

COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 24-030

Introduced by Council President Patrick Vincenti at the request of the County Executive

Legislative Day No. 24-022 Date September 3, 2024

AN ACT to add a new Article IX, the Harford County Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund, to Chapter 123, Finance and Taxation, of the Harford County Code, as amended; to create a Fund for receipt of revenue from the State of Maryland pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article §1-322 and used for purposes outlined therein; and generally related to finance and taxation.

By the Council, September 3, 2024

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: October 1, 2024

at: 6:00 PM

By Order: *Mylin A. Dixon*, Council Administrator

PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on _____ and concluded on _____.

_____, Council Administrator

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

WHEREAS, the Maryland General Assembly enacted the Cannabis Reform Act of 2023 (the “Act”) that established the Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund (the “Fund”), which allocates a portion of tax revenue generated from adult-use cannabis sales to local jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Fund is to support community-based initiatives that benefit low-income communities and communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the enforcement of cannabis prohibition; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires each jurisdiction that desires an allocation of a portion of State cannabis tax revenues to adopt a law establishing the purpose for which money received from the Fund may be used.

NOW THEREFORE,

Section 1. Be it enacted by the County Council of Harford County, Maryland that a new Article IX, Harford County Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund be, and is hereby, added to Chapter 123, Finance and Taxation, of the Harford County Code, as amended, to read as follows:

Chapter 123. Finance and Taxation

Article IX. HARFORD COUNTY COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND

§123-72. PURPOSE AND INTENT

A. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1-322 OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CANNABIS ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, THE COUNTY HEREBY ESTABLISHES A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND (THE “FUND”).

B. THE FUND CONSISTS OF A PORTION OF THE STATE TAX REVENUES GENERATED FROM ADULT-USE CANNABIS SALES.

C. THE FUND WILL ONLY BE USED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CANNABIS ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND OTHER APPLICABLE STATE LAW AND REGULATION.

D. MONEY MAY NOT BE EXPENDED FROM THE FUND FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OR ACTIVITIES.

E. MONEY EXPENDED FROM THE FUND IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND MAY NOT SUPPLANT FUNDING THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE APPROPRIATED FOR PREEXISTING LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2023.

Section 2. And be it further enacted that this Act shall take effect 60 calendar days from the date it becomes law.

The Council Administrator does hereby certify that seven (7) copies of this Bill are immediately available for distribution to the public and the press.

Mylicia A. Dixon

Council Administrator