M1		4lr0306		
	(PRE-FILED)	CF SB 259		
By:	Chair, Environment and Transporta	ation Committee and Chair,		
	Appropriations Committee (By Reque	est – Departmental – Natural		
	Resources)			
Requested: September 15, 2023				
Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024				
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Appropriations				

# A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

# 2 Natural Resources – Maryland State Parks – Funds and Plan Alterations

3 FOR the purpose of extending the date by which the Park System Critical Maintenance 4 Fund must be expended; authorizing the Park System Capital Improvements and Acquisition Fund to be used for State projects on lands managed by the Department  $\mathbf{5}$ 6 of Natural Resources for public purposes; altering the allowable uses of funds for the 7 initial allocation to the Park System Capital Improvements and Acquisition Fund; 8 authorizing the Great Maryland Outdoors Fund to be used for promoting outdoor 9 environmental education in the State; extending the date by which the Department 10 is required to develop and publish a Comprehensive Long–Range Strategic Plan; and 11 generally relating to the State park system.

- 12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
- 13 Article Natural Resources
- 14 Section 5–220(a) through (c) and (g), 5–221(a) and (b), and 5–222(a) and (b)
- 15 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 16 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
- 17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 18 Article Natural Resources
- 19 Section 5–220(k), 5–221(c), (g), (j), and (l), 5–222(c), (g), and (k), and 5–2A–05(a)
- 20 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 21 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
- SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
  That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 24

# Article – Natural Resources

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



 $\mathbf{2}$ 

1 5-220.

2 (a) In this section, "Fund" means the Park System Critical Maintenance Fund.

3 (b) There is a Park System Critical Maintenance Fund.

4 (c) The purpose of the Fund is to provide funding for completing State projects 5 that address critical maintenance concerns on lands managed by the Department for public 6 purposes.

7 (g) The Fund may be used only for State park projects that address critical 8 maintenance concerns on lands managed by the Department for public purposes.

9 (k) (1) For fiscal year 2024 only, the Governor shall include in the annual 10 budget bill a General Fund appropriation in the amount of \$70,000,000 to the Fund for 11 State projects that address critical maintenance concerns on lands managed by the 12 Department for public purposes.

13 (2) The Department shall expend the funds allocated under this subsection 14 before July 1, [2026] **2029**.

15 5-221.

16 (a) In this section, "Fund" means the Park System Capital Improvements and 17 Acquisition Fund.

18 (b) There is a Park System Capital Improvements and Acquisition Fund.

19 (c) The purpose of the Fund is to provide funding for:

20 (1) Completing State [park] projects related to capital improvements on 21 lands managed by the Department for public purposes; and

(2) (2) Acquiring land to be managed by the Department for public purposes23 [as a State park].

24 (g) The Fund may be used only for:

(1) Completing State [park] projects related to capital improvements on
 lands managed by the Department for public purposes; and

27 (2) Acquiring land to be managed by the Department for public purposes28 [as a State park].

29 (j) Money expended from the Fund for capital improvements [in the State's

parks] FOR STATE PROJECTS ON LANDS MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR 1  $\mathbf{2}$ **PUBLIC PURPOSES** is supplemental to and is not intended to take the place of funding 3 that otherwise would be appropriated for capital improvements [in the State's parks] FOR 4 STATE PROJECTS ON LANDS MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC **PURPOSES** and the acquisition of land by the Department that will be managed for public  $\mathbf{5}$ 6 purposes. 7 (1) The first \$70,000,000 received by the Fund may be used only as follows: 8 (1)AT LEAST \$5,000,000 for infrastructure projects that mitigate the 9 effects of climate change, including: 10 Flood barriers; (i) 11 Forest buffers; (ii) 12 (iii) Green spaces; 13 (iv) Building elevation; 14 (v) Stormwater infrastructure; 15(vi) Wetlands restoration; and 16 (vii) Addressing environmental justice concerns; AT LEAST \$5,000,000 for historic preservation, in accordance with 17(2)subsection (m) of this section; 18 19 (3)**AT LEAST** \$20,000,000 for transportation improvements, including: 20Improving bike lanes and trails, increasing walkability, and (i) 21expanding parking availability; and 22(ii) Targeting transportation investments to avoid capacity 23shutdowns: 24AT LEAST \$10,000,000 for increasing water access, including kayak (4)25and boat launches and areas for picnicking near water and swimming; and 26**UP TO** \$30,000,000 for land acquisition, including: (5)27Areas in the central and southern regions of the State that will: (i) 281. Relieve overcrowding at existing State parks; and

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$\frac{1}{2}$	recreation;	2. Expand public access to State parks and outdoor		
$\frac{3}{4}$	Indigenous	(ii) Sites of significance to the history of African American, Asian, or Native American, and Hispanic or Latino populations in the State; and		
5		(iii) Beachfront or waterfront property for public access.		
6	5-222.			
7	(a)	In this section, "Fund" means the Great Maryland Outdoors Fund.		
8	(b)	There is a Great Maryland Outdoors Fund in the Department.		
9	(c)	The purpose of the Fund is to:		
10		(1) Support the Office of Outdoor Recreation in the Department;		
$\begin{array}{c} 11 \\ 12 \end{array}$	recreation A	(2) Provide resources to improve existing and create new outdoor <b>AND OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION</b> opportunities; [and]		
$\begin{array}{c} 13\\14 \end{array}$	(3) Implement the recommendations of the Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic Commission to promote and grow the outdoor recreation sector in the State; AND			
$\begin{array}{c} 15\\ 16\end{array}$	THE STATE	(4) <b>PROMOTE AND GROW OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN</b> E.		
17	(g)	The Fund may be used only for:		
18 19 20		(1) Implementing the recommendations of the Maryland Outdoor Economic Commission[, including establishing and supporting an Office of creation in the Department];		
$21 \\ 22 \\ 23$	outdoor rec State; and	(2) Department projects and programs that provide, promote, and enhance reation <b>OR OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION</b> opportunities in the		
$\begin{array}{c} 24 \\ 25 \end{array}$	purpose of p	(3) Awarding grants to destination marketing organizations for the promoting and marketing State parks.		
26 27 28 29	EDUCATIO	Money expended from the Fund for existing programs in the Department that omote, and enhance outdoor recreation OR OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL N opportunities is supplemental to and is not intended to take the place of t otherwise would be appropriated for those programs.		
30	5–2A–05.			

1 (a) The Department shall:  $\mathbf{2}$ (1)Develop and publish a Comprehensive Long-Range Strategic Plan by December 1, [2023] 2024; 3 4 Update the Comprehensive Long-Range Strategic Plan every 5 years (2)to reflect major goals and progress toward meeting those goals; and  $\mathbf{5}$ 6 Submit to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the (3)7State Government Article, the Comprehensive Long-Range Strategic Plan and any updates 8 to the plan.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 10 October 1, 2024.