BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Mission Statement

The Budget and Appropriations Committee (BA) *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, November 4, 2025

9:00 AM
CLARENCE "DU" BURNS COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Bill: 25-0109

Title: Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000

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BRANDON SCOTT – MAYOR
ZEKE COHEN - COUNCIL PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES
NANCY MEAD – DIRECTOR
100 N. HOLIDAY STREET
BALTIMORE MD, 21202

Meeting: Bill Hearing
Committee: Budget & Appropriations
Bill # 25-0109

Title: Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000

Purpose: For the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of $300,000 to the Mayor's Office of Employment Development – Service 795 (Workforce Services for Baltimore Residents), to provide funding to support the creation of recovery friendly workplaces and care navigators; and providing for a special effective date.

REPORTING AGENCIES

Agency	Report
Law Department	Approved for form and legal sufficiency
Department of Finance	Favorable with Amendments
Mayor's Office of Employment Development	Favorable

BACKGROUND

The $300,000 appropriated for this Bill represents a supplementary special grant fund for Fiscal Year 2026 from the State of Maryland Recovery Friendly Workplace program. The funding will support the creation of recovery friendly workplaces and care navigators. The Fiscal Year 2026 budget for the Mayor's Office of Employment Development was approved.

The Department of Finance Reported that the Mayor's Office of Employment Development received notice of a State grant following adoption of the Fiscal 2026 budget. The agency will receive $494,038 through a three-year grant from the State of Maryland Recovery Friendly Workplace program (see allocation in the chart below). Council Bill 25-0109 seeks to appropriate the first year of this grant award; the remaining grant award will be appropriated in subsequent fiscal years.[i]

Description	**Allocation**
Personnel - Project Lead, Recovery Friendly Advisor	
Salary	$300,022
Fringe	$88,811
Travel	$25,055
Supplies	$11,821
Equipment	$3,150

Stakeholder Convenings	$15,000
Workers' Compensation Contribution	$5,266
Admin/Indirect Costs	$44,913
Total	**$494,038**

Additional appropriations are permitted due to unanticipated grants that could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates per the City Charter Article VI, §8(b)(2)(ii). Each additional appropriation requires a separate ordinance limited to a single program, purpose, activity or project. [ii]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Fiscal Note:

Council Bill - Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000 will support the development of building a network of businesses designated as 'Recovery Friendly'. This program will specifically work to connect jobseekers to Recovery Friendly Advisors to assist them in their job search.

The Department of Finance Report indicates that MOED aims to onboard 45 "Recovery Friendly Workplaces" and provide to support 120 individuals through "Recovery Friendly" advisors. This budget covers the cost of 1 City position, supply and overhead. No local match is required for this grant. [i]

Analysis by: Paroma Nandi Direct Inquiries to: 443-890-0839 Analysis Date:10/31/2025, Updated on 11/3/2025 to include MOED Bill Report

Sources:

[i] Baltimore City Council Bill 25-0109. Agency Report – Finance Department's Bureau of Budget and Management Research (BBMR) (October 30, 2025). Legistar.
[ii] Baltimore City Charter Article VI, §8(b)(2)(ii) and (c).

Baltimore City Council

Budget & Appropriations Committee

Bill: 25-0109

Title: Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000

Agency Reports

CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Laura Larsen, Budget Director
DATE	October 30th, 2025
SUBJECT	City Council Bill 25-00111 Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000

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 25-00111, Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation –Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000, the purpose of providing funding for local employment agencies to build a network of businesses designated as 'Recovery Friendly' and provide for a network of advisors to support residents in recovery and businesses in the network.

Background
The Mayor's Office of Employment Development received notice of a State grant following adoption of the Fiscal 2026 budget. The agency will receive $494,038 through a three-year grant from the State of Maryland Recovery Friendly Workplace program. This action seeks to appropriate the first year of this grant award; the remaining grant award will be appropriate in subsequent fiscal years.

Fiscal Impact
Through the Recovery Friendly Workplace grant, MOED will work to build a network of businesses designated as 'Recovery Friendly'. The program also connects jobseekers to Recovery Friendly Advisors to assist them in their job search.

Over the life of the grant, MOED is aiming to onboard 45 'Recovery Friendly Workplaces' and provide support to 120 individuals through 'Recovery Friendly' advisors. The budget covers the cost for 1 City position and the corresponding supply and overhead budget. There is no local match requirement for the grant.

The budget for the program for the duration of the grant is allocated as follows:

- Personnel-
  - Project Lead, Recovery Friendly Advisor
  - Salary - $300,022
  - Fringe - $88,811
- Travel Expenses - $25,055

- Supplies - $11,821
- Equipment - $3,150
- Stakeholder Convenings - $15,000
- Workers' Compensation Contribution - $5,266
- Admin/Indirect Costs - $44,913

Conclusion
Approval of this supplemental appropriation will allow MOED to begin implementing the Recovery Friendly Workplace program. The funding will support staffing and program operations needed to establish partnerships with employers and provide employment support to individuals in recovery. This action ensures that the agency can fully utilize external grant funding to advance workforce inclusion and strengthen local employment opportunities without requiring additional City resources.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance supports City Council Bill 25-0111.

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

October 24, 2025

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 25-0109 – Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

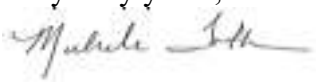
The Law Department reviewed City Council Bill 25-0109 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of $300,000 to the Mayor's Office of Employment Development – Service 795 (Workforce Services for Baltimore Residents), to provide funding to support the creation of recovery friendly workplaces and care navigators. The money for this supplementary appropriation is from a grant from the State of Maryland 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 when the Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2026 was formulated. The bill would take effect on its date of enactment.

