

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1235
Appropriations

(Delegate McIntosh, *et al.*)

Budget and Taxation

Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2005 - Baltimore City - Baltimore Museum of Art

This bill repeals the requirement that certain funds appropriated to the Board of Trustees of the Baltimore Museum of Art, Inc. in the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2005 be used exclusively for improvements to the west wing of the Baltimore Museum of Art.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2007.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Expanding the authorized use of funds would not materially impact State finances or operations.

Local Effect: This bill would not affect the finances or operations of Baltimore City.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 445 of 2005 authorized up to \$437,000 in matching funds for the design, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the west wing of the Baltimore Museum of Art in Baltimore City. The grantee is required to convey an historic easement to the Maryland Historical Trust.

Background: The Baltimore Museum of Art is the State's oldest and largest art museum, annually hosting more than 250,000 visitors each year. The State has

appropriated \$4.9 million in capital funds to the museum since 1997, the majority of which assisted in the purchase of the Lucas Art Collection.

The Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2005 included two appropriations for the Baltimore Museum of Art: a \$337,000 appropriation intended for improvements to the cooling system, roof, and lighting; and a \$100,000 appropriation intended specifically for roof replacement. Both appropriations were for use in the west wing of the museum.

This bill would repeal the requirement that the \$337,000 appropriation be used exclusively in the west wing. Although the ice thermal storage unit system intended for replacement is attached to the west wing, the unit serves the entire building. This clarifying change would allow funds to be used for replacement of the cooling unit. The grantee advises that required matching funds have already been raised.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 801 (Senator Pugh) – Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services, Baltimore Museum of Art, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 8, 2007
ncs/ljm

Analysis by: Suzanne O. Potts

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510