



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.
County Executive

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Director of Government Affairs

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BILL NO.: **SB 699**

TITLE: Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program Fund

SPONSOR: Senator McCray

COMMITTEE: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 23, 2021

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 699 – Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program Fund. This legislation would extend requirements for the annual appropriation in the State budget for the Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program Fund.

This program provides funding to communities in the Baltimore Metro area which receive disproportionate underinvestment. Projects funds can be used for down payment assistance for homebuyers to purchase and rehabilitate homes, workforce and employment development programs, and strategic demolition. In his time as a Delegate, Baltimore County Executive Olszewski was a staunch supporter of the Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative Program. He understands that investment in nearby underserved communities will have significant positive impacts on the region as a whole.

SB 699 will extend this program till FY 26 and provides more opportunities for community investment. The State must continue to commit investment in its most vulnerable communities.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 699. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Director of Government Affairs at cconner@baltimorecountymd.gov.