

# HOUSE BILL 924

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CF SB 811

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By: **Delegates Bates, Frank, Jenkins, Schuh, Serafini, and Sossi**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2010

Assigned to: Appropriations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Personnel – Land Records Employees – Salaries and Benefits**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that the operating expenses for the salaries and benefits  
4 of the employees of the land records office of the clerk of the circuit court for  
5 each county and Baltimore City be paid from the General Fund of the State,  
6 instead of the Circuit Court Real Property Records Improvement Fund,  
7 beginning with a certain fiscal year; and generally relating to the funding for  
8 payment of the salaries and expenses of employees of local land records offices  
9 in the State.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
12 Section 13–603  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

18 13–603.

19 (a) The Fund consists of:

20 (1) Surcharges collected under § 13–604 of this subtitle; and

21 (2) Revenues from copies made on equipment bought through the  
22 Fund.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) The Fund is a nonlapsing revolving fund which is not subject to § 7-302  
2 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

3 (c) The Fund shall be used to pay:

4 (1) [The operating expenses of the land records offices of the clerks of  
5 the circuit courts and to repair, replace, improve, modernize, and update] **FOR THE**  
6 **REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, IMPROVEMENT, MODERNIZATION, AND UPDATING OF**  
7 office equipment and equipment related services in the land records office of the clerk  
8 of the circuit court for each county, as the Administrator considers appropriate, with  
9 advice from the oversight committee; and

10 (2) For fiscal years 2009 and 2010, for major information technology  
11 development projects of the Judiciary Department, as the Administrator considers  
12 appropriate.

13 (d) Expenditures under this section shall only be made pursuant to an  
14 appropriation approved by the General Assembly in the annual State budget prior to  
15 the expenditure or obligation of funds.

16 (e) The Fund shall be subject to an audit by the Office of Legislative Audits  
17 as provided for in § 2-1220 of the State Government Article.

18 (f) Disbursements from the Fund shall supplement and may not be a  
19 substitute for any funds designated in the State budget for office equipment and  
20 services in the land records office of the clerk of the circuit court for each county.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, as of July 1, 2010, and  
22 for each fiscal year thereafter, the operating expenses for the salaries and benefits of  
23 the employees of the land records office of the clerk of the circuit court for each county  
24 and Baltimore City shall be paid from the General Fund of the State.

25 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 July 1, 2010.