



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony for Budget Amendment FY2022

To: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Lawrence Twele
CEO, HCEDA

Date: 25 August 2021

The Maryland Department of Commerce and Howard County entered into a Grant Agreement dated April 28, 2021, to enable the County to make grants to businesses to assist the businesses in setting up an online sales framework and offering employees telework opportunities. Funding of \$27,354 was made available to Howard County businesses for this purpose.

The Governor has appropriated, and the General Assembly has approved, an additional \$5,000,000 to the Department of Commerce this purpose to assist businesses statewide.

The Howard County Economic Development Authority (HCEDA) understands that Howard County has been notified that the Maryland Department of Commerce is granting State grant funds to Howard County and the appropriation is \$273,540.

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 rounds of funds, 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 December 1, 2021 for the purposes outlined in the grant and grant modification agreements.