



CITY OF BALTIMORE  
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

<b>TO</b>	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
<b>FROM</b>	Ernestina Simmons, Executive Director, Mayor's office of Homeless Services
<b>CC</b>	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
<b>DATE</b>	May 12, 2026
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Bill Report-BILL 26-0169

**Position: Favorable**

**BILL SYNOPSIS**

*The Mayor's Office of Homeless Services is the collaborative applicant for the Continuum of Care. As a result, our agency receives direct funding from federal state and local government agencies to assist the City of Baltimore in providing services that includes rental assistance and supportive services for clients that are experiencing homelessness or were previously homeless.*

*In 2022, that State of Maryland allocated a one-time bonus award in the amount of \$2 Millions dollars to support our programs. This \$2 million allocation is intended to help individuals and families facing housing instability remain in or secure safe housing by covering rental costs and connecting them to essential support services. The funding enables local providers to deliver direct financial assistance while also addressing underlying challenges, such as income loss or barriers to stability, so households can avoid eviction, exit homelessness more quickly, and maintain long-term housing security*

**SUMMARY OF POSITION**

*This \$2 million funding will enable Mayor's Office of Homeless Services to continue to provide rental assistance and supportive services to clients in our HOPWA Program. In addition, these funds will be used to support our Emergency Solutions Grant Programs that provides emergency shelter, street outreach and supportive services by homeless services providers.*

*Operationally, it will require enhanced grant management, including oversight of sub-recipients, monthly invoicing, compliance monitoring, and data reporting to the state, which may place additional demands on fiscal and program staff. Programmatically, the funding strengthens existing homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing efforts by allowing the agency to serve more households at risk of eviction or currently experiencing homelessness, aligning with its*

*broader goal of making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring. It also reinforces coordination between housing assistance and supportive services, ensuring clients not only receive financial help but are connected to resources that improve long-term stability. Overall, the funding supports scaling current initiatives while requiring disciplined administrative and compliance infrastructure to manage and track outcomes effectively.*

### ***FISCAL IMPACT***

*This funding will not impact the General Fund and does not require any additional staffing resources. It will strengthen the agency's ability to support households in the HOPWA program by providing critical rental assistance that helps prevent eviction and housing loss, ensuring clients living with HIV/AIDS remain stably housed while continuing to access supportive services that improve health and long-term stability. The funding will be administered both directly and as a pass-through to sub-recipients supporting HOPWA and Emergency Solutions Grant programs. Administrative costs are included within the award and will support existing staff managing grant-funded activities, with no need for new personnel, equipment, or additional procurement. The allocation is time-limited and will be fully expended by June 30, 2026, with no ongoing fiscal obligation or impact to the FY27 budget.*

### ***AMENDMENTS***

*No Amendments*