



## Maryland Municipal League

*The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns*

# TESTIMONY

February 12, 2020

**Committee:** Senate Budget and Taxation

**Bill:** Senate Bill 387 - Housing - Community Development Program Act - Funding

**Position:** Support

**Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League supports Senate Bill 387. This legislation provides mandatory funding for the Community Development Program Fund.

Created in statute in 2018, the Community Development Program and its associated fund serve the purpose of providing financial assistance for community development projects and community development organizations around the State. Grants are to be administered for capital and operating costs to projects and organizations focused primarily on affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, and community services among other things. Municipal governments engage in many of these activities and see themselves as potential recipients of grants from this fund.

However, up until now the fund has not received a discretionary funding and none is in the State budget for FY 2021. This bill would mandate \$5 million be directed to this fund to support important community development work.

For these reasons, the League supports Senate Bill 387 and respectfully requests that the committee report the bill favorably.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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