

SENATE BILL 501

F5

3lr2580

By: **Senator M. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2023

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Libraries – Aging Infrastructure Capital Improvement Grant Program**
3 **– Established**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Aging Infrastructure Capital Improvement Grant
5 Program to be administered by the State Library Agency; providing that the funding
6 for the Program is in addition to certain other funding; requiring the Governor to
7 include a certain amount of funding in the annual budget bill for the Program in
8 certain fiscal years; and generally relating to the Aging Infrastructure Capital
9 Improvement Grant Program.

10 BY adding to
11 Article – Education
12 Section 23–510
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 **23–510.**

19 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
20 **INDICATED.**

21 **(2) “CAPITAL PROJECT” MEANS:**

22 **(I) THE ACQUISITION OF LAND OR BUILDINGS FOR A COUNTY**
23 **LIBRARY; AND**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (II) THE CONSTRUCTION OR IMPROVEMENT OF A COUNTY
2 LIBRARY.

3 (3) “CONSTRUCTION OR IMPROVEMENT” MEANS PLANNING, DESIGN,
4 ENGINEERING, ALTERATION, CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, ENLARGEMENT,
5 EXPANSION, EXTENSION, IMPROVEMENT, REPLACEMENT, REHABILITATION,
6 RENOVATION, UPGRADING, REPAIR, OR CAPITAL EQUIPPING.

7 (4) “COUNTY LIBRARY” MEANS A LIBRARY IN A COUNTY PUBLIC
8 LIBRARY SYSTEM IN THE STATE.

9 (5) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE AGING INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL
10 IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM.

11 (B) (1) THERE IS AN AGING INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
12 GRANT PROGRAM FOR COUNTY LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS IN THE STATE
13 LIBRARY AGENCY.

14 (2) THE PROGRAM IS IN ADDITION TO THE COUNTY–STATE MINIMUM
15 LIBRARY PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER § 23–502 OF THIS SUBTITLE AND THE
16 STATE GRANT PROGRAM FOR COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS IN THE
17 STATE LIBRARY AGENCY ESTABLISHED UNDER § 23–509 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

18 (C) (1) THE STATE LIBRARY AGENCY SHALL DEVELOP AND ADMINISTER
19 THE PROGRAM TO ASSIST IN THE FUNDING OF COUNTY LIBRARY CAPITAL
20 PROJECTS.

21 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR
22 COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEMS TO ADDRESS THE AGING INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL
23 NEEDS IDENTIFIED IN THE 2022 STATEWIDE FACILITIES NEEDS ASSESSMENT.

24 (3) THE PROGRAM SHALL ADDRESS THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE
25 AGING INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUPPORT THE REIMAGINING OF LIBRARY SPACES TO
26 ADVANCE EQUITABLE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND
27 TO ENABLE PATRONS TO:

28 (I) GAIN DIGITAL SKILLS;

29 (II) ACCESS NEW TECHNOLOGIES; AND

30 (III) PURSUE VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.

1 **(4) GRANTS UNDER THE PROGRAM:**

2 **(I) REQUIRE A 20% MATCHING FUND FROM ANY COMBINATION**
3 **OF COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, OR PRIVATE SOURCES; AND**

4 **(II) MAY NOT BE FOR AN AMOUNT LESS THAN \$500,000.**

5 **(D) (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 15 EACH YEAR, A COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**
6 **SYSTEM MAY SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE STATE LIBRARY AGENCY TO RECEIVE**
7 **GRANTS FOR COUNTY LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.**

8 **(2) TO APPLY FOR A CAPITAL PROJECT GRANT, A COUNTY PUBLIC**
9 **LIBRARY SYSTEM SHALL HAVE:**

10 **(I) A COUNTYWIDE LIBRARY PLAN THAT INCLUDES A MISSION**
11 **STATEMENT, NEEDS STATEMENT, AND MULTIYEAR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES ON FILE**
12 **WITH THE STATE LIBRARY AGENCY; AND**

13 **(II) A MASTER PLAN THAT INCLUDES A DESCRIPTION OF THE**
14 **CAPITAL PROJECT APPROVED BY THE APPLICANT'S GOVERNING BODY.**

15 **(3) AN APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE:**

16 **(I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF THE**
17 **PROJECT;**

18 **(II) A BUILDING PLAN THAT INCLUDES THE ESTIMATED TOTAL**
19 **COST OF THE PROJECT; AND**

20 **(III) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE STATE**
21 **LIBRARY AGENCY.**

22 **(4) A COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM MAY NOT APPLY FOR MORE**
23 **THAN TWO CAPITAL PROJECT GRANTS IN A FISCAL YEAR.**

24 **(E) (1) THE STATE LIBRARY AGENCY SHALL REVIEW GRANT**
25 **APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS**
26 **SECTION.**

27 **(2) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE STATE LIBRARY**
28 **AGENCY SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD**
29 **REGARDING CAPITAL PROJECT GRANTS FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.**

1 **(3) IN MAKING ITS RECOMMENDATIONS, THE STATE LIBRARY**
2 **AGENCY SHALL CONSIDER:**

3 **(I) PRIORITIZING RURAL AND DIGITALLY UNDERSERVED**
4 **AREAS;**

5 **(II) AGE AND CONDITION OF THE FACILITY;**

6 **(III) THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR A**
7 **PROJECT;**

8 **(IV) THE ESTIMATED COST AND TIMELINESS OF EXECUTING A**
9 **PROJECT;**

10 **(V) THE FACILITY NEED IN A COUNTY FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

11 **1. ALTERATIONS TO COMPLY WITH THE FEDERAL**
12 **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT;**

13 **2. REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF ROOF AND HVAC**
14 **SYSTEMS;**

15 **3. TECHNOLOGICAL UPGRADES TO PROVIDE 21ST**
16 **CENTURY LIBRARY SERVICES;**

17 **4. GENERAL RENOVATION OF EXISTING FACILITIES;**
18 **AND**

19 **5. REPLACEMENT OF OBSOLETE OR UNSAFE BUILDINGS**
20 **WITH NEW STRUCTURES; AND**

21 **(VI) GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY.**

22 **(4) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE STATE LIBRARY**
23 **BOARD SHALL:**

24 **(I) APPROVE CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR FUNDING IN THE STATE**
25 **BUDGET FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR; AND**

26 **(II) FORWARD THE LIST OF APPROVED CAPITAL PROJECTS TO**
27 **THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT.**

28 **(5) FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2024 THROUGH 2029, THE**

1 GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL OPERATING OR CAPITAL BUDGET AN
2 APPROPRIATION OF \$40,000,000 FOR COUNTY LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS.

3 (F) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD
4 SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE
5 STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON STATE GRANTS
6 AWARDED FOR COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR THE PRIOR
7 FISCAL YEAR.

8 (G) THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO
9 IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
11 1, 2023. It shall remain effective for a period of 6 years and, at the end of June 30, 2029,
12 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
13 of no further force and effect.