A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Maryland People’s Fund – Establishment

FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland People’s Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring the State Treasurer to administer the Fund; requiring the State Treasurer to hold the Fund and the Comptroller to account for the Fund; specifying the contents of the Fund; providing for the investment of money in and expenditures from the Fund; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; exempting the Fund from a certain provision of law requiring interest earnings on State money to accrue to the General Fund of the State; requiring the Comptroller to distribute a certain percentage of Maryland estate tax revenue to the Fund; making conforming changes; defining a certain term; providing for a delayed effective date; and generally relating to the Maryland People’s Fund.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – State Finance and Procurement
Section 6–226(a)(2)(i) Annotated Code of Maryland
(2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – State Finance and Procurement
Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)122. and 123. Annotated Code of Maryland
(2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – State Finance and Procurement
Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)124. Annotated Code of Maryland
(2015 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
BY adding to

Article – State Government
Section 5–108
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Tax – General
Section 2–801
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2016 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – State Finance and Procurement

6–226.

(a) (2) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General Fund of the State.

(ii) The provisions of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph do not apply to the following funds:

122. the Racing and Community Development Financing Fund;
[and]
123. the Racing and Community Development Facilities Fund;
AND

124. THE MARYLAND PEOPLE’S FUND.

Article – State Government

5–108.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “FUND” MEANS THE MARYLAND PEOPLE’S FUND.

(B) THERE IS A MARYLAND PEOPLE’S FUND.

(C) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.
(D)  (1) The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7–302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

(2) The State Treasurer shall hold the Fund separately, and the Comptroller shall account for the Fund.

(E) The Fund consists of:

(1) revenue distributed to the Fund under § 2–801 of the Tax–General Article;

(2) money appropriated in the State budget for the Fund;

(3) interest earnings of the Fund; and

(4) any other money from any other source accepted for the benefit of the Fund.

(F) The Fund may not be used for administrative expenses.

(G) (1) The State Treasurer shall invest the money of the Fund in the same manner as other State money may be invested.

(2) Any interest earnings of the Fund shall be credited to the Fund.

(H) Expenditures from the Fund may be made only in accordance with the State budget.

Article – Tax – General

2–801.

(A) The Comptroller shall distribute 25% of the Maryland estate tax revenue to the Maryland People’s Fund established under § 5–108 of the State Government Article.

(B) [The] After making the distribution required under subsection (A) of this section, the Comptroller shall distribute the remaining Maryland estate tax revenue to the General Fund of the State.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect January 1, 2022.