



The State of Maryland
Executive Department

EXECUTIVE ORDER

01.01.2024.14

Prohibiting Certain Intercepts of Temporary Economic and Financial Assistance Relief
Related to the Francis Scott Key Bridge Collapse

- WHEREAS On March 26, 2024, a cargo ship collided with the Francis Scott Key Bridge (the "Key Bridge") in Baltimore, causing the collapse of the Key Bridge;
- WHEREAS, On March 26, 2024, Executive Order 01.01.2024.09 was issued, declaring a State of Emergency to respond to the collapse of the Key Bridge, and that State of Emergency still exists;
- WHEREAS, To address the significant economic, financial and workforce-related impacts of the collapse of the Key Bridge, the General Assembly passed, and I signed into law, the Maryland Protecting Opportunities and Regional Trade ("PORT") Act, Chapter 3 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2024, Senate Bill 1188/House Bill 1526;
- WHEREAS, The PORT Act establishes temporary economic and financial relief programs to assist individuals and businesses most affected by the collapse of the Key Bridge and disruption to the operations of the Port of Baltimore;
- WHEREAS. It is necessary to prohibit certain requests for intercepts of the emergency economic and financial relief assistance paid to individuals and businesses under the PORT Act, to ensure that Maryland workers and businesses may use the full benefit of that financial assistance to recover from the economic and financial injury caused by the collapse of the Key Bridge.

NOW THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TITLE 14 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE, DO HEREBY ORDER:

A. Definition. As used herein:

"PORT Act Relief Funds" means funds provided to eligible individuals or businesses from the temporary economic and financial relief programs established and administered under the Maryland Protecting Opportunities and Regional Trade ("PORT") Act, Chapter 3 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2024, Senate Bill 1188/House Bill 1526.

B. Prohibition on Intercept.

Except as otherwise provided by this Order, it being necessary to protect the public health, safety, or welfare, the Comptroller of Maryland shall not honor a request to intercept a payment of PORT Act Relief Funds made to an individual or a business under § 13-918(b) of the Tax-General Article.

C. Exclusions.

Section B of this Executive Order shall not apply to any request to intercept a payment made:

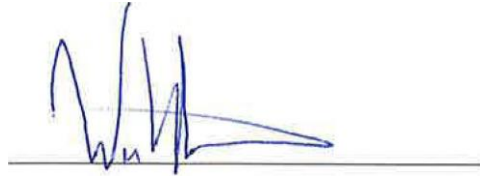
- (1) by the United States Department of the Treasury; or
- (2) under Title 10, Subtitle 1, Part II of the Family Law Article.

D. General Provisions.

- (1) This Executive Order remains effective until the State of Emergency has been terminated, or until rescinded, superseded, amended, or revised by additional orders.
- (2) The effect of any statute, rule, or regulation of an agency of the State or a political subdivision inconsistent with this Order is hereby suspended to the extent of the inconsistency.
- (3) If any provision of this Order or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held invalid by any court of

competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of the Order shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Order are severable.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 15th Day of April 2024.



Wes Moore
Governor



ATTEST:



Susan C. Lee
Secretary of State