

# THE MARYLAND PROTECTING OPPORTUNITIES AND REGIONAL TRADE (PORT) ACT



## Comptroller of Maryland Fact Sheet

Passed by the General Assembly and signed by Governor Wes Moore into law on April 9, 2024, the bipartisan **Maryland Protecting Opportunities and Regional Trade (PORT) Act** established temporary relief programs for individuals and businesses affected by the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. More information about the PORT Act can be found on the Maryland Department of Labor's website at [www.labor.maryland.gov/keybridgeresources](http://www.labor.maryland.gov/keybridgeresources)

The Office of the Comptroller has partnered with the State Treasurer and the Moore/Miller Administration to protect Marylanders against fraudulent behavior and streamline and expedite the documentation and reporting process so that PORT Act Relief funds arrive at the appropriate entities as quickly as possible.



### The Comptroller's Fraud Detection and Business Intelligence Division (FBDI)

**FBDI** identifies Maryland businesses that may be impacted by Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse, working in collaboration with other stakeholders to provide a scope of the economic impact to businesses, and workers. FBDI's framework helps determine likely impacted businesses that may be eligible for assistance, deterring fraudulent requests.



### The Comptroller's General Accounting Division (GAD)

**GAD** helps process relief fund applicant payments provided by the Moore-Miller Administration by working with state agencies to provide technical assistance, develop reporting structures, and partners with the Compliance Division to release liability offsets to award recipients.



### The Comptroller's Compliance Division

**The Compliance Division** ensures that **PORT ACT** funds are distributed to individual businesses, are not subject to state tax debts, and are distributed to their intended audience. From there, the Maryland State Treasurer distributes the checks to Marylanders and Maryland businesses affected by the closing of the Port of Baltimore.

To date, more than **\$30 million** in relief funding has been authorized by the Moore-Miller Administration to assist affected Marylanders and Maryland Businesses.