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RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Minister Brian Bordley, Executive Wellness Director, ONE More...ONE Less Mentoring Inc.,

House Appropriations Committee March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. ONE More... ONE Less Mentoring Inc. supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Funding to fund at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits can help the state government by providing services, and opportunities, and enhancing the quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits can address the specific needs of their communities, and often can reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with. However, these organizations need help to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, address the many complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and grow.

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

Our challenge in John Hopkins Urban Health Report 2020 is, "What is striking from this data is that homicide is the leading cause of death for Baltimore residents ages 15-24 and the second leading cause of death for children ages 1-14. With appropriate unrestricted grant funding, we can offer programming that addresses youth from a holistic lens of structured programming, mental wellness, workforce development, marine environmental inclusion, technology, new concepts of agriculture, harnessing energy, and Ai intelligence. But it is time to place funds in grassroots organizations that are the "boots on the ground" to change societal issues, especially in our youth.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would aid the government to deliver services and addressing needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, ONE More...ONE Less Mentoring Inc. respectfully requests a favorable report on HB1226.

OMOL Mentoring acronyms stand for, " \underline{O} ne \underline{M} ore child to support and \underline{O} ne \underline{L} ess child without their needs met from exposure to poverty and pandemic."

Min. B. Bordley

Min. B.Bordley, Executive Wellness Director, https://linktr.ee/OMOLMentoring, *To Schedule https://calendly.com/omolmentoringinc/45min a meeting with me * To Donate https://omolmentoring.networkforgood.com/projects/138505-operation-waterways-environmental-education-op wwee "Empower Someone today emotionally ...To be Greater!"