

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 2026, Legislative Day No. 17

Bill No. 97-26

Mr. Michael Ertel, Chair
By Request of County Executive

By the County Council, September 22, 2026

A BILL
ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Gifts and Grants – Procedure for Acceptance by the County

FOR the purpose of updating the amounts for the acceptance of certain cash gifts for governmental purposes; authorizing the Administrative Office to accept gifts and grants for governmental purposes under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the acceptance of gifts and supplemental grants.

BY repealing and re-enacting, with amendments

Section 3-11-101(a)
Article 3 – Administration
Title 11 – Gift Review Procedure
Baltimore County Code, 2015

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.
~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from bill.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

BY repealing and re-enacting, with amendments

Section 10-6-102
Article 10 – Finance
Title 6 – Special Revenue Funds and Accounts
Baltimore County Code, 2015

BY adding

Section 3-11-104
Article 3 – Administration
Title 3 – Gift Review Procedure
Baltimore County Code, 2015

WHEREAS, from time to time, Baltimore County receives gifts from members of the public to support governmental purposes, accepted through resolutions passed by the County Council; and

WHEREAS, the Administration regularly receives grants for governmental purposes, in excess of funds identified in the current expense budget, which require legislative bills to accept supplemental appropriations to the budget; and

WHEREAS, such grants have historically been non-controversial and are regularly approved; and

WHEREAS, the process for accepting supplemental grants prolongs acceptance and delays implementation; now, therefore

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE
2 COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Laws of Baltimore County shall read as follows:
3

1 ARTICLE 3 – ADMINISTRATION

2 Title 11 – Gift Review Procedure

3
4 § 3-11-101. In general.

5 (a) This title does not apply to:

6 (1) A gift valued at more than [\$5,000;] \$25,000;

7 (2) A monetary gift, except a gift from a fiscal sponsor under contract with the
8 county as set forth in § 7-1-305.1 of the Code;

9 (3) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a gift of any interest in
10 real property; [or]

11 (4) Gifts accepted pursuant to the “limited emergency” gift procedures set forth
12 in § 3-1-506 of the Code; OR

13 (5) A SUPPLEMENTAL CASH GRANT INTENDED FOR
14 GOVERNMENTAL PURPOSES AND ACCEPTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 10-6-102 OF
15 THE CODE.

16
17 § 3-11-104. SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS FOR EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS.

18 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO OPERATING GRANTS FOR WHICH
19 THERE IS AN EXISTING APPROPRIATION IN THE CURRENT COUNTY EXPENSE
20 BUDGET.

21 (B) WHERE THE COUNTY HAS RECEIVED WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE
22 AVAILABILITY OF GRANT FUNDS SUPPLEMENTAL TO THOSE INCLUDED IN THE
23 CURRENT EXPENSE BUDGET, THE OFFICE OR DEPARTMENT RECEIVING THE

1 SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT SHALL PREPARE AND SUBMIT TO THE COUNTY
2 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER A SUMMARY OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT.

3 (C) THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER SHALL FORWARD, WITH A
4 RECOMMENDATION, THE SUMMARY TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL, COUNCIL
5 SECRETARY, AND COUNTY AUDITOR.

6 (D) SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS SHALL BE CONSIDERED APPROVED, UNLESS
7 WITHIN 14 DAYS, A MEMBER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL REQUESTS, IN WRITING
8 TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND COUNCIL SECRETARY, THAT
9 THE SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT BE PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL
10 BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL AT THE NEXT LEGISLATIVE MEETING.

11
12 ARTICLE 10 – FINANCE

13 Title 6 – Special Revenue Funds and Accounts
14

15 § 10-6-102. Gifts and grants special revenue fund.

16 (a) There is a Gifts and Grants Special Revenue Fund.

17 (b) Subject to § 308(d) of the Charter, the Council may:

18 (1) Accept monetary gifts or grants for programs or projects that are not provided
19 for in the current expense or capital budget; and

20 (2) Appropriate gifts, grants, or fees to the fund for the programs or projects for
21 which the gifts or grants were accepted or for which the fees will be generated.

1 (C) PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF § 3-11-104 OF THE CODE, THE
2 COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER MAY ACCEPT A GIFT OR GRANT THAT IS
3 INTENDED FOR GOVERNMENTAL PURPOSES.

4 [(c)] (D) The county shall make expenditures from the Fund only in accordance with the
5 appropriations required under subsection (b) of this section.

6
7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this Act, having been passed by
8 the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, shall take effect December 7, 2026.