

HOUSE BILL 694

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CF SB 482

By: **The Speaker (By Request – Administration) and Delegates Allen, Amprey, Anderton, Bagnall, Bartlett, Bhandari, Boaf, Bouchat, Boyce, Charkoudian, Conaway, Crutchfield, Ebersole, Edelson, Fennell, Foley, Fraser–Hidalgo, Grossman, Guyton, Harris, Henson, Hill, Hornberger, Ivey, Jackson, A. Johnson, S. Johnson, D. Jones, Kaiser, Kaufman, Love, McCaskill, Palakovich Carr, Pasteur, Patterson, Phillips, Pruski, Qi, Roberson, Rogers, Ruff, Ruth, Simmons, Simpson, Solomon, Spiegel, Stewart, Taveras, Taylor, Toles, Turner, Valderrama, Watson, White Holland, and Williams**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2024

Assigned to: Appropriations and Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Governor’s Office for Children – Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations,**
3 **Unions, Governments, and Households (ENOUGH) Grant Program**
4 **(ENOUGH Act of 2024)**

5 FOR the purpose of establishing the Governor’s Office for Children and the Special
6 Secretary of the Governor’s Office for Children as the head of the Office; requiring
7 the Special Secretary to establish the ENOUGH grant program, subject to certain
8 requirements; requiring the Office to assign certain staff for a certain purpose;
9 establishing certain reporting and evaluation requirements; establishing the
10 ENOUGH Grant Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring interest earnings of
11 the Fund to be credited to the Fund; and generally relating to the Governor’s Office
12 for Children.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – State Finance and Procurement
15 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article – State Finance and Procurement
20 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)189. and 190.
21 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

2 BY adding to

3 Article – State Finance and Procurement

4 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)191.

5 Annotated Code of Maryland

6 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

7 BY adding to

8 Article – State Government

9 Section 9–2801 through 9–2805 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 28. Governor’s

10 Office for Children”

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

16 6–226.

17 (a) (2) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless
18 inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the
19 terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the
20 State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to
21 receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General
22 Fund of the State.

23 (ii) The provisions of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph do not apply
24 to the following funds:

25 189. the Teacher Retention and Development Fund; [and]

26 190. the Protecting Against Hate Crimes Grant Fund; AND

27 **191. THE ENOUGH GRANT FUND.**

28 **Article – State Government**

29 **SUBTITLE 28. GOVERNOR’S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN.**

30 **9–2801.**

31 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
32 INDICATED.

1 (B) (1) "FISCAL AGENT" MEANS AN ENTITY THAT MANAGES FISCAL
2 MATTERS FOR THE GRANT APPLICANT OR GRANT RECIPIENT.

3 (2) "FISCAL AGENT" INCLUDES A NONPROFIT ENTITY, LOCAL
4 GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, OR LOCAL MANAGEMENT BOARD.

5 (C) "FUND" MEANS THE ENOUGH GRANT FUND.

6 (D) "LEAD PARTNER" MEANS A NONPROFIT OR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY
7 THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING ACROSS PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS AND
8 DRIVING PLAN IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE GRANT APPLICANT OR GRANT
9 RECIPIENT.

10 (E) "OFFICE" MEANS THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN.

11 (F) (1) "PARTNER ORGANIZATION" MEANS AN ENTITY PARTICIPATING IN
12 AN ENOUGH GRANT PARTNERSHIP.

13 (2) "PARTNER ORGANIZATION" INCLUDES:

14 (I) A LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION;

15 (II) A UNION OR WORKER ORGANIZATION;

16 (III) AN ANCHOR INSTITUTION, INCLUDING LOCAL HEALTH CARE
17 ORGANIZATIONS, INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, LOCAL SCHOOL
18 DISTRICTS, WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS, OR LOCAL CARE MANAGEMENT
19 TEAMS;

20 (IV) A SMALL BUSINESS OWNER OR ORGANIZATION;

21 (V) A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY; AND

22 (VI) A FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATION.

