

SENATE BILL 704

C9

4lr2595
CF 4lr2596

By: **Senator Hayes**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Appraisal Gap From Historic Redlining Financial Assistance Program –**
3 **Alterations**

4 FOR the purpose of expanding eligibility for financial assistance under the Appraisal Gap
5 From Historic Redlining Financial Assistance Program to include individuals who
6 purchase certain qualified property as an owner–occupant; and generally relating to
7 the Appraisal Gap From Historic Redlining Financial Assistance Program.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article – Housing and Community Development
10 Section 4–2801(a), (e), (g), and (h)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – Housing and Community Development
15 Section 4–2802 and 4–2804
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Housing and Community Development**

21 4–2801.

22 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

23 (e) “Financial assistance” includes:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) a grant;

2 (2) a loan;

3 (3) a reduction in the principal obligation of or rate of interest payable on
4 a loan or portion of a loan;

5 (4) a prepayment of interest on a subordinate or superior loan or portion of
6 a loan;

7 (5) an assurance;

8 (6) a guarantee; and

9 (7) any other form of credit enhancement.

10 (g) “Qualified project” means the construction or substantial rehabilitation of a
11 qualified property if the eligible construction expenses do not exceed \$500,000.

12 (h) “Qualified property” means residential real property that is:

13 (1) newly constructed or a formerly vacant structure that has been
14 substantially rehabilitated;

15 (2) located in:

16 (i) a low-income census tract as defined by the U.S. Department of
17 Housing and Urban Development; and

18 (ii) an area designated as a sustainable community; and

19 (3) constructed or rehabilitated with the purpose of being sold to an
20 owner-occupant at an affordable sales price.

21 4-2802.

22 (a) There is an Appraisal Gap From Historic Redlining Financial Assistance
23 Program in the Department.

24 (b) The purpose of the Program is to [make] **HELP CLOSE APPRAISAL GAPS**
25 **THAT OCCUR IN HISTORICALLY REDLINED NEIGHBORHOODS BY MAKING** financial
26 assistance available to:

27 **(1)** affordable housing developers working in low-income census tracts and
28 sustainable communities [in order to help close appraisal gaps that occur in historically
29 redlined neighborhoods]; **AND**

(2) INDIVIDUALS WHO PURCHASE A QUALIFIED PROPERTY:

(I) AFTER A QUALIFIED PROJECT IS COMPLETED;

**(II) AT AN AFFORDABLE SALES PRICE AS DETERMINED BY
REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT; AND**

(III) AS AN OWNER–OCCUPANT.

4–2804.

(a) Subject to § 4–2805 of this subtitle and the regulations of the [department]
DEPARTMENT, the Department shall accept an application for financial assistance from:

**(1) an individual or business entity that proposes to develop a qualified
project; AND**

**(2) AN INDIVIDUAL THAT PROPOSES TO PURCHASE A QUALIFIED
PROPERTY.**

(b) The application shall be in the form and shall contain any information that
the Department requires by regulation.

(c) The Department shall approve all applications that qualify for financial
assistance under this subtitle in a timely manner.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
1, 2024.