

# SENATE BILL 562

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By: **Senator Guzzone**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Small Food Banks Grant Program – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Small Food Banks Grant Program in the  
4 Department of Human Services; and generally relating to the Maryland Small Food  
5 Banks Grant Program.

6 BY adding to

7 Article – Human Services

8 Section 6–901 through 6–905 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 9. Maryland  
9 Small Food Banks Grant Program”

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Human Services**

15 **SUBTITLE 9. MARYLAND SMALL FOOD BANKS GRANT PROGRAM.**

16 **6–901.**

17 **IN THIS SUBTITLE, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE MARYLAND SMALL FOOD BANKS**  
18 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

19 **6–902.**

20 **THERE IS A MARYLAND SMALL FOOD BANKS GRANT PROGRAM IN THE**  
21 **DEPARTMENT.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **6-903.**

2 **THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO SMALL FOOD**  
3 **BANKS IN THE STATE.**

4 **6-904.**

5 **IN DETERMINING WHICH ENTITIES TO SUPPORT UNDER THE PROGRAM, THE**  
6 **DEPARTMENT SHALL PRIORITIZE ENTITIES THAT:**

7 **(1) ARE NONPROFIT ENTITIES REGISTERED IN THE STATE;**

8 **(2) CONDUCT ASSESSMENTS, WITH ONGOING DATA COLLECTION TO**  
9 **TRACK SUCCESS; AND**

10 **(3) CAN DEMONSTRATE:**

11 **(I) STRONG COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS,**  
12 **BOTH PRESENTLY AND HISTORICALLY;**

13 **(II) CONSISTENT STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, INCLUDING**  
14 **ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT, BUSINESSES, SOCIAL SERVICES,**  
15 **AGENCIES, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS;**

16 **(III) SUSTAINABILITY, WITH DIVERSE FUNDING STREAMS SO AS**  
17 **NOT TO BE RELIANT ON ONE SOURCE;**

18 **(IV) INNOVATION THROUGH ENGAGEMENT WITH**  
19 **NONTRADITIONAL PARTNERS; AND**

20 **(V) A FOCUS ON UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES WITH A**  
21 **COMMITMENT TO EQUITY.**

22 **6-905.**

23 **FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE GOVERNOR MAY INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL**  
24 **BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION NOT EXCEEDING \$3,000,000 TO THE PROGRAM.**

25 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**  
26 **October 1, 2023.**