23 (G) "SPECIAL SECRETARY" MEANS THE SPECIAL SECRETARY OF THE
24 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN.

25 9-2802.

26 (A) THERE IS A GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN.

1 **(B) THE HEAD OF THE OFFICE IS THE SPECIAL SECRETARY OF THE**
2 **GOVERNOR’S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN.**

3 **9–2803.**

4 **(A) (1) SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, THE SPECIAL**
5 **SECRETARY SHALL ESTABLISH AN ENOUGH GRANT PROGRAM DESIGNED TO**
6 **ADVANCE PLACE–BASED STRATEGIES TARGETING CHILD POVERTY.**

7 **(2) THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**
8 **SUBSECTION MAY INCLUDE:**

9 **(I) A PHASED APPROACH TO GRANT AWARDS; AND**

10 **(II) TIERS OF GRANT AWARDS.**

11 **(B) THE PURPOSE OF ENOUGH GRANTS MADE BY THE OFFICE UNDER**
12 **THIS SECTION IS TO:**

13 **(1) INCREASE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY;**

14 **(2) PROVIDE “CRADLE TO CAREER” ACCESS TO HIGH–QUALITY**
15 **EDUCATION AND CARE;**

16 **(3) CONNECT RESIDENTS TO QUALITY JOBS AND IN–DEMAND**
17 **OCCUPATIONS;**

18 **(4) ENABLE FAMILY–SUSTAINING INCOME AND ACCESS TO**
19 **AFFORDABLE HIGH–QUALITY HOUSING, CHILD CARE, AND HEALTH CARE,**
20 **INCLUDING REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL, BEHAVIORAL, AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE;**
21 **AND**

22 **(5) PROVIDE HIGH–QUALITY SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN WITH**
23 **DISABILITIES, CHILD WELFARE, AND JUSTICE–INVOLVED YOUTH AND YOUNG**
24 **ADULTS.**

25 **(C) THE OFFICE MAY AWARD ENOUGH GRANTS FOR:**

26 **(1) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF GRANT**
27 **APPLICATIONS;**

28 **(2) NEIGHBORHOOD IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS TO SUPPORT**
29 **IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY–DRIVEN AND PLACE–BASED STRATEGIES;**

1 **(3) REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS OF UP TO \$500,000 EACH**
2 **YEAR FOR UP TO 3 YEARS FOR REGIONAL NONPROFIT ENTITIES AND LOCAL**
3 **GOVERNING BODIES, INCLUDING LOCAL MANAGEMENT BOARDS, TO SUPPORT**
4 **ENOUGH APPLICANTS WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION TO IMPLEMENT COMPONENTS**
5 **OF COMMUNITY-DRIVEN, PLACE-BASED STRATEGIES; AND**

6 **(4) PLANNING GRANTS OF UP TO \$300,000 FOR COMMUNITIES THAT**
7 **REQUIRE ADDITIONAL TIME TO BUILD LOCAL ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY TO**
8 **SUCCESSFULLY EXECUTE A COORDINATED STRATEGY.**

9 **(D) AN APPLICANT IS ELIGIBLE FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD IMPLEMENTATION**
10 **GRANT UNDER SUBSECTION (C)(2) OF THIS SECTION IF THE APPLICANT:**

11 **(1) SERVES A COMMUNITY THAT INCLUDES CENSUS TRACTS WITH**
12 **MORE THAN 20% OF CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY; AND**

13 **(2) REPRESENTS A PARTNERSHIP THAT INCLUDES AT LEAST ONE**
14 **COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION, ONE PUBLIC SCHOOL, AND ONE LOCAL**
15 **GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY AND HAS IDENTIFIED:**

16 **(I) A LEAD PARTNER; AND**

17 **(II) A FISCAL AGENT.**

18 **(E) A NEIGHBORHOOD IMPLEMENTATION GRANT RECIPIENT MAY:**

19 **(1) DESIGNATE THE LEAD PARTNER TO SERVE AS THE FISCAL AGENT;**
20 **AND**

21 **(2) IF THE LEAD PARTNER DOES NOT HAVE EXPERTISE IN DATA USE,**
22 **PARTNER WITH AN ADDITIONAL ORGANIZATION WITH THAT EXPERTISE.**

