

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2010 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 138 (Senator Della)  
Budget and Taxation

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**Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2006 - Baltimore City - Peale  
Museum**

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This bill changes the grantee of the Peale Museum project from the Board of Directors of the Baltimore City Historical Society, Inc. to the Board of Directors of the Baltimore Historical Center at the Peale, Inc. The bill also extends the deadline to June 1, 2012, for the grantee to secure matching funds as required by the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2006.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2010.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill does not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not directly affect the finances or operations of Baltimore City.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Chapter 46 of 2006 authorizes up to \$250,000 in matching funds for the planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Peale Museum in Baltimore City. The grantee is required to grant and convey an historic easement to the Maryland Historical Trust as a condition of award. Originally, the grantee was required to present evidence of a matching fund by June 1, 2008. Chapter 219 of 2008 extended the grantee deadline to present evidence of a matching

fund to June 1, 2010. No part of the grantee's matching fund may consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or funds expended prior to June 1, 2006.

**Background:** The Peale Museum, designated a National Historic Landmark, was designed in 1813 as one of the first public museums. Since the closing of the museum in 1829, the building has served a variety of municipal and educational purposes but is currently vacant. The Baltimore City Historical Society has been working with the City of Baltimore to rehabilitate the building for public use.

The change of grantee results from the creation of a new nonprofit organization – the Baltimore History Center at the Peale, Inc. – to administer the grant and undertake the reconstruction of the Peale Museum. Before this new nonprofit's creation, three organizations were directly involved with the project. The grantee advises that this arrangement made fundraising confusing and difficult.

The grantee advises that the matching fund deadline extension is necessary because of fundraising delays due to difficulty securing the Peale Museum lease from the City of Baltimore. According to the grantee, matching funds totaling more than half of the combined \$250,000 in State grants have been raised and the Peale Museum lease should be finalized within the year.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Baltimore History Center at the Peale, Inc; Baltimore City; Department of General Services; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 12, 2010  
mam/ljm

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