

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND

March 18, 2025
Legislative Session Day

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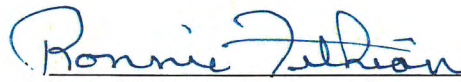
CODE HOME RULE
BILL NO. 2-2025

INTRODUCED BY: Ronald H. Fithian, President of the Board of County Commissioners for Kent County, Maryland.

AN ACT to add Chapter 15 Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission and to amend Chapter 152 Taxation by adding Article XII Community Reinvestment and Repair Special Revenue Fund § 152-43.

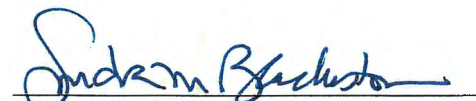
FOR THE PURPOSE of establishing Kent County's Local Management Board as the Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission to oversee the use of funds pursuant to the State of Maryland Cannabis Reform Act of 2023; providing the duties of the Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission; defining the permitted uses of the funding; and establishing a special revenue fund.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND


Ronald H. Fithian, President

INTRODUCED, read the first time, March 18, 2025, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled on April 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioners Hearing Room, R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr., Kent County Government Center, 400 High Street, Chestertown, Maryland.

By order of:


Sondra M. Blackiston, Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING

HAVING been posted and notice of the time and place of the hearing and copies made available to the public and the press, a public hearing was held on April 15, 2025. Reported favorably ~~[with]~~ without amendments; read the second time and ordered to be considered on May 6, 2025, a legislative session day.

BILL NO. 2-2025 Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission and Special Revenue Fund

CAPITALS & BOLD INDICATES MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

~~Strike through~~ indicates matter deleted from existing law.

**A BILL ENTITLED CHR 2-2025 COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR
COMMISSION AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUND**

SECTION 1. NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND, that Chapter 15 Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission is hereby added and that Chapter 152 Taxation is hereby amended to add Article XII Community Reinvestment and Repair Special Revenue Fund as follows:

**Chapter 15
COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR COMMISSION**

§15-1 Establishment of the Commission

§15-2 Purpose

§15-3 Membership

§15-4 Chair

§15-5 Meetings; Quorum; Voting

§15-6 Compensation

§15-7 Duties

§15-8 Reporting

§15-1 Establishment of the Commission

There shall be a Kent County Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission (the “Commission”).

§15-2 Purpose

The purpose of the Commission is to administer and make recommendations for the use of funds from the Community Reinvestment and Repair Special Revenue Fund.

§15-3 Membership

Membership shall consist of the current membership of the Kent County Local Management Board.

§15-4 Chair

The Chair of the Local Management Board shall serve as the Chair of the Commission.

§15-5 Meetings; Quorum; Voting

A. Meetings

The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chair as frequently as required to perform its duties, but not less than four times per year. All meetings shall comply with the Maryland Open Meetings Act.

B. Quorum

A simple majority of the members of the Commission shall serve as a quorum.

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C. Voting

An affirmative vote by the majority of a quorum is needed for any official action.

§15-6 Compensation

Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

§15-7 Duties: Grant Process; Allocation Process; Use of Funds

A. Grant Process

The Commission shall develop and administer a public grant application process for interested parties to apply for monies from the Community Reinvestment and Repair Special Revenue Fund.

B. Allocation Process

The Commission shall develop recommendations, with community input, for the use of the funds in the Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund for the upcoming fiscal year. These recommendations, a summary of community input, and a summary of applicants shall be delivered to the County Commissioners for approval by Resolution by May 1 each year. Following County Commissioner approval, monies may be disbursed from the Fund. The Commission's recommendations are advisory in nature and do not require the County Commissioners to award any particular grant.

C. Use of Funds

1. Funds from the Community Reinvestment and Repair Special Revenue Fund may only be used:
 - a. To fund community-based initiatives intended to benefit low-income communities;
 - b. To fund community-based initiatives that serve disproportionately impacted areas, as defined by §36-101 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland;
 - c. For any other use permitted under §1-322 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended; or
 - d. For related administrative expenses.
2. Funds from the Community Reinvestment and Repair Special Revenue Fund may not be expended:
 - a. For law enforcement agencies or activities; or
 - b. To supplant funding that otherwise would be appropriated for preexisting local programs.

§15-8 Reporting

- A. The Commission shall prepare an annual report detailing the fund allocations, the program outcomes, and the impact assessments for the prior fiscal year. The report shall be presented to the County Commissioners prior to December 1 each year.
- B. By December 1 of every second year (even-numbered years), the Commission shall submit a report to the Governor, and in accordance with §2-1257 of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee on how funds received were spent during the immediately preceding two fiscal years.
- C. The Commission shall meet annually with the County Commissioners or their designee.

BILL NO. 2-2025 Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission and Special Revenue Fund

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Chapter 152
Taxation

ARTICLE XII
COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

§152-43 ESTABLISHMENT; PURPOSES

- A. THERE IS A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, INTO WHICH SHALL BE PAID ALL FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE STATE CANNABIS COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO §1-322 OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.**
- B. THE COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR SPECIAL REVENUE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NON-LAPSING FUND.**
- C. THE REVENUE PAID INTO THE FUND SHALL ONLY BE USED ONLY AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 15, COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR COMMISSION §15-7(C).**

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the County Commissioners of Kent County that this

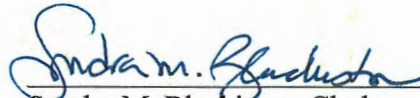
Act shall take effect on the 20th day of June, 2025.

Read A Third Time On May 6, 2025

PASSED this 6th day of May, 2025.

Failed of Passage _____

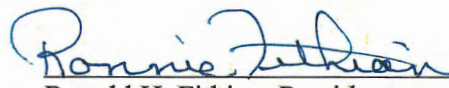
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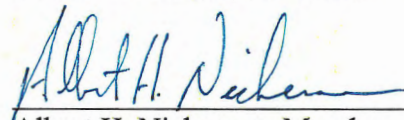

Sondra M. Blackiston, Clerk

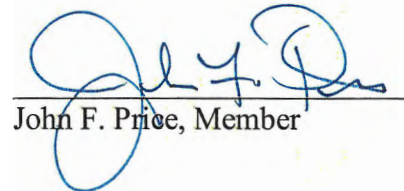
THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND

(SEAL)




Ronald H. Fithian, President


Albert H. Nickerson, Member


John F. Price, Member

ORDERED a fair summary thereof or the entire bill shall be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the County, not less than three times at weekly intervals within a four-week period.

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