

HOUSE BILL 659

O1, C8

8lr0837
CF 8lr3563

By: **Delegates Valentino–Smith, M. Washington, D. Barnes, Barron, Healey, Hettleman, Krimm, Lierman, Patterson, Pena–Melynk, Proctor, and Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2018

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Community Development – Community Action Agencies – Continuity of**
3 **Funding**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Community Action Agency Services Continuity
5 Program in the Department of Housing and Community Development; providing for
6 the purpose of the Program; requiring the Program to provide funding for previously
7 funded community action agencies under certain circumstances; requiring the
8 Secretary of Housing and Community Development to adopt certain regulations;
9 requiring the Secretary to repeal certain regulations under certain circumstances;
10 defining certain terms; and generally relating to community action agencies.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Housing and Community Development
13 Section 8–101(a) and (b)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2006 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Housing and Community Development
18 Section 8–108 and 8–109
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2006 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

21 BY adding to
22 Article – Housing and Community Development
23 Section 8–110
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2006 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Housing and Community Development**

4 8–101.

5 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

6 (b) “Community action agency” means:

7 (1) a governmental unit in a political subdivision;

8 (2) a governmental unit created by a combination of political subdivisions;

9 (3) an agency designated as a community action agency under the
10 Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 as amended by the Community Services Block Grant
11 Program, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9901 through 9926; or

12 (4) a private, nonprofit organization that meets the requirements for
13 designation as a community action agency.

14 8–108.

15 **(A) [The] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE** Secretary may
16 provide financial assistance to designated community action agencies in accordance with
17 distribution standards set by regulation.

18 **(B) THE SECRETARY SHALL PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE**
19 **COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY SERVICES CONTINUITY PROGRAM TO ANY ELIGIBLE**
20 **COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY AS PROVIDED IN § 8–110 OF THIS TITLE.**

21 8–109.

22 (a) The Secretary shall adopt regulations to carry out this title.

23 (b) **[The] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, THE** regulations
24 shall include provisions that:

25 (1) ensure that each designated community action agency receives at least
26 as much federal money as the community action agency received in federal fiscal year 1994,
27 unless the federal funding is reduced; and

28 (2) allocate remaining federal money to those community action agencies
29 that received a lesser share of program federal money in federal fiscal year 1994 than they
30 would have received based on the number of persons in the local jurisdiction with household
31 income below the poverty line set by the federal Office of Management and Budget as a

1 percentage of the number of persons in the State with household income below that line.

2 (c) (1) By regulation, the Secretary shall adopt standards for distributing
3 financial assistance under § 8–108 of this [subtitle] TITLE.

4 (2) The distribution standards shall include the percentage of persons in
5 poverty, based on the most current census population information.

6 (3) The distribution standards may address specific problems in rural
7 communities, minimum financing necessary to maintain program operations, and the
8 potential for additional local and private financing.

9 (D) (1) **BY REGULATION, THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT STANDARDS FOR
10 CARRYING OUT THE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY SERVICES CONTINUITY
11 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER § 8–110 OF THIS TITLE.**

12 (2) **IF THERE IS A TERMINATION OF FEDERAL FUNDING, THE
13 SECRETARY SHALL REPEAL THE REGULATIONS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)
14 OF THIS SECTION.**

15 **8–110.**

16 (A) (1) **IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
17 INDICATED.**

18 (2) **“PREVIOUSLY FUNDED COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY” MEANS A
19 COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY THAT:**

20 (I) **WAS FUNDED UNDER THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK
21 GRANT PROGRAM AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2016; AND**

22 (II) **IS NO LONGER ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL FUNDING AS A
23 RESULT OF THE TERMINATION OF THE FEDERAL FUNDING.**

24 (3) **“PROGRAM” MEANS THE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY SERVICES
25 CONTINUITY PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

26 (B) **THERE IS A COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY SERVICES CONTINUITY
27 PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.**

28 (C) **THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO ENSURE THE CONTINUITY OF
29 SERVICES PROVIDED BY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES IN THE STATE.**

30 (D) **THE PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE FUNDING TO PREVIOUSLY FUNDED**

1 COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES FOR USE IN ANY ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED UNDER
2 THIS TITLE.

3 (E) FUNDING USED TO SUPPORT PREVIOUSLY FUNDED COMMUNITY ACTION
4 AGENCIES UNDER THE PROGRAM SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO ANY FUNDING APPLIED
5 BY THE DEPARTMENT BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2016, TO THE MAINTENANCE OF
6 EFFORT REQUIREMENT FOR FEDERAL FUNDING UNDER THE COMMUNITY SERVICES
7 BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2018.