



CITY OF BALTIMORE  
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

<b>TO</b>	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
<b>FROM</b>	Mary Beth Haller, Interim Commissioner of Health, Baltimore City Health Department
<b>CC</b>	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
<b>DATE</b>	January 24, 2025
<b>SUBJECT</b>	25-0011 – Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation – Baltimore City Health Department – \$2,000,000

**Position: Favorable**

**BILL SYNOPSIS**

This ordinance seeks to provide a Supplementary Special Revenue Fund Operating Appropriation of \$2M to the Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) – Service 307 (Health - Substance Use Disorder) for staffing and support costs for opioid response and recovery strategies.

**SUMMARY OF POSITION**

In August 2024, Mayor Scott signed an executive order (EO) establishing a framework for the use and management of the City's opioid restitution funds. Among other things, the EO established a separate Baltimore City Opioid Restitution Fund and a trust that will sustain the impact of the funds for at least 15 years. To date, Baltimore City has reached awards totaling more than \$668.5M (through both settlements and jury awards). Mayor Scott announced at the time of his EO that he was allocating \$20M to BCHD to increase its capacity to respond to overdose. BCHD has developed a five-year plan for use of those funds, which will focus on core public health functions: epidemiology and data, planning and policy, communications and community mobilization, and assurance of essential services. This supplementary appropriation of \$2M will go toward immediate needs for bolstering BCHD's overdose prevention and response prevention, including staffing, program costs, and the creation of a new Division of Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction (currently, BCHD's overdose prevention and response programming are housed within the agency's Division of Population Health and Disease Prevention).

***FISCAL IMPACT***

Please see above.

***AMENDMENTS***

None.