## COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2020-07

## BILL NO. 2020-03

Title of Bill: Lease and Purchase – Vehicles and Equipment Financing

**Synopsis:** A Bill authorizing and empowering Cecil County, Maryland to enter into new financing under a lease purchase agreement or similar arrangement in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) for Fiscal Year 2021 for the purpose of financing the acquisition of certain necessary and essential vehicles and equipment for use in the County's governmental programs; providing that the obligations of the County under the agreement shall not be a general obligation of the County, shall not constitute a pledge of the full faith and credit or the taxing power of the County and shall not constitute a debt of the County within the meaning of any statutory or constitutional provision, but shall be subject to appropriation in each and every fiscal year during the term of the agreement; empowering the County Executive to execute and deliver an executive order prior to the execution and delivery of the agreement in order to award the agreement to the successful bidder and to fix, prescribe and determine the details of such financing; and relating generally to such financing.

**Explanation:** CAPITAL LETTERS\_INDICATE LANGUAGE ADDED TO EXISTING DOCUMENT

Strike through indicates language deleted from existing document Underlining indicates language added to document by amendment.

Double Strike through indicates language stricken from document by amendment.

**WHEREAS,** the County is authorized by the laws of the State of Maryland to purchase, acquire and lease personal property required for public purposes in the County; and

WHEREAS, Section 515(d) of the Cecil County Charter provides that the Council shall authorize by law any contract, lease or other obligation in excess of \$20,000 that requires the payment of funds from the appropriation of a later fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to authorize the financing of the acquisition of certain necessary and essential vehicles and equipment for use in the County's governmental programs pursuant to a lease purchase agreement or similar arrangement in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$ 2,000,000, all as more particularly described herein.

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND, as follows:

Section 1. Cecil County, Maryland (the "County") is hereby authorized for Fiscal Year 2021 to enter into new financing under a lease purchase agreement or similar arrangement (the "Lease") to finance the acquisition of certain necessary and essential vehicles, machinery, and equipment included in the County's approved Operating Budget for use in the County's governmental programs (the "Equipment") in an amount not to exceed, in the aggregate, Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000).

Section 2. The Lease (i) is not a general obligation of the County, (ii) does not constitute a pledge of the full faith and credit or the taxing power of the County, and (iii) does not constitute a debt of the County within the meaning of any statutory or constitutional provision. The County's obligations under the Lease shall be subject to appropriation in each and every fiscal year during the term of the Lease.

Section 3. The County Executive is authorized to solicit proposals for the Lease from one or more financial institutions. In connection therewith, the County Executive, the Director of Administration and the Director of Finance are authorized to: (i) prepare a request for proposals or similar document with the assistance of the County's financial advisor, (ii) solicit proposals from banks or other financial institutions, (iii) make all necessary arrangements for the tabulation and comparison of the proposals received, and (iv) negotiate the terms of the Lease with one or more of the financial institutions submitting proposals,

Section 4. Prior to the execution and delivery of the Lease, the County Executive shall execute and deliver an executive order to (i) award the Lease to the financial institution submitting the proposal that is in the best interests of the County, as determined by the County Executive with the assistance of the County's financial advisor and (ii) fix, prescribe, determine, and approve all matters, details, forms, and

documents pertaining to the Lease and the consummation of the transaction contemplated hereby and thereby, subject in all respects to the provisions hereof.

Section 5. The Lease shall be executed in the name of the County and on its behalf by the County Executive. The County Executive, the Director of Administration and the Director of Finance are each hereby authorized to execute and deliver in connection with the Lease, such additional certificates and documents relating to the Lease as are deemed necessary or desirable by any of them for the acquisition and financing of the Equipment and to effect the execution and delivery of the Lease.

Section 6. The authority conferred by this Act shall be deemed to provide additional, alternative and supplemental authority and shall be regarded as supplemental and additional to powers conferred upon the County by other laws and shall not be regarded as in derogation of any power now existing; and all previously enacted laws are hereby continued to the extent that the power contained in them is continuing or has not been exercised, unless any law is expressly repealed by this Act. This Act, being necessary for the welfare of the inhabitants of Cecil County, shall be liberally construed to affect its purposes.

Section 7. The provisions of this Act are severable, and if any provision, sentence, clause, section or part hereof is held to be illegal, invalid or unconstitutional or inapplicable to any person or circumstances, such illegality, invalidity or unconstitutionality, or inapplicability shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections, or parts of this Act or their application to other persons or circumstances. It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that this Act would have been passed if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional provision, sentence, clause, section or part had not been included herein, and if the person or circumstances to which this Act or any part hereof are inapplicable had been specifically exempted therefrom.

Section 8. AND IT IS FURTHER ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND, that this Bill shall take effect 60 calendar days from the date that it becomes law.

## **CERTIFICATION**

I, HEREBY CERTIFY that the above Bill was posted for the public on the public bulletin board with the date, time and location of the public hearing meeting, copies were made available for the public, a copy was distributed to the press, and copy was made available on the Cecil County website.

BY Council Manager