

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Bill 2024-12**

The Charles County Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., in a hybrid format, both virtually and in person at the Charles County Government Building, 200 Baltimore Street, La Plata, Maryland, to consider the Bill #2024-12, Establishment of a Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund (CRRF). The bill amends Chapter 281 of the Charles County Code to specify the use of funds from the State of Maryland CRRF, as required by the *Cannabis Reform Act of 2023*. According to state law, before a local jurisdiction may expend any of the revenues disbursed to it from the CRRF, it must pass a local law establishing the purpose for which money received from the CRRF may be used. Consistent with state law, Bill #2024-12 proposes to use disbursements from the CRRF to support community-based initiatives that help low-income communities and to support community-based initiatives that serve disproportionately impacted areas, as defined in § 36-101 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Individuals or representatives of groups wishing to make oral or written comments are encouraged to attend the hearing.

**In-person:** Speaker sign-up will begin 30 minutes (1/2 hour) prior to the hearing at the Charles County Government Building (200 Baltimore Street, La Plata) and will end at the commencement of the hearing.

**Virtually:** Call (240) 776-6709, between 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, to register to speak. Once registered, individuals will receive a virtual link to testify between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. after in-person speakers testify. If you are not available to speak when your name is called, we have the right to move on to the next caller. Each speaker will be allotted three (3) minutes.

Written or voicemail comments may be submitted in lieu of oral testimony, or to expand upon oral testimony, and will be accepted Friday, June 21, 2024, starting at 8 a.m. through Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 5 p.m. for:

**E-Comment:** is <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/public-comments/public-hearing-comments/briefing-on-community-reinvestment-and-repair-funds>

**Phone message:** call 301-645-0652

**Mail:** Commissioners of Charles County, 200 Baltimore Street, La Plata, Maryland 20646. Comments sent by mail must be received no later than Tuesday, July 9, 2024.

Individuals with special needs may contact Maryland Relay Service TDD 1-800-735-2258. The bill may be viewed in the Government Building Auditorium at 200 Baltimore St., La Plata, MD 20646 or online at: <https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/charles->

[county-commissioners/board-of-charles-county-commissioners-meetings](#). For more information, please contact Danielle Mitchell, at 301-645-0555 or by email [mitcheld@CharlesCountyMD.gov](mailto:mitcheld@CharlesCountyMD.gov).

**BY ORDER OF THE CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Reuben B. Collins, II., Esq., President

In the event the notified meeting is canceled due to inclement weather or acts of nature beyond the control of the County, all items scheduled to be discussed or heard at the meeting will be rescheduled to a later date at 6:00pm in the County Commissioners Meeting Room.

Please publish two (2) times.....issues of Friday, June 21, 2024, and Friday, June 28, 2024.

1        **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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3                                **2024 Legislative Session**

4  
5        Bill No. 2024-12  
6        Chapter 281  
7        Introduced by Charles County Board of County Commissioners  
8        Date of Introduction June 11, 2024

9  
10                                **BILL**

11  
12        AN ACT concerning:

13                **ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND**

14  
15        FOR the purpose of:

16                Amending the Charles County Code to adopt a local law specifying the use of funds from the  
17                State of Maryland Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund, as required by Maryland law.

18  
19        BY Amending:

20                Chapter 281- Taxation

21        BY Adding:

22                Article XI, COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND

23                §281-38 through §281-40

24                *Code of Charles County, Maryland*

25  
26                **SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF**  
27        **CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Laws of Charles County, Maryland read as**  
28        **follows:**

**Article XI**  
**COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND**

**§ 281-38 DEFINITIONS**

In this article, the following words have the meanings indicated:

**CANNABIS**

HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §1-101 OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CANNABIS ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE, AS AMENDED.

**COUNTY REINVESTMENT FUNDS**

MONIES DISBURSED TO THE COUNTY FROM THE STATE OF MARYLAND COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND.

**DEPARTMENT**

THE CHARLES COUNTY DEPARTMENT FISCAL & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.

**DIRECTOR**

THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT, OR A DESIGNEE OF THE DIRECTOR.

**DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED AREA**

HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 36-101 OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CANNABIS ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE, AS AMENDED.

**STATE FUND OR FUND**

THE COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

**§ 281-39 PURPOSE OF FUNDS.**

- A. IN ACCORDANCE WITH §1-322 OF THE ALCOHOL BEVERAGES AND CANNABIS ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE, DISBURSEMENTS OF THE STATE FUND TO THE COUNTY SHALL SUPPORT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE COMMUNITIES DETERMINED BY THE STATE OF MARYLAND OFFICE OF SOCIAL EQUITY, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, TO HAVE BEEN THE MOST IMPACTED BY DISPROPORTIONATE ENFORCEMENT OF THE CANNABIS PROHIBITION BEFORE JULY 1, 2022.

**§ 281-40 USE OF FUNDS.**

- A. THE COUNTY SHALL USE THE COUNTY REINVESTMENT FUNDS SOLELY FOR:

(1) COMMUNITY-BASED INITIATIVES INTENDED TO BENEFIT LOW INCOME COMMUNITIES;

(2) COMMUNITY-BASED INITIATIVES THAT SERVE DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED AREAS;

Asterisks \*\*\* mean intervening code language remaining unchanged

CAPITALS mean language added to the law

[Brackets] mean language deleted from the law

- 1 (3) ANY OTHER USE PERMITTED BY §1-322 OF THE ALCOHOL BEVERAGES  
2 AND CANNABIS ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE, AS AMENDED; AND
- 3 (4) RELATED ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.
- 4 B. COUNTY REINVESTMENT FUNDS MAY NOT BE EXPENDED FOR LAW  
5 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OR ACTIVITIES.  
6
- 7 C. COUNTY REINVESTMENT FUNDS ARE SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND MAY NOT  
8 SUPPLANT FUNDING THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE APPROPRIATED FOR  
9 PREEXISTING COUNTY PROGRAMS.
- 10 D. THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL APPROVE THE USE OF  
11 THE COUNTY REINVESTMENT FUNDS ANNUALLY BEFORE EXPENDITURE  
12 OF FUNDS MAY OCCUR, FOLLOWING A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE  
13 COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED USE. THE PUBLIC HEARING MAY BE HELD  
14 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ANNUAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING OR  
15 SEPARATELY, AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
16 COMMISSIONERS.  
17

18 **SECTION 2.** AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, THAT THIS ACT SHALL TAKE  
19 EFFECT FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS FROM THE DATE IT IS ADOPTED.

20  
21 ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.  
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23 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
24 CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND  
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28 \_\_\_\_\_  
29 Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq. President  
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33 Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., Vice President

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36 Gilbert O. Bowling, III

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39 Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.  
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Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.

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ATTEST:

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Carol DeSoto, CAP, OM, Clerk