

Memorandum

From: Paul E Taylor, Director Mayor's Office of Small, Minority and Woman Business
To: Public Safety and Government Operations Committee
Ref: City of Baltimore Council Bill 21-0024 (First Reader)
Date: March 2, 2021

The Mayor's Office of Small, Minority and Women Business is in favor of the utilization of clarifying language that will increase opportunities for Minority and Women contractors and vendor to participate on certain emergency procurements.

During the last two years several emergency procurements that required IT and public safety equipment were provided to the city with little to no chance for MBE/WBE participation. Some of these contracts survived after the emergency period and unfortunately the waivers survive with them. These procurements then deprive many local certified businesses from participating.

Therefore, I agree to the changes and hope to continue to work with the council to seek opportunities to increase small, minority and woman participation on these types of procurement in the future.