

SB0650/103823/1

BY: Senator Elfreth

(To be offered in the Budget and Taxation Committee and the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 650

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 5, after the first “the” insert “State Disaster Recovery”; in the same line, after “Fund;” insert “authorizing a portion of the State Disaster Recovery Fund to be transferred by the Governor to the Federal Government Shutdown Employee Assistance Loan Fund in the event of a government shutdown; repealing the Catastrophic Event Account; requiring the Governor to transfer the balance of the Catastrophic Event Account to the State Disaster Recovery Fund;”; and after line 11, insert:

“BY repealing

Article – State Finance and Procurement

Section 7–324

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 3, in line 9, after “(F)” insert “**(1)**”; in the same line, strike “**BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2025, THE**” and substitute “**THE**”; in the same line, strike “**SHALL**” and substitute “**MAY**”; in line 10, strike “**A SUFFICIENT**” and substitute “**AN**”; in lines 10 and 11, strike “**BRING THE MINIMUM BALANCE OF**”; in lines 11 and 12, strike “**TO AT LEAST \$20,000,000 AT THE START OF EACH FISCAL YEAR, WITH FUNDS CONSISTING**” and substitute “**.**”

(2) THE FUND SHALL CONSIST”;

and in lines 13, 14, 16, and 19, strike “(1)”, “(2)”, “(3)”, and “(4)”, respectively, and substitute “(I)”, “(II)”, “(III)”, and “(IV)”, respectively.

On page 5, after line 8, insert:

“(L) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AFTER A 15-DAY REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD BY THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE, THE GOVERNOR MAY TRANSFER FUNDS BY BUDGET AMENDMENT FROM THE FUND TO THE EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS OF THE APPROPRIATE UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT.

(2) IF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS IN A FULL OR PARTIAL SHUTDOWN DUE TO A LAPSE IN APPROPRIATIONS, AFTER A 2-DAY REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD BY THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE, THE GOVERNOR MAY TRANSFER FUNDS BY BUDGET AMENDMENT FROM THE FUND TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE LOAN FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER § 7-327 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

Article – State Finance and Procurement

[7-324.

(a) In this section, “Account” means the Catastrophic Event Account.

(b) Subject to the provisions of this section, the Account is established to enable the State to respond without undue delay to a natural disaster or other catastrophic situation, or federal civilian employee financial hardship from a full or partial federal government shutdown due to a lapse in federal appropriations that cannot be taken care of within the resources of existing appropriations.

(c) The Governor may provide an appropriation in the budget bill to the Account.

(d) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, after a 15-day review and comment period by the Legislative Policy Committee, the Governor may transfer funds by budget amendment from the Account to the expenditure accounts of the appropriate unit of State government.

(2) If the federal government is in a full or partial shutdown due to a lapse in appropriations, after a 2-day review and comment period by the Legislative Policy Committee, the Governor may transfer funds by budget amendment from the Account to the Federal Government Shutdown Employee Assistance Loan Fund established under § 7-327 of this subtitle.

(e) Funds appropriated to the Catastrophic Event Account:

(1) may not be used to offset operating deficiencies in regular programs of State government; but

(2) may be expended to assist a unit of State government in funding costs in connection with a natural disaster, a catastrophic situation, or a full or partial federal government shutdown due to a lapse in appropriations.

(f) (1) The Account is a continuing, nonlapsing fund which is not subject to § 7-302 of this subtitle.

(2) The Treasurer shall separately hold, and the Comptroller shall account for, the Account.

(3) The Account shall be invested and reinvested in the same manner as other State funds.

(Over)

(4) Any investment earnings shall be subject to § 7-311(d) of this subtitle.

(g) Money appropriated to the Account does not revert to the Revenue Stabilization Account.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the balance of the Catastrophic Event Account shall be transferred by the Governor to the State Disaster Recovery Fund established under § 14-110.5 of the Public Safety Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act.”;

and in line 9, strike “2.” and substitute “3.”.