

SENATE BILL 847

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By: **Senators Edwards, Bailey, Corderman, Elfreth, King, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2022

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Libraries – Capital Projects – State Share Adjustments**

3 FOR the purpose of providing for a certain adjustment to the State share percentage for a
4 county library capital project under certain circumstances; and generally relating to
5 the State grant program for county public library capital projects.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

7 Article – Education

8 Section 23–509

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

12 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article – Education**

14 23–509.

15 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

16 (2) “Capital project” means the:

17 (i) Acquisition of land or buildings for a county library; or

18 (ii) Construction or improvement of a county library.

19 (3) “Construction or improvement” means planning, design, engineering,
20 alteration, construction, reconstruction, enlargement, expansion, extension, improvement,
21 replacement, rehabilitation, renovation, upgrading, repair, or capital equipping.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



3 (5) "State Library Agency" means the Maryland State Library Agency.

(2) The grant program is in addition to the county-State minimum library program established under § 23-502 of this subtitle.

8 (c) (1) The State Library Agency shall develop and administer a grant
9 program to assist in the funding of county library capital projects.

10 (2) The purpose of the grant program is to:

11 (i) Provide a uniform and objective analysis of proposed capital
12 projects; and

13 (ii) Support projects that address the library needs in the State.

14 (3) Grants under the program:

15 (i) Require a matching fund from any combination of county,
16 municipal, or private sources; and

17 (ii) May not be for an amount less than \$20,000.

21 (2) In order to apply for a capital project grant, a county public library
22 system shall have:

26 (ii) A master plan that includes a description of the capital project
27 approved by the applicant's governing body.

28 (3) An application shall include:

29 (i) A description of the scope and purpose of the project;

1 (ii) A building plan that includes the estimated total cost of the
2 project; and

3 (iii) Any other information required by the State Library Agency.

(4) A county public library system may not apply for more than three capital project grants in a fiscal year.

13 (i) The public necessity and urgency of a project;;

14 (ii) The need for additional sources of funding for a project;

15 (iii) The estimated cost and timeliness of executing a project;

16 (iv) The viability of matching funds for a project; and

17 (v) Geographic diversity.

18 (4) On or before November 1 of each year, the State Library Board shall:

19 (i) Approve capital projects for funding in the State budget for the
20 next fiscal year; and

21 (ii) Forward the list of approved capital projects to the Department
22 of Budget and Management.

(5) 1. For each of fiscal years 2008 through 2021, the Governor shall include in the annual operating or capital budget submission \$5,000,000 for county library capital projects.

29 (f) (1) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS
30 SUBSECTION, THE State share percentage for a county library capital project approved
31 under this section shall be calculated by dividing the State share of the minimum program

1 for a county calculated under § 23–505(b) of this subtitle by the library program amount
2 for a county calculated under § 23–503(b) of this subtitle, and multiplying this quotient by
3 1.25.

4 (2) (i) The minimum State share of a county library capital project is
5 50%.

6 (ii) The maximum State share of a county library capital project is
7 90%.

8 **(3) (I) A COUNTY IS ELIGIBLE FOR AN ADJUSTMENT TO THE STATE**
9 **SHARE PERCENTAGE FOR A COUNTY LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECT IF:**

10 1. A COUNTY'S MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS IN THE
11 BOTTOM QUARTILE IN THE STATE; AND

12 2. THE STATE SHARE PERCENTAGE FOR A COUNTY
13 LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECT IS 50%.

14 (II) 1. THE LOCAL SHARE OF A COUNTY LIBRARY CAPITAL
15 PROJECT SHALL BE REDUCED TO EQUAL THE LOCAL SHARE OF THE ADJACENT
16 COUNTY THAT IS LESS THAN 50% BUT CLOSEST TO 50%.

17 2. THE STATE SHARE OF A COUNTY LIBRARY CAPITAL
18 PROJECT IN THE ELIGIBLE COUNTY SHALL BE INCREASED BY A PERCENTAGE THAT
19 IS EQUAL TO THE REDUCTION UNDER SUBSUBPARAGRAPH 1 OF THIS
20 SUBPARAGRAPH.

21 (g) The State Library Board shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with
22 § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly, on or before October 1 of
23 each year, on State grants awarded for county public library capital projects for the prior
24 fiscal year.

25 (h) The State Library Board shall adopt regulations to implement the grant
26 program established under this section.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
28 1, 2022.