



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**HB764**

**State Lottery Fund – Bus Rapid Transit Fund Distribution – Alterations  
Testimony in SUPPORT**

Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Chang, and esteemed members of the House Appropriations Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide favorable testimony in support of House Bill 764, a bill that makes small but important technical changes to the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Fund.

Initiated through legislation in 2022 and 2023, the BRT Fund was designed to provide grants to local governments to support the construction of BRT projects. Currently, the capitalization of the BRT Fund is dependent on deposits made by the Comptroller for debt service into the Stadium Financing Funds. If passed, this bill would ensure that the BRT Fund would directly benefit from an exact amount of the State's lottery profits, aligning it with the 12 other funds that receive diversions.

Starting in FY2025, the bill would guarantee that the BRT Fund receives \$27 million annually from the state lottery fund. This change promises a more stable and predictable funding stream for the BRT Fund, as originally envisioned when the fund was established. As noted in the Fiscal and Policy Note, this change has no fiscal impact because it simply codifies existing practice.

Please note that I have included a sponsor amendment with minor changes to correct a drafting error referencing an incorrect article.

House Bill 764 will help ensure that the BRT Fund will have resources to offer to counties developing BRT projects, as intended by the laws passed in 2022 and 2023.

**Thank you for the committee's consideration, and I respectfully request a favorable report on HB 764.**