




MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

FROM: William H. Cole, President and CEO 

DATE: December 17, 2014

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 14-0455
Minority and Women's Business Enterprises -- Small Local Business
Enterprise Procurement Preferences

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on City Council Bill No. 14-0455, an ordinance for the purpose of creating a Small Local Business Enterprise (SLBE) program.

The BDC is in general support of any program that will create capacity in the small and local business community but this bill raises concerns on two counts. It is unclear if this Bill will conflict with the existing MBE/WBE program by creating another subcontracting initiative. The legislation also does not address how the directives as outlined in the legislation will be administered.

BDC together with its affiliate, the Small Business Resource Center (SBRC) will continue to work closely with the Minority and Women's-owned Business Opportunity office to refine the objectives of the legislation.

cc: Colin Tarbert
Angela Gibson

sandra.blake/ccbill14/14-0455

