



# Reisterstown Improvement Association, Inc.

March 6, 2023

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Crystal Micriotti

Chair Barnes & Vice-chair Chang  
House Appropriations Committee  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Barnes and Vice-chair Chang:

Reisterstown Improvement Association, Inc. (RIA) would like to express our strong support for House Bill 1226, Economic Development – Non-Profit Sustainability Fund. Its purpose is to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits like RIA are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and are often able to reach individuals and groups that have difficulty connecting by government agencies.

RIA's experience over the years has been that we struggle to obtain the revenue we need to fully meet our missions, address complex administrative requirements and lastly, our ability to grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business and obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

RIA does the best it can with funding from Baltimore County and our own fundraising so that we can meet the needs and programs for our town. RIA strives to make our town an inviting destination for our visitors and warm and welcoming to our residents, businesses and property owners. The funding from this Bill can help alleviate our worry and concern to be able to meet our goals and vision to support our town.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on HB 1226 to create this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hoppa, President



202 Main Street, PO Box 856  
Reisterstown, Maryland 21136  
<https://www.reisterstown.com>

