

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 24-0488  
(First Reader)**

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Introduced by: The Council President  
At the request of: The Administration (Department of Finance)  
Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2024  
Assigned to: Ways and Means Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Baltimore Office for Promotion and the Arts, Department of General Services, Board of Estimates

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation –**  
3 **M-R: Arts and Culture – \$581,334**

4 FOR the purpose of providing a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the  
5 amount of \$581,334 to M-R: Arts and Culture – Service 824 (Events: Art: Culture: and  
6 Film), to provide funding for general operations; and providing for a special effective date.

7 BY authority of  
8 Article VI - Board of Estimates  
9 Section 8(b)(2)(iii) and (c)  
10 Baltimore City Charter  
11 (1996 Edition)

12 **Recitals**

13 ***Part 1. Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts – Background***

14 The City Council reduced the Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2024 by \$1,744,002 in  
15 Service 824 (Events: Art: Culture: and Film), which supports the Baltimore Office of Promotion  
16 and the Arts’ (“BOPA”) budget. City Council Resolution 23-0177R, adopted on June 14, 2023,  
17 detailed concerns regarding the following: (1) BOPA’s board governance and structure;  
18 (2) operations of the Baltimore Film Office; (3) operations of the Baltimore Arts Council and  
19 Public Arts Commission; and (4) BOPA’s ability to carry out its mandate to produce events and  
20 festivals, administer grants, manage arts education and public art programming, provide film  
21 production support, and provide oversight of Baltimore City facilities in its care.

22 The Administration and City Council have determined that marked progress has been made  
23 in these areas in the time since 23-0177R was adopted. Ordinance 23-274, effective October 15,  
24 2023, and Ordinance 24-300, effective January 17, 2024, each restored \$581,334 to Service 824,  
25 totaling \$1,162,668.

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

## Council Bill 24-0488

1 This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> supplemental appropriation that will restore funding to the Baltimore Office of  
2 Promotion and the Arts in recognition that BOPA has complied with the requested actions of the  
3 City Council. This supplementary appropriation will restore the final portion of the monies  
4 originally cut from the Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2024. This supplementary  
5 appropriation shall fund BOPA for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of Fiscal Year 2024.

### *Part 2. Supplementary Appropriation*

7 The revenue appropriated by this Ordinance represents Transfer Tax revenue in excess of the  
8 revenue relied on by the Board of Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the  
9 budget for Fiscal Year 2024.

10 This additional revenue could not have been reasonably anticipated when the Ordinance of  
11 Estimates for Fiscal Year 2024 was formulated.

12 This appropriation is made necessary by a material change in circumstances since the  
13 Ordinance of Estimates for Fiscal Year 2024 was formulated or is for a new program that could  
14 not have been reasonably anticipated when that Ordinance of Estimates was formulated.

15 On January 24, 2024, the Board of Estimates recommended this appropriation to the City  
16 Council.

17 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That  
18 \$581,334 shall be made available to M-R: Arts and Culture – Service 824 (Events: Art: Culture:  
19 and Film) as a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2024, to  
20 provide funding for general operations. The source of revenue for this appropriation is Transfer  
21 Tax revenue in excess of the amount from this source that was relied on by the Board of  
22 Estimates in determining the tax levy required to balance the budget for Fiscal Year 2024.

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