

CORY V. McCRAY  
Legislative District 45  
Baltimore City

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Budget and Taxation Committee

*Subcommittees*

Chair, Health and Human Services

Vice Chair, Capital Budget

Executive Nominations Committee

Legislative Policy Committee

Joint Committee on Gaming Oversight



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

# Vote Yes to SB 101

**Title:** University of Baltimore-Schaefer Center for Public Policy-Funding  
Budget and Tax Committee  
Hearing: January 17, 2024

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to request your favorable vote on **Senate Bill 101**, a critical piece of legislation aimed at providing financial certainty for the Schaefer Center for Public Policy at the University of Baltimore. This bill plays a pivotal role in facilitating government assistance to the people of Maryland and ensuring the continued success of a highly effective program.

The purpose of **SB101** is to secure funding for a program that has empowered 257 young scholars to engage with government agencies, offering them a unique firsthand experience in public service. Over the last 18 months, this initiative has successfully addressed the issue of vacancies within public service by actively involving young scholars in various government agencies.

**Significance and Impact:** The program facilitated by **SB101** stands out as Maryland's most active and widespread effort to address crucial vacancies in public service. However, for its continued success, financial certainty is essential for the young scholars, collaborating government agencies, and the Schaefer Center for Public Policy at the University of Baltimore.

**Please consider these Key Factors:**

- Government agencies, relying on the support of these young scholars/public servants, need assurance of consistent funding.

- Young scholars deserve early knowledge of the program's continuity for planning their involvement.
- The Schaefer Center must attract and retain top teaching staff without funding uncertainty.

This bill will require the governor, beginning in fiscal year 2025, to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$1.9 million, to the Schaefer Center for Public Policy at the University of Baltimore for **SB101**, this represents a modest yet highly impactful investment. This support will ensure the stability and sustainability of the program, providing government agencies with a valuable resource in dedicated young scholars committed to public service.

I urge you to vote favorable for **Senate Bill 101**. By doing so, you will contribute to the growth and success of a program that positively impacts government agencies and the future of public service in Maryland.

Respectfully,



Cory V. McCray  
45<sup>th</sup> District