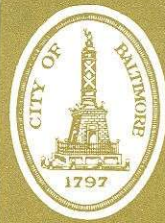


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Karen L. Sitnick, Director <i>KS</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Mayor's Office of Employment Development 417 E. Fayette Street, Suite 468		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 13-0215 – Minority and Women's Business Enterprises – Program Extension		

TO The Honorable President and Members of the City Council DATE: May 8, 2013

Council Bill 13-0215 proposes extending the existence of the City's Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (MWBE) program by six months, in order to conduct public hearings and collect testimony and evidence to determine whether the goals of the program have been achieved. Under current rules, the program is set to automatically end on June 30, 2013. The proposed extension would change the date to December 31, 2013. The bill stipulates that, if study of the issues during the extension period indicates that the purposes identified for the program have not yet been achieved, the MWBE program may be extended for an addition five year period.

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) fully supports the proposed extension. As the operator of the City's Career Center Network, MOED is dedicated to promoting the success of MWBE businesses. The agency has a strong track record of working closely with the City's MWBE businesses to assist them with staffing needs and connect them with resources to fund new hire and incumbent training. We anticipate that the study-related activities proposed during the extension period will inform public policy and practice to produce the fullest inclusion of minority and women-owned businesses in Baltimore City's economic landscape.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important public policy issue.

cc: LiLi Taylor, Executive Liaison for Workforce Policy, MOED