Section 8(b)(2)(ii) of Article VI of the City Chater provides:

> Grants from private or governmental sources that could not be expected with reasonable certainty at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates may be made available to the appropriate municipal agency for expenditure by a supplementary appropriation ordinance recommended to the City Council by the Board of Estimates, duly passed by the City Council by a majority vote of its members and approved by the Mayor.

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). Council Bill 25-0109 satisfies these requirements. Since it meets these criteria, Law Department approves this bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,



Michele Toth
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson
Ethan Hasiuk
Ty'lor Schnella
Shamoyia Gardiner
Hilary Ruley
Jeff Hochstetler
Ashlea Brown
Desiree Luckey
Ahleah Knapp

Baltimore City Council

Budget & Appropriations

Committee

Bill: 25-0109

Title: Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000

Additional Materials

TO: Board of Estimates, Office of Comptroller

FROM: AGC2300-BBMR - Bureau of Budget Management Research :
AGC4500 - M-R Office of Employment Development

DATE: 10/15/2025

Submission #: SB-25-13715

SUBJECT: FY26 Budget Supplemental for Grant Award - Recovery Friendly Workplace Pilot Program FY25-28

ACTION REQUESTED OF BOARD OF ESTIMATES:

The Board is requested to approve a Supplemental Appropriation from the State of Maryland through the Recovery Friendly Workplace program.

PERIOD OF CONTRACT/AGREEMENT:

Based on Board Approval

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDS:

Transaction Amount: $ 300,000.00

Project Fund	Amount
5000	$ 300,000.00

BACKGROUND/EXPLANATION:

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) has received a three-year grant from the State of Maryland through the Recovery Friendly Workplace program. This grant helps local employment agencies build a network of businesses designated as 'Recovery Friendly'. The program also connects jobseekers to Recovery Friendly Advisors to assist them in their job search.

Over the life of the grant, MOED is aiming to onboard 45 'Recovery Friendly Workplaces' and provide support to 120 individuals through 'Recovery Friendly' advisors. The budget covers the cost for 1 City position and the corresponding supply and overhead budget. There is no local match requirement for the grant.

The requested supplemental represents years one and two of the grant. The third (and final) portion of the grant will be included in MOED's Fiscal 2027 budget request. The total grant over the three-year period is $494,038.

Following approval by the Board of Estimates, the supplemental request will be introduced to the City Council for review and approval.

COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide

EMPLOY BALTIMORE:	LIVING WAGE:	LOCAL HIRING:	PREVAILING WAGE:
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

1% FOR PUBLIC ART: N/A.

ENDORSEMENTS:

Finance (BBMR) has reviewed and approved for funds.

SMBA&D has reviewed and approved.

Clerk, Board of Estimates

10-15-2025

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 25-0109
(First Reader)

Introduced by: The Council President
At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)
Introduced and read first time: October 20, 2025
Assigned to: Budget and Appropriations Committee
REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Mayor's Office of Employment Development

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE concerning

Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000

FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of $300,000 to the Mayor's Office of Employment Development – Service 795 (Workforce Services for Baltimore Residents), to provide funding to support the creation of recovery friendly workplaces and care navigators; and providing for a special effective date.

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

Recitals

The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents a grant from the State of Maryland 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.

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

On October 15, 2025, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City Council.

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

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That $300,000 shall be made available to the Mayor's Office of Employment Development – Service 795 (Workforce Services for Baltimore Residents) as a Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2026, to provide funding to support the creation of recovery friendly workplaces and care navigators. The source of revenue for this appropriation is the grant from the State of Maryland in excess of the amount from this source that was relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

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

Baltimore City Council

Budget & Appropriations Committee

Bill: 25-0109

Title: Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000

Agency Reports

CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	MacKenzie Garvin, Director, Mayor's Office of Employment Development
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	October 31, 2025
SUBJECT	25-0109 – Supplementary Special Grant Fund Operating Appropriation – Mayor's Office of Employment Development – $300,000

Position: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development is herein reporting on City Council Bill 25-0109, Supplementary Fund 5000 Appropriation- Mayors Office of Employment Development - $300,000, the purpose of which is to increase the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriation of Funds by $300,000 to the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, Service: SRV0795 Workforce Services for Baltimore Residents.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

The Maryland Department of Labor currently has a Recovery-Friendly Workplace pilot (RFW) funding local areas to educate the business community about the benefits of providing resources for employees struggling with substance use disorders, and for jobseekers in recovery that have barriers to employment as a result of their previous struggles with substance use. MOED is currently on the policy advisory committee for this program and is implementing the RFW tenants.

Funding from the Recovery-Friendly Workplace pilot (RFW) Grant would allow MOED to better define how the job developer engages with the larger MOED business services team and to determine how we might best absorb this role into our WIOA funding while continuing to specialize in serving people in recovery and educating businesses on the RFW (Recovery-Friendly Workplaces).

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

FISCAL IMPACT

Mayor's Office of Employment Development requires supplemental appropriation due to timing of the award as it relates to the city budget planning. The grant could not have been expected with reasonable certainty when the Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2026 was formulated. This supplemental

appropriation of $300,000 is necessary to accommodate these unbudgeted costs. The Funding from the for Recovery Friendly Workplace Grant 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/programming for the Recovery Friendly Workplace.

For the reasons stated above, the Mayor's Office of Employment Development City Council Bill 25-0109, Supplementary Fund Appropriation- Mayors Office of Employment Development - $300,000.

AMENDMENTS TO COUNCIL BILL 25-0109
(1st Reader Copy)

By: Department of Finance
{To be offered to the Budget and Appropriations Committee}

Amendment No. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike "**Special Grant**" and substitute "**State**"; and, on that same page, in line 4 strike "Special Grant" and substitute "State"; and, on page 2, in line 3, strike "Special Grant" and substitute "State".