

# CITY OF BALTIMORE

Brandon M. Scott, Mayor



## Mayor's Office of Employment Development

Jason Perkins-Cohen  
Director  
417 E. Fayette Street, Suite 468  
Baltimore, MD 21202

The Honorable President and Members  
of the Baltimore City Council  
Attn: Education, Workforce and Youth Committee  
Room 409, City Hall  
100 N. Holiday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

### Re: Council Bill 21-0022R – Arts Covid Funds

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) is herein reporting on City Council resolution 21-0022R which is for the purpose of calling on the Administration, if the City receives additional COVID-19 relief funds from the United States Congress, to invest at least \$1 million of those funds to establish an emergency fund to assist Baltimore City artists.

The 2017 *Arts and Economic Prosperity* study released by the Baltimore Promotion of the Arts (BOPA), states that the city's nonprofit arts and culture sector is a \$606 million industry supporting more than 15,000 full-time jobs and generating \$54.5 million in local and state revenue. The Covid-19 pandemic has severely impacted many industries including the arts, and specifically, the many people who work in or support the community such as theaters, parking garages, restaurants, coffee shops, galleries and more. The artist community in Baltimore City is an important part of the local economy and vital to the creation of local jobs and businesses that hire local residents.

The \$1 million in Covid-19 relief funds from the United States Congress would have a positive impact on local hiring and job creation for Baltimore City residents. Therefore, the Mayor's Office of Employment Development supports City Council resolution 21-0022R.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Perkins-Cohen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jason Perkins-Cohen  
Director