

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2016 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 2

Resolution No. 27 - 2016

Introduced by: Jon Weinstein and Jennifer Terrasa

A RESOLUTION proposing to amend Section 611 “Lapsed Appropriations” of the Howard County Charter and add Section 907 “Citizen Funded Campaigns” to the Howard County Charter; and submitting this amendment to the voters of Howard County for their adoption or rejection in accordance with Article X of the Howard County Charter and Article XIA of the Maryland Constitution.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2016.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on _____, 2016.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Resolution was read for the third time and was Adopted ____, Adopted with amendments ____, Failed ____, Withdrawn ____ by the County Council on _____, 2016.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

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

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that
2 the Howard County Charter is amended as follows:

3 By amending: Article VI – Budgetary and Fiscal Procedures
4 Section 611. Lapsed Appropriations.

5
6 By adding: Article IX. - General Provisions.
7 Section 907. Citizen Funded Campaigns.

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10 **Article IX. - General Provisions.**

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12 **Section 611. Lapsed Appropriations.**

13 Unless otherwise provided by public general law, all unexpended and unencumbered
14 appropriations in the current expense budget remaining at the end of the fiscal year shall
15 lapse into the County treasury, except that appropriations to the risk management,
16 CITIZEN FUNDED CAMPAIGNS, and grants funds shall be non-reverting. No appropriation
17 for a capital project in the capital budget shall lapse until the purpose for which the
18 appropriation was made shall have been accomplished or abandoned; provided, however,
19 that any capital project shall stand abandoned if three fiscal years elapse without any
20 expenditure from or encumbrance of the appropriation made therefor. The balances
21 remaining to the credit of the completed or abandoned capital project shall be available
22 for appropriation in subsequent capital budgets.

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24 **SECTION 907. CITIZEN FUNDED CAMPAIGN SYSTEM.**

25 (A) THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL, BY ORDINANCE, ESTABLISH A CITIZEN
26 FUNDED CAMPAIGN SYSTEM FOR CANDIDATES FOR COUNTY COUNCIL OR COUNTY
27 EXECUTIVE, OR BOTH. THE ORDINANCE SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO,
28 PROVISIONS THAT:

29 (1) ALLOW CANDIDATES TO CHOOSE WHETHER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
30 CITIZEN FUNDED CAMPAIGN SYSTEM;

1 (2) ESTABLISH A COMMISSION ON CITIZEN FUNDED CAMPAIGNS
2 CONSISTING OF FIVE COUNTY RESIDENTS APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL AND TWO
3 COUNTY RESIDENTS APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE, AND PROVIDE FOR
4 THE QUALIFICATIONS, TERMS, AND OFFICERS OF THE COMMISSION; AND

5 (3) REQUIRE THE COMMISSION TO CALCULATE, NOT LATER THAN 180
6 DAYS PRIOR TO THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR, THE TOTAL AMOUNT ESTIMATED FOR
7 THE FULL ELECTION CYCLE AND THE AMOUNT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT
8 EXPENSE BUDGET FOR THE ENSUING FISCAL YEAR TO FULLY FUND THE CITIZEN
9 FUNDED CAMPAIGN SYSTEM.

10 (B) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, IN EACH
11 FISCAL YEAR THE EXECUTIVE SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND
12 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE REQUIRED BY ARTICLE VI OF THIS CHARTER THE
13 AMOUNT NECESSARY TO FULLY FUND THE CITIZEN FUNDED CAMPAIGN SYSTEM FOR
14 THE ENSUING FISCAL YEAR, AS CALCULATED BY THE COMMISSION.

15 (2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF ARTICLE VI OF THIS
16 CHARTER TO THE CONTRARY, IF THE EXECUTIVE DOES NOT INCLUDE THE AMOUNT
17 REQUIRED BY PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE COUNTY COUNCIL MAY
18 AMEND THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE REQUIRED BY
19 ARTICLE VI TO INCLUDE THE REQUIRED AMOUNT.

20 (C) THE EXECUTIVE IS NOT REQUIRED TO INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET
21 AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE THE AMOUNT REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (B) (1)
22 OF THIS SECTION IF:

23 (1) DURING THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, FUNDS HAVE BEEN OR ARE
24 BEING TRANSFERRED FROM THE BUDGET STABILIZATION ACCOUNT TO THE
25 GENERAL FUND REVENUES IN THE CURRENT EXPENSE BUDGET PURSUANT TO
26 SECTION 615A OF THIS CHARTER; OR

27 (2) NOT LATER THAN 120 DAYS PRIOR TO THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR,
28 THE EXECUTIVE CERTIFIES TO THE COUNCIL THAT THE COUNTY'S FISCAL
29 CONDITION MAKES IT IMPRUDENT TO INCLUDE THE AMOUNT, AND THE COUNCIL
30 APPROVES THE CERTIFICATION BY A VOTE OF NOT LESS THAN TWO-THIRDS OF ITS
31 MEMBERS.

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AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED *by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that at the next general election to be held in Maryland, the proposed amendment to the Howard County Charter shall be submitted to the voters of Howard County for their adoption or rejection in accordance with the provisions of the Article X of the Howard County Charter and Article XIA of the Maryland Constitution, and if adopted by the majority of the voters, shall stand adopted from and after the 30th day following the general election;*

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED *by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the Citizen Funded Campaign System shall take effect for the 2022 election cycle;*

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED *by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that this Resolution, having been approved by two-thirds of the members of the Howard County Council, stands adopted this _____ day of _____, 2016 in accordance with Article X of the Howard County Charter.*