



FREDERICK COUNTY COUNCIL

Local Government Fiscal and Policy Note

CONTACT INFORMATION AND GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Bill Number/Reference:	22-11
Bill Title:	Increase General Fund Mandated Reserve (Committed General Fund Balance)
Local Government Agency:	Finance Division
Prepared By:	Erin White
Title:	Director of Finance
Phone Number:	301-600-1193
E-Mail Address:	ewhite@frederickcountymd.gov
Due Date:	May 31, 2022
Date Submitted:	May 31, 2022

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Date:						
Please respond to the questions below. If you prefer to provide responses or additional information in a separate file or document, send the file or document in a separate e-mail to rcherney@frederickcountymd.gov with the bill number/reference in the subject line.						
1.	Describe the impact of this proposed legislation on your agency (operations, revenues, expenditures, etc). If there is no impact, <u>please explain why.</u>					
<p>This bill serves to strengthen and protect the financial integrity of Frederick County Government by increasing the County's committed general fund balance currently set at 7% of the general fund expenditures and transfers to the Board of Education (BOE) and Frederick Community College (FCC) for prior fiscal years to 8% of general fund expenditures and transfers to the Debt Service Fund, BOE and FCC for fiscal year 2022 and thereafter. To ensure stable tax rates it is important for the County to have adequate levels of fund balance to mitigate current and future financial risks, such as revenue shortfalls and unanticipated expenditures.</p> <p>The three major credit rating agencies, Fitch Ratings, S&P Global, and Moody's carefully monitor the amount of reserve funds held by government and consider higher reserves to be beneficial to their assessment of a jurisdiction's credit worthiness. It is reflected in our triple A ratings from all three agencies that they closely monitor the reserve fund balances and consider them extremely important to the County's fiscal stability and sustainability. Building reserves that could be used in an emergency or during a difficult economic cycle is critical for the County to be able to react to these types of situations.</p>						
2.	Please indicate whether the proposed legislation will affect small businesses in Frederick County, and if it will, please provide any information you may have which could be useful in determining the economic impact on small businesses.					
This legislation will not have an impact on small businesses in Frederick County.						
FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY – SHOW (DECREASE) IN PARENTHESES						
<u>REVENUES</u>						
3.	Analysis of estimated increase (or decrease) in government revenues. Please estimate below any anticipated increase (or decrease) in revenues resulting from this legislation. Please be aware of any delayed effective dates in the bill or other factors that may cause revenue increases/decreases to begin in later years.					
<u>Source</u>		<u>FY 2023</u>	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>
TOTAL \$		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Please explain how the above estimated increase(s) or decrease(s) were arrived at, including any calculations and/or assumptions made. Please also explain any variation if the revenue increase(s)/decrease(s) are not constant.						
N/A – This legislation will not have an impact on County revenues.						

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<u>EXPENDITURES</u>						
4.	Analysis of estimated increase (or decrease) in government expenditures . Please estimate below any anticipated increase (or decrease) in expenditures resulting from this legislation. Please be aware of any delayed effective dates in the bill or other factors that may cause expenditure increases/decreases to begin in later years.					
A. Salaries & Wages		<u>FY 2023</u>	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>
FTE Employees - _____ # of positions						
Fringe Benefits						
TOTAL (Salaries, wages & benefits)		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		Please provide an explanation of the need for the number and type of any personnel listed above, including (1) what specific provision(s) of the bill necessitate additional staff; (2) what the duties of each type employee will be; and (3) why existing personnel cannot absorb the additional work. Please also certify the wage/salary rate and % fringe rate (if differing rates apply) for each personnel classification.				
B. Other Operating Expenses		<u>FY 2023</u>	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>
Technical/Special Fees, Grants/Subsidies						
Communications-Phone, Postage						
Travel, Food, Auto, Fuel & Utilities						
Contractual Services						
Supplies						
Equipment-Replacement						
Equipment-Additional						
Land & Structures, Fixed Charges						
Other (Please Specify on Extra Page(s))						
TOTAL (Expenditures)		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		On the next page, please provide brief descriptions/breakdowns of the above "Other Operating Expenses."				
		Please explain below any additional calculations or assumptions made in estimating the "Other Operating Expenses" that will help us to understand the amounts and timing of the expenses.				
N/A - This legislation should not have an impact on County expenditures.						

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4. (cont'd)

C. Operating Expense Descriptions/Breakdowns

Please provide below a short description of the specific purpose of each expense listed under 4B. If any amount(s) listed under 4B represent(s) a total of multiple expenses, provide a breakdown of the fiscal 2021 amount with a short description of each expense (for example, if \$2,500 is listed for Communications – Phone, Postage, a statement such as “\$1,500 for cellphone charges for two new inspectors and \$1,000 for postage for mailings to permittees to notify them of changes to inspection requirements.”)

Fiscal 2023 Expenditures

Technical/Special Fees, Grants & Subsidies description/breakdown	\$
Communications – Phone, Postage description/breakdown	\$
Travel, Food, Auto Operations, Fuel & Utilities description/breakdown	\$
Contractual Services description/breakdown	\$
Supplies description/breakdown	\$
Equipment-Replacement description/breakdown	\$
Equipment-Additional description/breakdown	\$
Land & Structures, Fixed Charges description/breakdown	\$
Other (Please Specify) description/breakdown	\$

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ADDITIONAL POLICY IMPLICATIONS/CONCERNS

**Please submit BY E-MAIL to: Ragen Cherney, Legislative Director/Chief of Staff
Frederick County Council • E-Mail: RCherney@FrederickCountyMD.gov**