Introduced May 27 7070
Public Hearing Total Total
Council Action
Executive Action
Effective Date

June 2, 2000

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2020Legislative Session

Legislative Day No.

Supplementary Budget & Appropriation Ordinance

No. 4 - Fiscal Year 2020

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT transferring \$701,568 486,100 from the General Fund, Contingency Reserve to the Board of Elections to cover unanticipated costs associated with Maryland's 7th Congressional District special primary and general election and converting the primary election to a "vote-by-mail" election.

Introduced and read first time Noy 27, 2020. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled. By order Line Achievement Jones, Administrato
Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on 2020. By order Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrator
This Bill was read the third time on Twe 2020 and Passed, Passed with amendments, Failed By order
Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this Znday of June, 2020 at 11:30 By order Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrato
Approved by the County Executive Jone 2, 2020 Calvin Ball County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; <u>Underlining</u> indicates material added by amendment.

1	WHEREAS, Section 610 of the Howard County Charter authorizes and empowers
2	the Howard County Council to make supplementary appropriations from the unexpended
3	and unencumbered funds set aside for contingencies in the County budget; and
4	
5	WHEREAS, on October 17, 2019, Congressman Elijah Cummings passed away
6	while in office of the 116th U.S. Congress; and
7	
8	WHEREAS, a special primary and general election were held on February 4 and
9	April 28, 2020, respectively, to fill the congressional vacancy; and
10	
11	WHEREAS, the special election incurred costs to the Board of Elections that were
12	not anticipated when the budget for Fiscal Year 2020 was adopted in the amount of
13	\$486,100; and
14	
15	WHEREAS, the presidential primary election scheduled for June 2, 2020 was
16	converted primarily into a "vote by-mail" election at costs that were not anticipated when
17	the budget for Fiscal Year 2020 was adopted in the amount of \$215,468; and
18	
19	WHEREAS, funds are available in the General Fund, Contingency Reserve to pay
20	costs incurred by the Board of Elections; and
21	
22	WHEREAS, the Director of Finance has certified that the appropriation to be
23	transferred is not encumbered and is available for transfer.
24	
25	Section 1. Be It Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the
26	following supplementary appropriation of funds is authorized and approved for the fiscal
27	year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020, as indicated below:
28	
29	Donor Account:
30	General Fund, Contingency Reserve
31	199999999-8888-8888000000-99999999999999

1	Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriation before transfer \$1,750,000			
2	Less amount transferred to the Board of Elections	(\$701,568 486,100)		
3	Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriation after transfer	\$ 1,048,432 <u>1,263,900</u>		
4				
5	Recipient Accounts:			
6	Board of Elections			
7	1000000000-7710000000-999999999999999999			
8	Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriation before transfer	\$1,607,920		
9	Plus amount transferred from the General Fund,			
10	Contingency Reserve	\$ 701,568 486,100		
11	Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriation after transfer	\$ 2,309,488		
12				
13	Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County,			
14	Maryland that this Supplementary Budget and Appropriation Ordinance shall be effective			
15	upon its enactment.			

, ,	Introduced May 27, 2020 Public Hearing Sune 1, 7020 Council Action Secutive Action Effective Date
County Council of Howard (County, Maryland
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By order	Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrator
Approved by the County Executive, 2020	**************************************

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Calvin Ball, County Executive

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Amendment 1 to Supplementary Budget & Appropriation Ordinance No. 4 - Fiscal Year 2020

BY: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Legislative Day 9
Date: June 1, 2020

Amendment No. _____

(This amendment removes funding proposed to come from the General Fund Contingency Reserve for the mail-in election because funding is expected to come from the CARES Act.)

1 In the title:

5

7

9

11

- Strike "701,568" and substitute "486,100"
- After "primary" insert "and general"
- Strike "and converting the primary election to a "vote-by-mail" election".
- 6 On page 1, strike lines 15 through 17, inclusive and in their entirety.
- 8 On page 2, in lines 2 and 10, in each instance, "701,568" and substitute "486,100"
- 10 On page 2, in line 3, strike "1,048,432" and substitute "1,263,900".
- On page 2, in line 11, strike "2,309,488" and substitute "2,094,020".

FAILED June 1, 2000
SIGNATURE LANG

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Office of the County Auditor Auditor's Analysis

Supplemental Budget & Appropriation Ordinance No. 4-2020

Introduced: May 27, 2020 Auditor: Owen Clark

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact of Supplemental Budget & Appropriation Ordinance 4-2020 is an expenditure of \$468,100. The requested funds are unencumbered and available for transfer.

Purpose:

This legislation would establish \$486,100 of funding for unanticipated costs associated with Maryland's 7th Congressional District special primary and general elections.

Please see the Administration's testimony, provided by the Board of Elections, that details these expenditures by cost category.

Other Comments:

An amendment has been filed to SAO4-2020 that allocates the unanticipated Presidential Primary Election expenses (\$215,468) to be reimbursed from CARES Act funding. These were incurred due to the State changing the voting process to a mail-in vote as a result of COVID-19.

Based on our Office's inquiries to the Administration, we have been informed that:

- The Board of Elections currently has access to a \$200,000 earmark that will be carried forward into FY 2021 to cover unbudgeted costs from potential changes to the Presidential General Election.
- The State Legislature passed an emergency bill in March for voters not to pay for postage associated with mail-in ballots. This expense is split 50/50 with the locals and the State.
- There has been no movement for the Presidential General election from the Governor, who is expected to decide on the voting format by mid-June. The Board of Elections is proceeding as if the election will be in-person.

Sayers, Margery

From:

joel hurewitz <joelhurewitz@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, June 1, 2020 5:29 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

SAO4-FY2020 Additional Amendment to Amendment 1

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council,

As I testified for SAO4-FY2020, if the SAO is only to address the special elections held for the 7th Congressional District and not the regular primary and general elections, then an amendment to Amendment 1 is needed. For transparency, consistency with the names of the different elections used by the Board of Elections, and clarity of drafting and interpretation "special" should be added before "general election" in the title and "a special" should be added before "general" in line 8 on page 1.

In addition, because the special general election was the first to be converted to a vote-by-mail election, why is it not also eligible for CARES Act funds?

Joel Hurewitz

Sayers, Margery

From:

joel hurewitz <joelhurewitz@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 7:47 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Cc:

Glendenning, Craig

Subject:

SAO4-FY2020 Presidential Primary Election

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council,

I would hope that the public record/fiscal analysis could reflect the original appropriation for the Presidential Primary and how much savings were incurred in not opening the precinct voting locations and paying all of the judges and staff as well as the gross amount of the increased costs of processing and mailing the ballots.

Joel Hurewitz