



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Economic and Community Development

Bill: 23-0353

Community Reinvestment and Reparations Commission

Sponsor: *President Mosby*

Introduced: *February 6, 2023*

Purpose:

For the purpose of creating the Community Reinvestment and Reparations Commission to distribute certain funds in accordance with State law; establishing the purpose and duties of the Commission; providing for the composition of the Commission; requiring certain reports; defining certain terms; requiring certain individuals file certain financial disclosures; and generally relating to the Community Reinvestment and Reparations Commission.

Effective: The 30th day after the date it is enacted

Agency Reports

City Solicitor	
Department of Finance	
Department of Human Resources	Favorable
Baltimore City Board of Ethics	No Position

Analysis

Current Law - None

To be added: Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies; Section 59-1 to 59-8 to be under the new subtitle designation "Subtitle 59. Community Reinvestment and Reparations Commission; Baltimore City Code; (Edition 2000)

To be added: Article 8 – Ethics; Section 7-8(6a); Baltimore City Revised Code (2020 Edition)

Background

The State of Maryland created a Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund (FUND) with the purpose of providing funds to community-based organizations that serve communities determined by the Office of the Attorney General to have been impacted by disproportionate enforcement of the cannabis prohibition before July 1, 2022.

Funding for the State FUND consists of revenues generated by adult-use cannabis, licensing fees paid by dual- licensed cannabis establishments and other sources adopted by the State Comptroller for the acceptance of donations or gifts to the Fund.

Funds may only be used for:

- Funding community-based initiatives intended to benefit low-income communities;
- Funding community-based initiatives that serve communities disproportionately harmed by the cannabis prohibition and enforcement; and
- Any related administrative expenses.

Under authority of the *State Health – General Article; Section 13-4601(A)(6)*, each impacted jurisdiction may create a commission to distribute funds disbursed by the Fund. Bill 23-0353 would create, for Baltimore City, a Community Reinvestment and Reparations Commission to establish the purpose for which money received from the Fund may be used.

According to the Bill 23-0353, the newly created commission would consist of 17 members, including:

- the City Comptroller
- 16 members appointed by the Mayor (1 member must be appointed from each of the 14 Council Districts)

- 1 member must be a service provider for incarcerated persons or persons with a criminal record, and
- At least one member must be a representative of a community-based organization that works with low-income communities.

Bill 23-0353 also defines certain terms, outlines membership requirements, and sets term limits, compensation, mandatory meetings and reporting guidelines, and other rules and regulations. Members and non-clerical employees would be required to file financial disclosures.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: Available

Information Source(s): Reporting Agencies and 23-0353 Baltimore City Code

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