

HOUSE BILL 804

O2, O1, J1

6lr2526
CF 6lr2803

By: **Delegate Wolek**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Health

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Aging – Aging Resilience Fund – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Aging Resilience Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund;
4 providing for the purposes of the Fund; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be
5 credited to the Fund; requiring the Secretary of Aging to administer the Fund; and
6 generally relating to the Aging Resilience Fund.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – Human Services

9 Section 10–101(a), (d), and (f)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 (As enacted by Chapters 33 and 34 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2025)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Human Services

15 Section 10–204

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

19 Article – State Finance and Procurement

20 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i) and (ii)

21 Annotated Code of Maryland

22 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

24 Article – State Finance and Procurement

25 Section 6–226(a)(2)(iii)212. and 213.

26 Annotated Code of Maryland

27 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BY adding to
2 Article – State Finance and Procurement
3 Section 6–226(a)(2)(iii)214.
4 Annotated Code of Maryland
5 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

8 **Article – Human Services**

9 10–101.

10 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.
11 (d) “Department” means the Department of Aging.
12 (f) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Aging.

13 10–204.

14 (a) The Secretary shall administer the programs and activities that the federal
15 government delegates to the State under the Older Americans Act of 1965 that are not
16 otherwise committed by law to another unit of State government.

17 (b) The Secretary:
18 (1) is a member of the Governor’s Executive Council; and
19 (2) shall cooperate with and receive the cooperation of State, federal, and
20 local governmental units to carry out the purposes of this title.

21 (c) The Secretary shall:
22 (1) evaluate the service needs of seniors in the State;
23 (2) determine the extent to which existing public and private programs
24 meet the needs of seniors;
25 (3) establish priorities for meeting the needs of seniors;
26 (4) coordinate, subject to existing law, assess and evaluate, and educate
27 the public and professionals about all State and local programs and services, both public
28 and private, that relate and are important to the well-being of seniors in the State,
29 including programs and services in the areas of:

- (i) income maintenance;
- (ii) public health;
- (iii) mental health;
- (iv) housing and urban development;
- (v) employment;
- (vi) education;
- (vii) recreation; and
- (viii) rehabilitation of seniors with physical or mental disabilities; and

12 (d) The Secretary shall:

13 (1) represent the interests of seniors by serving as an advocate at all levels
14 of government;

15 (2) consult with and advise the secretaries of the principal departments of
16 State government about the programs and services for seniors that are the primary
17 responsibility of those departments;

(3) consult with the Commission on Aging on all matters pertaining to programs for seniors;

20 (4) provide consultation and technical assistance to communities and civic
21 groups developing local services for seniors:

22 (5) maintain a clearinghouse of information related to the interests of
23 seniors; and

24 (6) review and recommend policies to the Governor on publicly funded
25 plans and programs that affect seniors.

26 (e) The Secretary may adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of law that
27 are within the jurisdiction of the Secretary.

28 (F) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE AGING RESILIENCE
29 FUND.

1 **(2) THERE IS AN AGING RESILIENCE FUND.**2 **(3) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO SUPPORT THE**
3 **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S MISSION UNDER THIS TITLE.**4 **(4) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.**5 **(5) (I) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT**
6 **SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.**7 **(II) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND**
8 **SEPARATELY, AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.**9 **(6) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:**10 **(I) INVESTMENT EARNINGS OF THE FUND;**11 **(II) ANY FEES COLLECTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; AND**12 **(III) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED**
13 **FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.**14 **(7) THE FUND MAY BE USED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES THAT**
15 **ALIGN WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S MISSION UNDER THIS TITLE, INCLUDING:**16 **(I) PERSONNEL;**17 **(II) PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT; AND**18 **(III) ANY PROGRAMS, SERVICES, OR ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE**
19 **DEPARTMENT.**20 **(8) (I) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE**
21 **FUND IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**22 **(II) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE**
23 **CREDITED TO THE FUND.**24 **(9) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN**
25 **ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE BUDGET.**

26 Article – State Finance and Procurement

(a) (2) (i) This paragraph does not apply in fiscal years 2024 through 2028.

10 212. the Department of Social and Economic Mobility Special
11 Fund; [and]

213. the Population Health Improvement Fund; AND

214. THE AGING RESILIENCE FUND.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
15 1, 2026.