

HOUSE BILL 198

E2
HB 942/24 – JUD & APP

(PRE-FILED)

5lr1658

By: **Delegate Young**

Requested: November 1, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Judiciary and Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Crime Solvers Reward Fund – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Crime Solvers Reward Fund as a special, nonlapsing
4 fund in the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to provide grants
5 to law enforcement agencies and county reward programs to be used as rewards
6 offered to individuals for certain assistance in solving certain crimes; requiring
7 interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; and generally relating to
8 the Crime Solvers Reward Fund.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Criminal Procedure

11 Section 11–1201 through 11–1203 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 12. Crime
12 Solvers Reward Fund”

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

16 Article – State Finance and Procurement

17 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i)

18 Annotated Code of Maryland

19 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

21 Article – State Finance and Procurement

22 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)204. and 205.

23 Annotated Code of Maryland

24 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

25 BY adding to

26 Article – State Finance and Procurement

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)206.
2 Annotated Code of Maryland
3 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

6 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

7 **SUBTITLE 12. CRIME SOLVERS REWARD FUND.**

8 **11–1201.**

9 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
10 INDICATED.

11 (B) “COUNTY REWARD PROGRAM” MEANS A PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY A
12 COUNTY THAT OFFERS REWARD MONEY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO PROVIDES
13 QUALIFYING INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE INVESTIGATION OF A MURDER OR AN
14 ATTEMPTED MURDER INVOLVING A FIREARM.

15 (C) “FUND” MEANS THE CRIME SOLVERS REWARD FUND.

16 (D) “LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 3–201
17 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE.

18 (E) “QUALIFYING INFORMATION” MEANS INFORMATION PROVIDED TO A
19 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT DIRECTLY LEADS TO THE IDENTIFICATION,
20 ARREST, AND CONVICTION OF THE PERPETRATOR OF A CRIME.

21 **11–1202.**

22 (A) THERE IS A CRIME SOLVERS REWARD FUND IN THE DEPARTMENT.

23 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO LAW
24 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OR COUNTY REWARD PROGRAMS TO ISSUE REWARDS TO
25 INDIVIDUALS WHO PROVIDE QUALIFYING INFORMATION TO A LAW ENFORCEMENT
26 AGENCY RELEVANT TO THE INVESTIGATION OF A MURDER OR AN ATTEMPTED
27 MURDER INVOLVING A FIREARM.

28 (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

29 (D) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT
30 SUBJECT TO § 7–302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

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

3 **(E) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:**

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

5 **(2) MONEY MADE AVAILABLE TO THE FUND THROUGH FEDERAL**
6 **PROGRAMS OR PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS;**

7 **(3) INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND; AND**

8 **(4) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR**
9 **THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.**

10 **(F) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND**
11 **IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

12 **(2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO**
13 **THE FUND.**

14 **(G) (1) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY TO AWARD GRANTS TO A LAW**
15 **ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR A COUNTY REWARD PROGRAM IN ORDER FOR THE LAW**
16 **ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR THE COUNTY REWARD PROGRAM TO PROVIDE REWARD**
17 **MONEY TO INDIVIDUALS WHO PROVIDE A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY WITH**
18 **QUALIFYING INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE INVESTIGATION OF A MURDER OR AN**
19 **ATTEMPTED MURDER INVOLVING A FIREARM.**

20 **(2) FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A REWARD FROM A LAW**
21 **ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR A COUNTY REWARD PROGRAM UNDER THIS SUBTITLE,**
22 **THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR COUNTY REWARD PROGRAM SHALL ESTABLISH**
23 **THAT THE INDIVIDUAL:**

24 **(I) PROVIDED CREDIBLE QUALIFYING INFORMATION;**

25 **(II) DID NOT DIRECTLY PARTICIPATE IN THE CRIME; AND**

26 **(III) COOPERATED WITH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.**

27 **(H) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2026, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE**
28 **DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
29 **§ 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON:**

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2025.