23 **(F) THE OFFICE SHALL ATTEMPT TO AWARD NEIGHBORHOOD**
24 **IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS UNDER SUBSECTION (C)(2) OF THIS SECTION IN A**
25 **MANNER THAT REFLECTS THE GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.**

26 **(G) (1) THE OFFICE SHALL ASSIGN AT LEAST ONE STAFF PERSON TO**
27 **EACH PARTNERSHIP THAT RECEIVES A NEIGHBORHOOD IMPLEMENTATION GRANT.**

28 **(2) A STAFF PERSON ASSIGNED TO A PARTNERSHIP UNDER**
29 **PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL:**

1 (I) ASSIST THE PARTNERSHIP WITH NAVIGATING FEDERAL,
2 STATE, AND PRIVATE FUNDING STREAMS; AND

3 (II) SERVE AS A LIAISON FOR THE PARTNERSHIP AND STATE
4 GOVERNMENT.

5 (H) THE OFFICE MAY CONSULT WITH ENTITIES THAT IT DEEMS RELEVANT
6 TO SUPPORT ENOUGH PARTNERSHIPS.

7 9-2804.

8 (A) THE OFFICE MAY APPLY FOR, RECEIVE, AND SPEND GRANTS-IN-AID BY
9 THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OR ANY OF ITS AGENCIES, THE PRIVATE SECTOR, OR
10 ANY OTHER FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE OFFICE FOR USE IN CARRYING OUT
11 THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE SPECIAL SECRETARY OR THE OFFICE.

12 (B) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND IN EACH FISCAL YEAR
13 THEREAFTER, THE OFFICE SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ENOUGH
14 GRANT PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES:

15 (1) ACCOUNTING OF FINANCIAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES; AND

16 (2) PROGRESS AND OUTCOME METRICS AS DEFINED BY THE OFFICE.

17 (C) (1) ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1, 2027, THE OFFICE SHALL CONDUCT AN
18 EVALUATION OF THE ENOUGH GRANT PROGRAM AND REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO
19 THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE
20 GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

21 (2) THE REPORT MADE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION
22 SHALL INCLUDE AN ANALYSIS OF:

23 (I) THE PROGRESS MADE IN JURISDICTIONS RECEIVING
24 ENOUGH GRANTS BASED ON THE OUTCOME METRICS PRODUCED BY THE GRANT
25 RECIPIENTS;

26 (II) THE IMPACT OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES WITH RESPECT TO
27 REDUCING THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY; AND

28 (III) POLICY CHANGES ENACTED AT THE STATE AND LOCAL
29 LEVEL DESIGNED TO ENABLE BETTER COORDINATION AND EFFICACY.

30 9-2805.

1 (A) THERE IS AN ENOUGH GRANT FUND.

2 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO SUPPORT ENOUGH GRANTS MADE
3 BY THE OFFICE UNDER § 9-2803 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

4 (C) THE SPECIAL SECRETARY SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

5 (D) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT
6 SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

7 (2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY,
8 AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

9 (E) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

10 (1) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND;

11 (2) INTEREST EARNINGS; AND

12 (3) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR
13 THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.

14 (F) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR ENOUGH GRANTS MADE UNDER §
15 9-2803 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

16 (G) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND
17 IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.

18 (2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO
19 THE FUND.

20 (H) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE
21 WITH THE STATE BUDGET.

22 (I) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE
23 ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF \$15,000,000 TO THE FUND.

24 (J) AN APPROPRIATION MADE UNDER SUBSECTION (I) OF THIS SECTION IS
25 SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND NOT INTENDED TO TAKE THE PLACE OF ANY FEDERAL
26 FUNDING RECEIVED FOR PLACE-BASED SUPPORT.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
28 1, 2024.

