SB 127 PAL Grant Fund (West) B&T 1.19.22 SOI.pdf Uploaded by: Barbara Wilkins

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LARRY HOGAN Governor

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD Lieutenant Governor DAVID R. BRINKLEY Secretary

MARC L. NICOLE Deputy Secretary

SENATE BILL 127 Public Safety - Police Athletic League Grant Fund - Establishment (West)

STATEMENT OF INFORMATION

DATE: January 19, 2022

COMMITTEE: Senate Budget & Taxation

SUMMARY OF BILL: SB 127 creates a Police Athletic League Grant Fund in the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS) to support police athletic league programs designed to build relationships among youth, police, and the community. The bill mandates an annual appropriation in the amount of \$1 million for grants to be awarded GOCPYVS.

EXPLANATION: The Department of Budget and Management's focus is not on the underlying policy proposal being advanced by the legislation, but rather on the \$1 million mandated appropriation provision that impacts the FY 2024 and subsequent budgets. The FY 2023 Budget includes \$450,000 for Boys and Girls Clubs and Police Athletic Leagues as a prevention strategy, in partnership with law enforcement, to support the Baltimore City Crime Prevention Initiative.

DBM has the responsibility of submitting a balanced budget to the General Assembly annually, which will require spending allocations for FY 2024 to be within the official revenues estimates approved by the Board of Revenue Estimates in December 2022.

Changes to the Maryland Constitution in 2020 provide the General Assembly with additional budgetary authority, beginning in the 2023 Session, to realign total spending by increasing and adding items to appropriations in the budget submitted by the Governor. The legislature's new budgetary power diminishes, if not negates, the need for mandated appropriation bills.

Fully funding the implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future (Kirwan) will require fiscal discipline in the years ahead, if the State is to maintain the current projected structural budget surpluses. Mandated spending increases need to be reevaluated within the context of this education funding priority and the Governor's tax relief proposals.

Economic conditions remain precarious as a result of COVID-19. High rates of inflation and workforce shortages may be short lived or persist, thereby impacting the Maryland economy. While current budget forecasts project structural surpluses, the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to present a significant budgetary vulnerability. The Department continues to urge the General Assembly to focus on maintaining the structural budget surplus.

For additional information, contact Barbara Wilkins at (410) 260-6371 or barbara.wilkins1@maryland.gov

Police Athletic League_GOCCP_Letter of Info.pdf Uploaded by: Cameron Edsall

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January 19, 2022

Chair Guy Gazzone Senate Budget and Taxation Committee Miller Senate Office Building, 3 West Wing 11 Bladen St Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SB 127 - Public Safety - Police Athletic League Grant Fund - Establishment

Dear Chair Guzzone and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee,

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services is providing this letter of information for Senate Bill 127: Public Safety – Police Athletic League Grant Fund – Establishment.

This legislation establishes the Police Athletic League (PAL) Grant Fund to provide grant assistance to local governments and organizations to create and support police athletic league programs; requires the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services to administer and establish procedures for the Fund; and provides that for each fiscal year the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the fund. The bill defines Police Athletic Programs as programs operated by local governments or organizations that are designed to build relationships among youth, police, and the community by offering educational and extracurricular activities to participating youth with the goal of preventing juvenile crime.

The Office works closely with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Maryland and Police Athletic Leagues to provide youth programming aligned with priority areas identified within the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN), which targets the dismantling of gangs and violent criminal networks. PAL programs in MCIN-designated areas provide an alternative, safe place for youth whose lives have been impacted by violence and other traumatic circumstances. That trauma, also known as Adverse Childhood Experiences or ACES, has been shown to have a direct correlation between physical, psychological or substance use disorders later in life, and have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

To address this, in FY21, the Office contributed \$450,000 to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Baltimore, Inc. to be used at four BGC sites in Baltimore City. Much of this funding went towards partnerships between the Club and local Police Athletic Leagues. Governor Hogan included an additional \$450,000 in the FY22 budget to be used for expanding the programming of Boys & Girls Clubs and their

For all inquiries, please contact
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participation with Police Athletic Leagues.

In addition, the Governor announced Project Bounce Back in May of 2021, which is a \$25 Million Public-Private Partnership to Support Youth Recovery From COVID-19. This series of initiatives will provide strategic mental health services, expand the footprint of youth development programs, and develop an innovative, data-driven digital solution to build post-COVID resilience among Maryland's youth, families, and communities. Through Project Bounce Back, the Maryland Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs will expand to every county in Maryland, prioritizing Title 1 school districts and rural communities, to reach 45,000 children across all jurisdictions with youth development programs and positive mentorship. As part of this expansion, the state is launching a new partnership between the Maryland State Police and the Maryland Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs to promote positive mentorships and grow community and police relationships, similar to the work of the Police Athletic League.

With the mental health and well-being of Maryland's youth being heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, PAL programming with Boys & Girls Clubs and Police Athletic Leagues are vital in our youth outreach efforts to ensure a Safer Maryland.

Please feel free to reach out to the Office for further information as needed.

Sincerely,

V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.

Executive Director

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services