

Chapter 753

(House Bill 751)

AN ACT concerning

Public Safety – Officer and Community Wellness Training Grant Fund

FOR the purpose of establishing the Officer and Community Wellness Training Grant Fund; ~~requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill a certain appropriation to the Fund to provide grant assistance to local law enforcement agencies;~~ requiring the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services to administer the Fund and report to the Governor and the General Assembly annually on the uses of the Fund; and generally relating to the Officer and Community Wellness Training Grant Fund.

BY adding to

Article – Public Safety
 Section 4–1012
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2022 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Safety**4–1012.**

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR” MEANS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES.

(3) “FUND” MEANS THE OFFICER AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS TRAINING GRANT FUND.

(4) “LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY” MEANS ~~A POLICE DEPARTMENT OF A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY~~ A GOVERNMENTAL POLICE FORCE, SHERIFF’S OFFICE, OR SECURITY FORCE OR LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION OF THE STATE OR A COUNTY OR A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE THAT BY STATUTE, ORDINANCE, OR COMMON LAW IS AUTHORIZED TO ENFORCE THE GENERAL CRIMINAL LAWS OF THE STATE.

(B) THERE IS AN OFFICER AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS TRAINING GRANT FUND.

(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES FOR:

(1) MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID FOR PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING; AND

(2) CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT PEER SUPPORT TRAINING.

(D) THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

(E) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR ~~SHALL~~ MAY INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF AT LEAST \$1,000,000 FOR THE FUND.

(F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

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

(2) MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.

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

(2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY AND THE COMPTROLLER, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

(H) MONEY DISBURSED FROM THE FUND SHALL BE USED SOLELY TO SUPPLEMENT, AND NOT SUPPLANT, FUNDS OTHERWISE AVAILABLE TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

(I) WITHIN 90 DAYS AFTER THE END OF A GRANT CYCLE, AN ELIGIBLE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT RECEIVED A GRANT UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR, TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THE FOLLOWING:

(1) PROOF OF THE EXPENDITURE OF THE GRANT FUNDS AND THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE FUNDS WERE EXPENDED;

(2) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS AWARDED AND AMOUNT PER POLICE OFFICER;

(3) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS AWARDED SEPARATED BY TRAINING PROGRAM; AND

(4) ANY RELATED OUTCOME-BASED PERFORMANCE MEASURES AS REQUIRED BY § 4-1009 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(J) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2023, AND ON OR BEFORE EACH DECEMBER 31 THEREAFTER, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2023.