


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Faith Leach, Acting Director Faith Leach, Interim Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success 100 Holliday Street, Baltimore, MD 21201		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 21-0174 Grant Program		

DATE:

TO

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

December 16, 2021

Position: Oppose

The Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success (MOCFS) has been asked to respond to City Council Resolution 21-0174 introduced by Council President Mosby, Councilmembers Bullock, Middleton, Stokes, McCray, Conway, Schleifer, Costello, Glover, and Ramos.

Background

The Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success (MOCFS) has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0174 for the purpose of establishing the Baltimore City Senior Homeowners Grant Program; specifying the purpose of the Program; establishing eligibility criteria for the Program; specifying the assistance provided by the Program; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Baltimore City Senior Homeowners Grant Program. The purpose of the program is to stabilize Baltimore's neighborhoods and retain valuable long-term residents by providing grants to seniors who are vulnerable to the loss of their homes due to a reverse mortgage.

MOCFS Comments

While the Mayor's Office of Family & Children Success does not currently support or provide specialized programs or services that would fall under the Baltimore City Seniors Homeowners Grant Program, the agency does currently support assistance programs that positively impact lives of children and families across Baltimore such as the water, energy, and rental assistance programs.

Due to the experience and expertise that MOCFS has in supporting the above-mentioned assistance programs, the Office opposes this legislation due to the operational burden that would be incurred with added resources and staffing needs to assist with implementation. While MOCFS would not be responsible for implementation and therefore its own resources would not be affected, the office is highly knowledgeable in the commitment of staff, time, and resources needed to support successful assistance programs. MOCFS does not believe the legislation as written allows for the Department of Housing and Community Development to properly implement such a program without incurring additional duties which require significant increases in resources.

The Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success thanks the Committee of the Whole for the opportunity to respond to Council Resolution 21-0174 and stands ready to answer any questions the committee may have.

Conclusion

The Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success opposes this resolution.

cc: Natasha Mehu
Nina Themelis