
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT,
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
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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 26-0187 – Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation – Department of Housing and Community Development – \$459,169

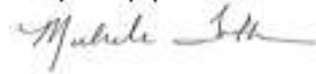
Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department reviewed City Council Bill 26-0187 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$459,169 to the Department of Housing and Community Development – Service 738 (Weatherization Services), to provide funding for professional services and in-service training for weatherization and energy efficiency services for low-income households. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment. The Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development received a three-year grant from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development through the Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program Grant. The supplemental appropriation in Council Bill 26-0187 represents the first year of the grant.

Council Bill 26-0187 identifies the revenue appropriated as “a grant from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development 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,



Michele Toth
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson
Council President Cohen
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