

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1419
Appropriations

(Howard County Delegation)

Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2011 - Linwood Center

This bill expands the authorized use of two grants to the Board of Directors of the Linwood Center, Inc. as specified in the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2011 to include the construction and capital equipping of a new school building at the Linwood Center, located in Ellicott City. The bill also extends the deadline by one year – from June 1, 2013, to June 1, 2014 – for the grantee to present evidence that matching funds will be provided.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2013.

Fiscal Summary

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

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect the finances or operations of Howard County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 396 of 2011 (HB 71) authorized a total of up to \$500,000 in matching funds to the Board of Directors of the Linwood Center, Inc. for the planning and design of a new school building at the Linwood Center, located in Ellicott City. Matching funds may not consist of in-kind contributions, real property, or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2011 effective date of Chapter 396. The grantee has until June 1, 2013, to *present evidence* that matching funds will be provided; however, the

proceeds of the loans must be expended or encumbered by the Board of Public Works by December 1, 2014. If any funds remain unexpended or unencumbered after December 1, 2014, the amount of the unexpended or unencumbered authorizations must be canceled. Chapter 396 authorized two separate grants totaling \$500,000 for this project. The bill's changes apply to both grants.

Chapter 444 of 2012 (SB 151) authorized a total of up to \$500,000 in matching funds to the Board of Directors of the Linwood Center, Inc. for the planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of a new school building at the Linwood Center, located in Ellicott City. Matching funds may not consist of in-kind contributions, real property, or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2012 effective date of Chapter 444. The grantee has until June 1, 2014, to present evidence that the matching funds will be provided. If any funds remain unexpended or unencumbered after December 1, 2015, the amount of the unexpended or unencumbered authorizations must be canceled.

Chapter 483 of 2010 (SB 142) authorized up to \$500,000 in matching funds to the Board of Directors of the Linwood Center, Inc. for the planning and design of a new school building at the Linwood Center, located in Ellicott City. Matching funds may consist of real property, but they may not consist of in-kind contributions or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2010 effective date of Chapter 483. The grantee had until June 1, 2012, to present evidence that the matching fund would be provided. If any funds remained unexpended or unencumbered after June 1, 2012, the amount of the unexpended or unencumbered authorizations had to be canceled.

Chapter 485 of 2009 (HB 102) authorized up to \$150,000 in matching funds to the Board of Directors of the Linwood Center, Inc. for the planning and design of a new school building at the Linwood Center, located in Ellicott City. Matching funds may consist of real property, but they may not consist of in-kind contributions or funds expended prior to the June 1, 2011 effective date. The grantee had until June 1, 2011, to present evidence that the matching fund would be provided. If any funds remained unexpended or unencumbered after June 1, 2011, the amount of the unexpended or unencumbered authorizations had to be canceled.

Background: In operation since 1955, the Linwood Center, Inc., a nonprofit organization, provides school and residential services for children with autism and supported employment and community-based residential services for adults with autism. Linwood is one of the very few autism-specific programs in the United States and one of only two programs in Maryland that provides combined educational and residential programs under one “service umbrella.” These programs are approved by the Maryland State Department of Education and licensed by the Department of Human Resources and the Developmental Disabilities Administration. Linwood also provides a full range of autism-specific “lifespan services,” providing program continuity from childhood into

adulthood. Students from jurisdictions throughout the State succeed in Linwood's school program and transition to become working adults, supported in Linwood-owned and -operated community-based residences and work sites.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 15, 2013
mc/ljm

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