

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 23-0177R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Costello and President Mosby
Introduced and adopted: June 14, 2023

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

1 **Reduction to the Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024 –**
2 **Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts**

3 FOR the purpose of articulating the intent of the City Council’s amendment to the Ordinance of
4 Estimates for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024, Council Bill 23-0381, that reduces
5 formal funding to Service 824 of the Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts.

6 **Recitals**

7 The Baltimore City Council reduced Service 824 of the Baltimore Office of Promotion and
8 the Arts (BOPA) by \$1,744,002 in an amendment to the Ordinance of Estimates for the Fiscal
9 Year Ending June 30, 2024, Council Bill 23-0381.

10 Citizens of Baltimore have expressed deep concerns about several aspects of BOPA,
11 including: (1) BOPA’s board governance and membership; (2) the operations of the Baltimore
12 Film Office; (3) the operations of the Baltimore Arts Council and Public Arts Commission; and
13 (4) BOPA’s ability to carry out its mandate to produce events and festivals, administer grants,
14 manage arts education and public art programming, provide film production support, and provide
15 oversight of Baltimore City facilities in its care. As a result, the City Council has taken action to
16 ensure improved stewardship of the City’s arts and culture initiatives. The \$1,744,002
17 previously allocated for BOPA will be reserved for managing these initiatives, as well as
18 supporting current employees and grantees as the City’s administration of these resources
19 changes.

20 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the
21 Baltimore City Council requests that the Baltimore Office for Promotion and the Arts implement
22 measures to address the concerns cited in this Resolution by September 30, 2023.

23 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That, through a supplemental appropriation for the Fiscal
24 Year ending June 30, 2024, the City Council seeks to restore funding to the Baltimore Office of
25 Promotion and the Arts at a time to be determined by on the mutual agreement of the Mayor and
26 City Council.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

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1 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
2 Chief Executive Officer of the Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts, the Board of
3 Directors of the Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts, and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison
4 to the City Council.