## **SENATE BILL 226**

M45lr0027 CF HB 104 (PRE-FILED) By: Chair, Finance Committee (By Request - Departmental - Agriculture) Requested: October 6, 2024 Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025 Assigned to: Finance Committee Report: Favorable Senate action: Adopted Read second time: February 2, 2025 CHAPTER AN ACT concerning Maryland Farms and Families Fund – Purpose and Use – Alterations FOR the purpose of altering the purpose and use of the Maryland Farms and Families Fund; and generally relating to the Maryland Farms and Families Fund. BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, Article – Agriculture Section 10-2001 and 10-2002 Annotated Code of Maryland (2016 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement) BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Agriculture Section 10-2003 and 10-2004 Annotated Code of Maryland (2016 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement) SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: Article - Agriculture 10-2001.

## EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

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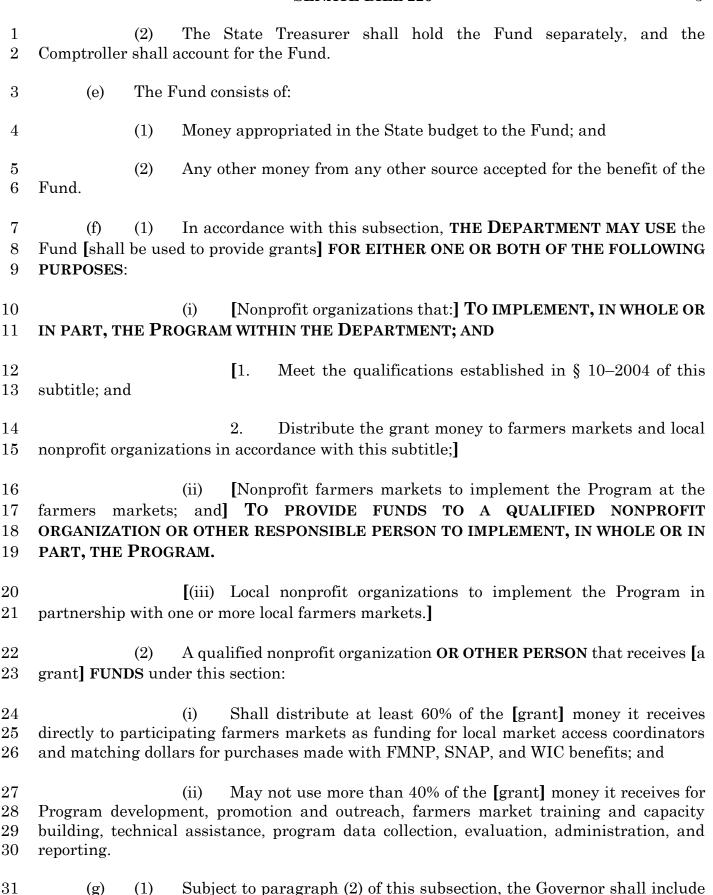
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Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

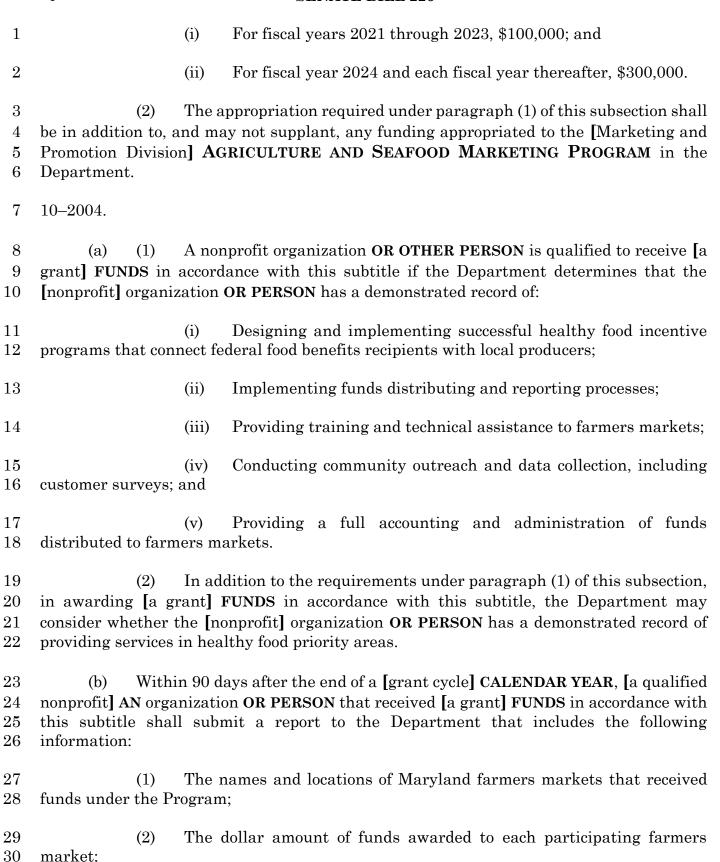


- 1 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- 2 (b) "FMNP" means the federal Farmers Market Nutrition Program.
- 3 (c) "Fund" means the Maryland Farms and Families Fund.
- 4 (d) "Program" means the Maryland Farms and Families Program.
- 5 (e) "SNAP" means the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.
- 6 (f) "WIC" means the federal Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, 7 Infants, and Children.
- 8 10–2002.
- 9 (a) There is a Maryland Farms and Families Program in the Department.
- 10 (b) The purpose of the Program is to double the purchasing power of food—insecure 11 Maryland residents with limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables and to increase
- 12 revenue for farmers through redemption of federal nutrition benefits at Maryland farmers
- 13 markets.
- 14 10–2003.
- 15 (a) There is a Maryland Farms and Families Fund.
- 16 (b) The purpose of the Fund is [to provide grants] to:
- 17 (1) [Nonprofit organizations that match] MATCH purchases made with
- 18 FMNP, SNAP, and WIC benefits at participating farmers markets and farm stands;
- 19 (2) [Nonprofit] SUPPORT NONPROFIT farmers markets to implement the
- 20 Program [at the farmers markets] BY PROVIDING LOGISTICAL AND MARKETING
- 21 SUPPORT TO INCREASE THE USE OF FEDERAL NUTRITION PROGRAMS AT THESE
- 22 FARMERS MARKETS; and
- 23 (3) [Local] SUPPORT nonprofit organizations AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE
- 24 **PERSONS** to implement the Program in partnership with one or more participating local
- 25 farmers markets.
- 26 (c) The Secretary shall administer the Fund.
- 27 (d) (1) The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7–302 of
- 28 the State Finance and Procurement Article.



in the annual budget bill an appropriation to the Fund as follows:

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(3) The dollar amount of FMNP, SNAP, and WIC benefits, and fun provided under the Program that were spent at participating farmers markets, as well any unspent funds;
(4) The number of FMNP, SNAP, and WIC transactions carried out participating farmers markets; and
(5) The impact of the Program on increasing the quantity of fresh fru and vegetables consumed by FMNP, SNAP, and WIC families, as determined by custom surveys.
SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effective of the effective of the end of the en
Approved:
Governor.
President of the Senate.
Speaker of the House of Delegates.