



BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Mission Statement

The Budget and Appropriations Committee is responsible for ensuring taxpayer dollars are expended prudently and equitably. BA will exercise regular oversight of the funding and spending practices of City agencies, the City's budget, expenditures, loans, and other financial matters. The committee's areas of jurisdiction include all budgets & appropriations, taxation, financial services, consumer protection, audits, and the Comptroller's Office.

The Honorable Danielle McCray

CHAIR

PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

9:00 AM

CLARENCE "DU" BURNS COUNCIL CHAMBERS

26-0171

*Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Office
of the State's Attorney – \$2,000,000*

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*Staff: Paroma Nandi
(Paroma.Nandi@baltimorecity.gov)*

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Staff: Ethan Navarre (Ethan.Navarre@baltimorecity.gov)

**BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE****The Honorable Danielle McCray
CHAIR****Bill Hearing**

26-0171

Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Office of the State’s Attorney – \$2,000,000

Purpose of providing a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$2,000,000 to the Office of the State’s Attorney for Baltimore City – Service 786 (Victim and Witness Services), to provide funding for personnel, travel, relocation assistance, and other items to help support the State’s Attorney’s Victim and Witness Services Program; and providing for a special effective date.

REPORTING AGENCIES

States' Attorney's Office	
Department of Finance	Favorable
Law Department	Approved for Form & Legal Sufficiency

BACKGROUND

This grant is awarded by the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy to provide funding for personnel, travel, relocation assistance, and other items to help support the State's Attorney's victim witness program.

FISCAL NOTE

An additional \$2,000,000 has been appropriated to the Office of the State’s Attorney for Fiscal Year 2026. This supplemental funding, provided by a State of Maryland grant, will support Victim and Witness Services (Service 786). This adjustment is necessary to incorporate unanticipated grant funding received from the State of Maryland.

Analysis by: Paroma Nandi
Analysis Date: 5/11/2026Direct Inquiries to: Paroma.Nandi@baltimorecity.gov

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 26-0171
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President
At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)
Introduced and read first time: April 6, 2026
Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Office of**
3 **the State's Attorney – \$2,000,000**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the
5 amount of \$2,000,000 to the Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City – Service 786
6 (Victim and Witness Services), to provide funding for personnel, travel, relocation assistance,
7 and other items to help support the State's Attorney's Victim and Witness Services Program;
8 and providing for a special effective date.

9 BY authority of
10 Article VI - Board of Estimates
11 Section 8(b)(2)(ii) and (c)
12 Baltimore City Charter
13 (1996 Edition)

14 **Recitals**

15 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the State of Maryland's
16 Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy in excess of the revenue relied on by the
17 Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year
18 2026.

19 That grant could not have been expected with reasonable certainty when the Ordinance of
20 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2026 was formulated.

21 On February 4, 2026, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City
22 Council.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Council Bill 26-0171

1 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
2 \$2,000,000 shall be made available to the Office of the State’s Attorney for Baltimore
3 City – Service 786 (Victim and Witness Services) as a Supplementary State Fund Operating
4 Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2026, to provide funding for personnel, travel, relocation
5 assistance, and other items to help support the State’s Attorney’s Victim and Witness Services
6 Program. The source of revenue for this appropriation is a grant from the State of Maryland’s
7 Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy in excess of the amount from this source that
8 was relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the
9 budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

10 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is
11 enacted.

BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL



BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

26-0171

*Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Office
of the State’s Attorney – \$2,000,000*

Agency Reports



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Bob Cennane, Deputy Finance Director <i>Bob Cennane</i>
DATE	April 13 th , 2026
SUBJECT	26-0171 Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Office of the State’s Attorney – \$2,000,000

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400

Position: Support

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 26-0171, Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation- Office of the State's Attorney - \$2,000,000, the purpose of which is to increase the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriation of State Funds by \$2,000,000 to AGC6900 - State's Attorney, SRV0786 Victim and Witness Services.

Background

The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy. In Fiscal 2026, the Office of the State's Attorney did not have an appropriation for unallocated State. However, the Office of the State's Attorney received this grant for \$2,000,000 in State funds. This bill will make \$2,000,000 available to Office of the State's Attorney- SRV0786 (Victim and Witness Services) to provide funding for personnel, travel, relocation assistance, and other items to help support the State's Attorney's victim witness program.

The Baltimore City Charter authorizes agency spending based on the amount enacted in the Ordinance of Estimates. The Department of Finance recommends appropriation transfers and supplementary appropriations when an agency receives unanticipated revenue, such as grants, or implements new programs that could not have been anticipated at the time the budget was developed. This supplemental appropriation is required to meet the Charter requirements.

Fiscal Impact

Office of the State's Attorney requires supplemental appropriation due to an unanticipated grant. This supplemental appropriation of \$2,000,000 is necessary to accommodate these unbudgeted revenues. The grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy will be used to cover these supplemental expenses.

Conclusion

This supplemental appropriation is required to authorize agency spending beyond the amount enacted in the Ordinance of Estimates, and is necessary due to new revenue to support the State's Attorney's victim witness program.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance supports City Council Bill 26-0171.

cc: Michael Mocksten
Nina Themelis

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT,
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
EBONY M. THOMPSON,
CITY SOLICITOR
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

May 7, 2026

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 26-0171 – Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Office of the State’s Attorney – \$2,000,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department reviewed City Council Bill 26-0171 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$2,000,000 to the Office of the State’s Attorney for Baltimore City – Service 786 (Victim and Witness Services), to provide funding for personnel, travel, relocation assistance, and other items to help support the State’s Attorney’s Victim and Witness Services Program. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

Council Bill 26-0171 identifies the revenue appropriated as “a grant from the State of Maryland’s Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy in excess of the revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2026.” The grant could not have been expected with reasonable certainty at the time the Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2026 was formulated, and the bill has been recommended by the Board of Estimates to the City Council. The Council bill cites as authority for the supplementary appropriation Section 8(b)(2)(ii) of Article VI of the City Charter. This section provides that grants from private or governmental sources that could not be expected with reasonable certainty at the time the Ordinance of Estimates was formulated may be made available to the appropriate municipal agency for expenditure.

A supplementary appropriation must be recommended by the Board of Estimates and approved by the Mayor and City Council via an ordinance. The ordinance must identify the source of the funds and may only involve a “single program, purpose, activity or project.” City Charter, Art. VI, § 8(c). Since the bill meets these requirements, the Law Department approves it for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michele Toth".

Michele Toth
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson

Council President Cohen
Ethan Hasiuk
Shamoyia Gardiner
Nina Themelis
Ty'lor Schnella
Aaron Degraffenreidt
Hilary Ruley
Jeff Hochstetler
Ashlea Brown
Desiree Luckey
Ahleah Clark