

**Office of Equity and Civil Rights**  
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**Supplemental Bill Report**  
**Bill Version: Second Reader**

Council Bill 23-0353  
Economic and Community Development

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**Council Bill 23-0353 – Community Reinvestment and Reparations Commission –  
Information Only**

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The Office of Equity and Civil Rights offers the following supplemental comments on Council Bill 23-0353:

It is our understanding that there is some uncertainty as to whether the funds made available through the Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund can be allocated to fund administrative support to administer the Community Reinvestment and Reparations Commission (the Commission).

According to Subtitle 46 – Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund (§ 13-4601) (A) (6) (i) (3), the funds made available to each local jurisdiction (e.g., Baltimore City) may be used for funding “ANY RELATED ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.”<sup>1</sup> Thus, the costs associated with administering the Commission can be construed as being administrative in nature and does not need to be paid via the general fund through the ordinance of estimates.

That said, it is the position of the Office of Equity and Civil Rights that the enabling state legislation allows for such expenditures to be funded using the funds made available to Baltimore City from the Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund.

For any additional context or interpretation, we respectfully defer to the law Department.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior introductions:** None.

**Information Sources:** [Annotated Code of Maryland](#)

**Bill Report history:** First Reader – February 6, 2023 | Second Reader – May 1, 2023

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*Report by:*

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