

SENATE BILL 14

F2, M3

(2lr0340)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Appropriations* —

Introduced by **Senator Elfreth**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Sustainable Maryland Program and Fund – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Sustainable Maryland Program; establishing the
4 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to expand and
5 enhance Sustainable Maryland's promotion and support of communities in Maryland
6 in the effort to realize environmental, economic, and social sustainability; requiring
7 interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; and generally relating to
8 the Sustainable Maryland Program and Fund.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Education

11 Section 13–105

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
2 Article – State Finance and Procurement
3 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i)
4 Annotated Code of Maryland
5 (2021 Replacement Volume)

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – State Finance and Procurement
8 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)144. and 145.
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2021 Replacement Volume)

11 BY adding to
12 Article – State Finance and Procurement
13 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)146.
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2021 Replacement Volume)

16 Preamble

17 WHEREAS, Ensuring that Maryland communities are sustainable and
18 environmentally responsible, and use resources efficiently to ensure a prosperous future, is
19 of the utmost importance to our citizens; and

20 WHEREAS, Sustainable Maryland, a program of the Environmental Finance Center
21 at the University of Maryland, College Park Campus, supports the mission and priorities
22 of State agencies by coordinating access to the full suite of State programs and resources
23 that can support communities to enhance and expand local economies, infrastructure, and
24 stewardship; and

25 WHEREAS, Sustainable Maryland helps Maryland communities to choose a
26 direction for their greening efforts, complete their chosen actions with guidance from
27 program tools, trainings, and other resources, and gain recognition for their
28 accomplishments; and

29 WHEREAS, Sustainable Maryland acts as an extension arm of the School of
30 Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; and

31 WHEREAS, Maryland’s Built Environment School serves the University of
32 Maryland’s land grant mission as a conduit for sharing and applying the research,
33 education, and technical resources of the University with communities throughout the
34 State; and

35 WHEREAS, Sustainable Maryland develops the next generation of leaders by
36 offering students paid and volunteer opportunities to apply their knowledge, research, and
37 skills to real–world local issues; now, therefore,

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

3 **Article – Education**

4 **13-105.**

5 ~~(A) IN THIS SECTION, “FUND” MEANS THE SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND~~
6 ~~PROGRAM FUND.~~

7 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
8 INDICATED.

9 (2) “FUND” MEANS THE SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND PROGRAM FUND.

10 (3) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND PROGRAM.

11 (B) (1) THERE IS A SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND PROGRAM.

12 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE RESEARCH,
13 ACCESS TO RESOURCES, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS
14 FOR MUNICIPALITIES TO INCREASE SUSTAINABILITY, PROTECT ENVIRONMENTAL
15 WELL-BEING, AND ENSURE ECONOMIC VITALITY.

16 (3) IN CARRYING OUT THE POWERS AND DUTIES GRANTED UNDER
17 THIS SECTION, THE PROGRAM SHALL WORK IN CONSULTATION AND
18 COLLABORATION WITH INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE STATE,
19 INCLUDING:

20 (I) THE ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE CENTER AT THE
21 UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND;

22 (II) THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING, AND
23 PRESERVATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND; AND

24 (III) THE MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE.

25 ~~(B)~~ (C) **THERE IS A SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND PROGRAM FUND.**

26 ~~(C)~~ (D) **THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO EXPAND AND ENHANCE**
27 **SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND’S PROMOTION AND SUPPORT OF COMMUNITIES IN THE**
28 **STATE IN THE EFFORT TO REALIZE ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL**
29 **SUSTAINABILITY.**

1 ~~(D)~~ (E) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE
2 CENTER SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

3 ~~(E)~~ (F) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT
4 SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

5 (2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY,
6 AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

7 ~~(F)~~ (G) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

8 (1) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND;

9 (2) INTEREST EARNINGS; AND

10 (3) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR
11 THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.

12 ~~(G)~~ (H) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR:

13 (1) OFFERING TRAINING AND EDUCATION TO ENSURE COMMUNITIES
14 ARE WELL INFORMED ON ADVANCES IN SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE, POLICY, AND
15 PRACTICE;

16 (2) OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT TO BUILD LOCAL CAPACITY AND
17 INSTITUTIONALIZE SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS WITHIN COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING:

18 (I) AN ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE;

19 (II) A PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING EXCHANGE; AND

20 (III) SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND GREEN TEAM ROADSHOWS;

21 (3) DEVELOPING AND EXPANDING THE SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND
22 PROGRAM;

23 (4) IMPROVING GREEN COMMUNITY CERTIFICATION TIERS WITH NEW
24 STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS;

25 (5) PROVIDING ANNUAL COMMUNITY INNOVATION SMALL GRANTS TO
26 HELP COMMUNITIES PILOT NEW INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES;

27 (6) RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY EFFORTS TOWARD ACHIEVING GREEN
28 CERTIFICATION; AND

1 (7) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES RELATED TO THE SUSTAINABLE
2 MARYLAND PROGRAM.

3 ~~(H)~~ (I) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE
4 FUND IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.

5 (2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO
6 THE FUND.

7 ~~(I)~~ (J) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN
8 ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE BUDGET.

9 ~~(J)~~ (K) MONEY EXPENDED FROM THE FUND FOR THE SUSTAINABLE
10 MARYLAND PROGRAM IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND IS NOT INTENDED TO TAKE THE
11 PLACE OF FUNDING THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE
12 SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND PROGRAM.

13 ~~(K)~~ (L) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER,
14 THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION
15 OF ~~\$750,000~~ \$500,000 TO THE FUND.

16 Article – State Finance and Procurement

17 6–226.

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

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

26 144. the Health Equity Resource Community Reserve Fund;

27 [and]

28 145. the Access to Counsel in Evictions Special Fund; AND

29 146. THE SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND PROGRAM FUND.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
31 1, 2022.