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FROM	NAME & TITLE	Robert Cename, Budget Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Finance Room 432, City Hall		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 21-0086- Minority and Women's Business Program – Interim Extension		

DATE:

TO

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400

June 17, 2021

Position: Does Not Oppose

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 21-0086, Minority and Women's Business Program – Interim Extension, the purpose of which is to postpone the automatic termination of the Minority and Women's Business Program until May 2023.

Background

The Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) is responsible for the Certification of Minority Business Enterprises and Women's Business Enterprises, maintaining a directory of certified business enterprises, investigating alleged violations of Article 5, Subtitle 28, certifying compliance with Article 5, Subtitle 28 of the City code before contracts are submitted to the Board of Estimates for award, setting MBE and WBE participation goals on contracts, and establishing certain annual goals for MBE and WBE participation.

The City conducted multiple disparity studies assessing the City's utilization of MBE/WBEs, which were completed in 2000, 2007, and 2014. These studies resulted in the creation and implementation of various policies and processes to improve the City's utilization of MBE/WBEs. One of these measures is the establishment of annual goals, which are annual utilization targets established to help measure the City's progress in eliminating MBE/WBE utilization disparities. The City is currently conducting a disparity study, which began in October 2020, and is intended to provide recommendations to improve the program, establishment of new goals, and suggested resources to help program efficiency/effectiveness

The Minority and Women's Business Program is set to automatically terminate December 31, 2021, per City Code. This legislation aims to extend the expiration date of the Program to May 30, 2023, allowing for the completion of the currently ongoing disparity study and review of the findings by all stakeholders.

Fiscal Impact Analysis

The Department of Finance does not anticipate a fiscal impact from this legislation.

Conclusion

This legislation plans to extend the Minority and Women's Business Program, which is set to expire on December 31, 2021, to May 30, 2023. Finance does not anticipate any fiscal impact resulting from this legislation.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance does not oppose City Council Bill 21-0086.

cc: Henry Raymond
Natasha Mehu
Nina Themelis