or another appropriate entity that
5 accredits museums and helps them to meet professional standards.

6 5A-356.

7 The Trust may not make a grant to a museum that:

8 ~~(1) currently is receiving operating support from the Maryland State Arts~~
9 ~~Council;~~

10 ~~(2)~~ (1) is operated wholly or partly by the State; or

11 ~~(3)~~ (2) has not existed as a nonprofit organization for at least 3 years
12 before applying for the grant.

13 5A-358.

14 (a) The Department shall adopt regulations to carry out the Program, including:

15 (1) application and review procedures;

16 (2) procedures for adequate public notice of assistance available under the
17 Program; and

18 (3) selection standards that the Panel shall consider in reviewing
19 applications for grants.

20 (b) Selection standards under subsection (a)(3) of this section include:

21 (1) the relative merits of the project or activities within identified statewide
22 needs;

23 (2) the extent to which the appropriate political subdivision contributes to
24 support the project;

25 (3) the potential for the project to stimulate increased tourism, museum
26 attendance, or museum self-sufficiency; and

27 (4) other relevant factors, such as the extent to which the project helps
28 achieve equal geographic distribution of grant assistance throughout the State.

1 **5A-360.**

2 **FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE**
3 **GOVERNOR MAY INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF**
4 **\$5,000,000 TO THE TRUST TO FUND GRANTS UNDER THE PROGRAM.**

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
6 1, 2024.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.