



Legislation Text

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**Explanation:** Capitals indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

\* **Warning:** This is an unofficial, introductory copy of the bill.  
The official copy considered by the City Council is the first reader copy.

**Introductory\***

**City of Baltimore  
Council Bill  
(Charter Amendment)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Scott

A Resolution Entitled

A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council concerning  
**Charter Amendment - Equity Assistance Fund**

For the purpose of authorizing the establishment of a continuing, nonlapsing Equity Assistance Fund, to be used exclusively to assist efforts that reduce inequity based on race, gender, or economic status in Baltimore; requiring that the annual Ordinance of Estimates include a specified appropriation for the Equity Assistance Fund; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection.

By proposing to add

Article I - General Provisions  
Section 15  
Baltimore City Charter  
(1996 Edition)

**Section 1. Be it resolved by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore,** That the City Charter is proposed to be amended to read as follows:

**Baltimore City Charter**

**Article I. General Provisions**

**§ 15. Special fund for equity assistance.**

(a) *Authorization.*

- (1) By Ordinance, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore may establish a continuing, nonlapsing fund for purposes of assisting efforts that reduce inequity based on race, gender, or economic status in Baltimore.
- (2) These purposes include supporting and augmenting programs and activities that are designed to:

- (i) provide equity in housing;
- (ii) provide equitable access to education;
- (iii) assist efforts to redress past inequities in City capital budget spending; *and*
- (iv) eliminating structural and institutional racism and other forms of discrimination based on immutable characteristics.

(b) *Revenue sources.*

The fund established under this section may consist of:

- (1) a mandatory annual appropriation in the Ordinance of Estimates of an amount equal to at least 3% of the amount appropriated for the Police Department of Baltimore City; and
- (2) grants or donations made to the fund.

(c) *Continuing nature of fund.*

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Charter, unspent portions of the fund established under this section:

- (1) remain in the fund, to be used exclusively for their ordained purposes;
- (2) do not revert to the general revenues of the City; and
- (3) their appropriations do not lapse.

**Section 2. And be it further resolved,** That this proposed amendment to the City Charter be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of Baltimore City, for adoption or rejection, in accordance with Article XI-A, § 5 of the Maryland Constitution, in the form specified by the City Solicitor.