

**COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND**

2025 Legislative Session, Legislative Day No.: September 9, 2025

Bill No.: 1620

Expiration Date: November 13, 2025

Introduced by: Mr. Callahan, Ms. Haythe, Mr. Leshner, Ms. Mielke, Mr. Stepp

A BILL TO ENACT A NEW CHAPTER 35 OF THE TALBOT COUNTY CODE, ENTITLED "COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR SPECIAL REVENUE FUND," FOR THE PURPOSES OF ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND TO RECEIVE MONIES RECEIVED FROM THE STATE CANNABIS COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO § 1-3A-03 OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CANNABIS ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND ESTABLISHING A TALBOT COUNTY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER THE SAME

By the Council: September 9, 2025

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted, and public hearing scheduled on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

By Order: *Susan W. Moran*
Susan W. Moran, Secretary

A BILL TO ENACT A NEW CHAPTER 35 OF THE TALBOT COUNTY CODE, ENTITLED “COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR SPECIAL REVENUE FUND,” FOR THE PURPOSES OF ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND TO RECEIVE MONIES RECEIVED FROM THE STATE CANNABIS COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO § 1-3A-03 OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CANNABIS ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND ESTABLISHING A TALBOT COUNTY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER THE SAME

SECTION ONE: BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND that a new Chapter 35, entitled “Community Reinvestment and Repair Special Revenue Fund,” shall be and is hereby enacted as follows:

KEY	
Boldface	Heading or defined term

TALBOT COUNTY CODE

**CHAPTER 35 – COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND**

ARTICLE I – Community Reinvestment and Repair Special Revenue Fund

§ 35-1. Fund established.

There is a Community Reinvestment and Repair Special Revenue Fund (the “Fund”), into which shall be paid all monies received from the State Cannabis Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund established pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis § 1-3A-03. Monies from the Fund may only be used for the purposes expressly set forth in this Article and shall be held separately from other County revenue and general funds.

§ 35-2. Special Fund.

The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund. Any monies in the Fund not awarded in a given fiscal year shall carry over to the next fiscal year.

§ 35-3. Administration and use of the Fund.

- A. The Talbot County Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission defined in Article II of this chapter shall administer the Fund in accordance with the County’s fiscal policies.
- B. Permitted Uses. Monies from the Fund shall only be used for funding community-based initiatives, with or without nonprofit designation, intended to benefit:

- (1) Disproportionately Impacted Areas, which are defined as geographic areas identified by the State Office of Social Equity that had above 150% of the State's ten-year average for cannabis possession charges from 2013-2022;
 - (2) Low-income communities;
 - (3) Any related administrative expenses incurred by the Commission in administering the Fund, which shall not exceed 15% of the monies received from the State Cannabis Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund in the fiscal year for which such expenses are incurred; and
 - (4) Any other uses permitted under State law.
- C. Examples of community-based initiatives for which monies from the Fund may be used include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (1) Behavioral health crisis response services;
 - (2) Education and after-school programs;
 - (3) Truancy and absentee intervention programs;
 - (4) Housing and homelessness prevention initiatives;
 - (5) Transportation improvements in high-density areas that have public transportation;
 - (6) Job training and workforce development programs;
 - (7) Community child care and recreational services; and
 - (8) Programs that benefit individuals and families impacted by incarceration.
- D. Prohibited Uses. Monies from the Fund shall not be expended for law enforcement agencies or activities. Additionally, monies from the Fund are supplemental to, and shall not supplant, funding that otherwise would be appropriated for County programs that existed prior to July 1, 2023.

ARTICLE II – Talbot County Reinvestment and Repair Commission

§ 35-4. Commission established.

There is a Talbot County Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission (the “Commission”).

§ 35-5. Purpose.

The purpose of the Commission is to administer monies from the Fund.

§ 35-6. Membership.

Membership of the Commission shall consist of the current membership of the Talbot Family Network, which serves as the Local Management Board for Talbot County. The Chair of the Talbot Family Network shall serve as the Chair of the Commission.

§ 35-7. Meetings.

The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chair, as frequently as required to perform its duties, but no less than four times per year. All meetings shall comply with the Maryland Open Meetings Act. The Commission may adopt Rules of Procedure and Bylaws, not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, to govern its affairs.

§ 35-8. Compensation.

Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

§ 35-9. Grant process.

- A. Subject to the provisions set forth in Article I of this chapter, the Commission shall develop and administer a public grant application process for interested parties to apply for monies from the Fund, as well as criteria for making an award thereof, prior to the solicitation of proposals. In developing criteria to make an award, the Commission shall consider any guidance provided by the Maryland Office of Social Equity.
- B. A qualifying grantee previously awarded monies from the Fund may not receive additional monies until all reporting from the previous award has been completed and approved by the Commission.

§ 35-10. Annual report.

- A. The Commission shall prepare an annual report detailing the following:
 - (1) The amount of monies received from the State Cannabis Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund;
 - (2) The grantee(s) awarded monies from the Fund;
 - (3) The methods used by the Commission to solicit, review, and select grantees that may be eligible for an award of monies from the Fund; and
 - (4) Administrative expenses related to the Commission's administration and distribution of monies from the Fund.

- B. The Commission shall provide the annual report described in Subsection (A) above to the County Council by September 1 annually and to the State Office of Social Equity by October 1 annually.

SECTION TWO: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that if any provision of this Bill or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or any other application of this Bill which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Bill are declared severable.

SECTION THREE: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that the Publishers of the Talbot County Code and the Talbot County Office of Law, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the County Manager, may make non-substantive corrections to codification, style, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, spelling, and any internal or external reference or citation included in this Bill, as finally adopted, that are incorrect or obsolete, with no further action required by the County Council. All such corrections shall be adequately referenced and described in an editor's note following the section affected.

SECTION FOUR: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this Bill shall take effect sixty (60) days from the date of its passage.

PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and Notice of time, date, and place of hearing, and Title of Bill No. _____ having been published, a public hearing was held on Tuesday, _____, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

ENACTED: _____, 2025

By Order _____
Susan W. Moran, Secretary

Callahan -

Stepp -

Leshner -

Mielke -

Haythe -

EFFECTIVE DATE: _____, 2025

EXHIBIT 1

Table IV-1. Table of Land Uses

Use Type	Section Cross- Refer- ence	Conservation Districts					Resid- ential Distri- cts		Village Districts			Commercial Industrial Districts		
		AC	CP	WR C	TC	RC	R R	T R	V R	V H	VM	LC	GC	LI
25.2.A. Agriculture and Related Uses														
Agriculture Production														
* * *														
Poultry and hog houses, livestock feeding lots and agricultural lagoons <u>other than for the storage of DAF Residuals, Food Processing Residuals, and Liquid Organic Soil Amendments</u>	26.4	P	P	P		P					S			
* * *														
25.2.H. Accessory Uses														
* * *														
<u>Storage of DAF Residuals, Food Processing Residuals, and Liquid Organic Soil Amendments</u>	33.25	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>P</u>		<u>P</u>								
* * *														