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# Howard County

*Internal Memorandum*

*Subject:* Testimony for Budget Amendment 2021

*To:* Lonnie R. Robbins  
Chief Administrative Officer

*From:* Lawrence Twele  
CEO, HCEDA

*Date:* 20 April 2021

Governor Hogan has announced a new economic relief program to provide direct assistance to hotels across Maryland which have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as additional funds for restaurants out of the Restaurant Relief Fund. The Howard County Economic Development Authority (HCEDA) understands that Howard County has been notified that the Maryland Department of Commerce (Department) is granting State grant funds of \$547,080 for hotels in the County and an additional \$1,203,576 for restaurants and \$27,354 to provide grants to assist businesses with setting up online sales and telework opportunities.

In the same manner as has been provided as part of the HoCo RISE Initiative for disbursing CARES funding for business assistance and the State's prior round of the Restaurant Relief Fund, the HCEDA will administer the intake and review of applications for these specified purposes and will deploy the application process quickly as these funds must be disbursed to these businesses by no later than June 30, 2021 for the purposes outlined in the grant and grant modification agreements.

cc: Jennifer Sager