HOUSE BILL 836

D1 1lr2382 HB 924/10 - APP By: Delegate Bates Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2011 Assigned to: Appropriations A BILL ENTITLED AN ACT concerning State Personnel - Land Records Employees - Salaries and Benefits FOR the purpose of requiring that the operating expenses for the salaries and benefits of the employees of the land records office of the clerk of the circuit court for each county and Baltimore City be paid from the General Fund of the State instead of the Circuit Court Real Property Records Improvement Fund, beginning with a certain fiscal year; and generally relating to the funding for payment of the salaries and expenses of employees of local land records offices in the State. BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings Section 13-603 Annotated Code of Maryland (2006 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement) SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings 13-603. The Fund consists of: (a) (1) Surcharges collected under § 13–604 of this subtitle; and **(2)** Revenues from copies made on equipment bought through the

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- 1 (b) The Fund is a nonlapsing revolving fund which is not subject to § 7–302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.
 - (c) The Fund shall be used to pay:
 - (1) [The operating expenses of the land records offices of the clerks of the circuit courts and to repair, replace, improve, modernize, and update] FOR THE REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, IMPROVEMENT, MODERNIZATION, AND UPDATING OF office equipment and equipment related services in the land records office of the clerk of the circuit court for each county, as the Administrator considers appropriate, with advice from the oversight committee; and
- 10 (2) For major information technology development projects of the 11 Judiciary Department, as the Administrator considers appropriate.
- 12 (d) Expenditures under this section shall only be made pursuant to an appropriation approved by the General Assembly in the annual State budget prior to the expenditure or obligation of funds.
- 15 (e) The Fund shall be subject to an audit by the Office of Legislative Audits 16 as provided for in § 2–1220 of the State Government Article.
- 17 (f) Disbursements from the Fund shall supplement and may not be a 18 substitute for any funds designated in the State budget for office equipment and 19 services in the land records office of the clerk of the circuit court for each county.
 - SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, as of July 1, 2011, and for each fiscal year thereafter, the operating expenses for the salaries and benefits of the employees of the land records office of the clerk of the circuit court for each county and Baltimore City shall be paid from the General Fund of the State.
- SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2011.