


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Deborah F. Moore-Carter, Labor Commissioner <i>DFMC</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Office of the Labor Commissioner 417 East Fayette Street, Suite 1405		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 080077R Baltimore City Green Collar Jobs Creation Coalition		

TO

The Honorable President
Stephanie Rawlings-Blake and
Members of the Baltimore City Council
Room 406, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

DATE: 11/28/2008

Recommended Position

The Office of the Labor Commissioner supports establishment of the Baltimore City Green Collar Jobs Creation Coalition provided that union leaders are active members of the coalition.

Comments and Analysis

City Council Bill 08-0077R establishes the Baltimore City Green Collar Jobs Creation Coalition which will be charged with examining this segment of the labor market, identifying the need of businesses located in Baltimore City, developing training programs, and working with the public and private sectors and organized labor to provide Baltimore City's unemployed and/or under-employed residents with gainful employment opportunities.

There is a huge green economy developing. In 2006, renewable energy and energy efficient technologies generated 8.5 million new jobs, nearly \$970 billion in revenue, and more than \$100 billion in industry profits. According to the National Renewable Energy Lab, the major barriers to a more rapid adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency in America are insufficient skills and training. In December 2007, President Bush signed the Green Jobs Act to train workers for green collar jobs. It authorizes \$125 Million for workforce training programs targeted to veterans, displaced workers, at-risk youth, and families in extreme poverty. It will train people for job such as installing solar panels and weatherization.

The goals of the Baltimore City Green Collar Jobs Creation Coalition may include rebuilding a strong middle class, providing pathways out of poverty, learning new skill, providing local jobs and strengthening the community. The partnership between the Baltimore City Public School System, the Mayor's Office of Employment Development, the Departments of Housing and Community Development, Public Works and Transportation and the unions is the basis for developing a plan to create green collar jobs in Baltimore City.

DFMC/lwmcn

